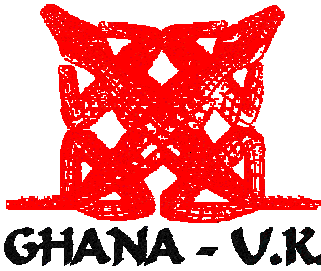


**ASSIN
ENDWA
TRUST**



Endwa News

Issue 3

October 2009

Water Project Underway At Last!



We recently received news from Endwa that a satisfactory quote has been received for supplying water to our clinic in the village. The go ahead has been given and funds to cover the cost dispatched. Hopefully the clinic will have a running water supply at long last as it should be up and functioning by the end

of the year. Only one year behind schedule! Hopefully the clinic staff and patients will have running water for Christmas this year!

We would like to thank "Star for Africa" for their sponsorship of this scheme which has made it possible.

Child Sponsorship, a Success Story.



David Gevaux

In these times of economic recession, cut-backs and lay-offs it is perhaps understandable to expect that charities like ourselves would also be feeling the pinch. True, the early part of



the year was fairly lean and when sponsorship seemed the farthest thing from people's minds. By the summer however enquiries through the website started to grow and in August we had the great good fortune of attracting the interest of a

group of City workers who between them, agreed to help seven of our children. It was also gratifying to know that none of our existing sponsors withdrew their support, on the contrary several agreed to take another child!

To our sponsors old and new, we offer thanks on behalf of the ten lives you have changed, and from the Trust for your continuing generosity.



Volunteering, the best holiday You'll ever have!

When we say holiday, we don't mean sitting by the pool with a glass of wine being waited on, hand foot and fingernail!

No, we mean changing your whole outlook on life, stretching your view of what you can achieve and help others achieve. Admittedly there is some sitting by the pool or sea as well, but that is after some of the most exciting and challenging weeks of your life.

If you would like to join

our volunteer programme for 2010 just fill in the online form for information or if you have already done this, then email:

volunteer@endwa.org.uk to register your interest. Don't forget you need to apply by March 2010 at the latest to be sure of getting a place!

For those who would like a longer placement, we can help with that a well. See the report on page 2 from Jonathn Fozard regarding his experiences on a six week placement.

Gift Vouchers for Christmas.



What gift do you get for the person that doesn't want anything?

If you wish to buy a gift for a loved one or friend but are having difficulty finding that special something then try one of our gift vouchers.

Available in values from

£10-0 upward in £5-00 increments, they can be purchased online (under donations) via PayPal for credit/Debit Card payment or by cheque to the Trust.

They can be personalized for you by adding a dedication such as the

name of the recipient and a personal message from you.

The address for contacting us is at the bottom of the next page alternatively you can email us at: voucher @Endwa.org.uk.

“The experience of a lifetime” by Jonathan Fozard

I was positive that I wanted to volunteer in Africa, but I wasn't sure of the specifics.

So when I stumbled across the Assin Endwa Trust and discovered that they could organise a trip to Ghana I thought, “why not?”

I was not to be disappointed. A six week stay in Ghana over the summer of 2009 triggered what I am sure will be a life long love affair with the country. For me, Ghana was a sheer attack on the senses; a magical, humbling rollercoaster ride of an experience.



Through the connections of the Assin Endwa Trust, I was able to work in various capacities, living with locals within the communities along the way. My work ranged from teaching at two different schools in different areas of the country to delivering lectures on the dangers of drug abuse, from spending time in various orphanages to aiding with construction work at one of the schools in which I had taught. Aside from this I took part in some highly competitive football matches, enjoyed a lot of traditional music and dance and jumped at the opportunity to sample a rural delicacy called ‘grasscutter’ – essentially a large rodent!

The experience was overwhelming and highly rewarding and a week's respite in the middle of my stay, spent taking in some of Ghana's

underrated tourist attractions, gave me time to reflect on the things I had



done.

Obviously there are limitations on how much you can achieve as a volunteer during a short stay. However, I do feel that I was able to make a genuinely positive impact, even if it was to the lives of a relative few.

The experience is, to a large extent, what you make of it. Show some drive and initiative and the rewards are high, both for the people you are assisting and for yourself as a volunteer. The mantra of ‘inspire and be inspired’ is a fitting one. If you are teaching, the kids benefit not only from the knowledge you can pass on to them but also from the advice and encouragement that you can provide. The teachers meanwhile can benefit from the example of a different outlook and work ethic; a fresh perspective. On a more basic level, even a simple smile and a few words in Fanti, one of the local dialects, will bring happiness and laughter from a



great many Ghanaians.

My advice to anyone thinking of undertaking voluntary work would be to give great consideration to Ghana and to the Assin Endwa Trust. As someone who has travelled fairly widely, it is my opinion that you will struggle to meet a group of people who are more warm hearted (not to mention fun-loving) as Ghanaians. With regard to the Assin Endwa Trust specifically, when I came across volunteers from some of the larger organisations, I couldn't help but feel that the experience available



through the Trust was so much more authentic. Furthermore, you are not laddled with the kind of extortionate up-front fees seemingly charged by so many volunteer organisations.

If you've never been to Africa, Ghana is probably the perfect introduction. If you are willing to put in some graft but would also appreciate some well earned rest; if you want a rewarding volunteering experience which is of true help to the community in which you are working then the Assin Endwa Trust ticks all the boxes.