



UK Registered
Charity Number
1110998

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CALLING ALL MEMBERS!

Your annual subscription is due on 1st November. All current standing orders need to be updated as the cost has been increased to £12 per annum to meet the fall in exchange rates. PLEASE encourage your friends to become Members. It would help us tremendously.

Contact info:

Secretary@GETSuk.org

Treasurer@GETSuk.org

Fundraising@GETSuk.org

Sponsorship@GETSuk.org

Newsletter@GETSuk.org

webmaster@GETSuk.org

Website:

www.GETSuk.org

(Membership Forms and Sponsorship Forms may be printed out from the above Website)

Gambia Education & Teaching Support NEWSLETTER

Issue 6 October 2008

Order your *Christmas Cards* and support GETS



They are sold in packs of five, 10.5cm x 14.75cm (all the same picture) with envelopes, and are on sale for £2.50 a pack, **with free p&p**. The message inside reads 'Season's Greetings'. To order, please email Rosie for Internet bank details at Newsletter@GETSuk.org or cheque with order to: Mrs Rosie Holder, 5 Chesle Close, Portishead, N Somerset BS20 8JE

AGM News - Dedicated Volunteers!

A successful and enjoyable AGM was held at Deal Centre for the Retired, last August. We were pleased that Dawn and Paul Webster could join us but had not realised that it was their Golden Wedding Anniversary on that day! Dawn has offered to take on the post of Treasurer; she already looks after the Charity website. Many congratulations from all of us. Please see the website for the AGM minutes www.GETSuk.org. Thanks, Julie, for organising the event and thanks again to your helpers for our delicious lunch.



BUSUMBALA SUNRISE CENTRE UPDATE

The August 2008 AGM passed a proposal to fund raise and commence the ambitious project to promote a school for children from nursery right through to university. Our initial voluntary requirement will be that of a voluntary administrative and organisational head, and a voluntary educational head, both to work alongside and support their Gambian counterparts.

We desperately need a number of Pre-school, Nursery and Primary teachers to build and deliver an effective curriculum and work along side our enthusiastic Gambian teachers. These positions will be voluntary, but supported by low cost accommodation and by a subsidised meal service for volunteers at the centre.

If you are interested in a 'one or more' years working break or a really meaningful retirement plan - please contact us for details.

Student News



Basiru Ceesay

Male, D.O.B. 10/07/1981

Basiru has studied for a certificate in Travel, Tourism and Hospitality at the Business Training Centre. He lives in Bakau New Town and was sponsored by Nick Plaister. He would now like to study an Administrative course if we can obtain funding for him.

Salifu Nije

Male, D.O.B. 10/02/1981

Salifu has completed Grade 12 at Nusrat Senior Secondary School. His home village is Basse, about 300kms away from Coastal Gambia where he is being educated. In 1995, he had to leave school as his family could not afford to pay his fees. His father has 3 wives and many children. Salifu then went to live with his uncle and attended Tujureng Upper Basic School in 2003. His uncle helped to pay his fees and Salifu worked as a labourer, as well as attending school. He was Head Boy in his final year at Tujureng and had excellent school reports. He was sponsored for several years by the Plaister family.



Aziz Jobe

Male, D.O.B. 16/06/1987

Aziz lives in Brufut. He is now in Grade 12 at Scan Aid Senior School, Kombo, which is his final year. He would like to go to college after leaving school. Aziz is sponsored by Chris Robinson.



Fatou Faye

Female, D.O.B. 15/12/1984

Fatou has completed her final year at Scan Aid Senior School, Kombo. She lives in Brufut and was sponsored by Sue Williams.



'BUY A CHILD A BREAKFAST' is a new initiative by GETSuk.

This is a feeding programme for the children in the GETS schools, starting in January 2009. Providing a breakfast at school will enable many of our children to not only arrive on time, as it will be served at 8.30am promptly, but also to stay awake and concentrate during lessons! Breakfast will be a local food such as Cassava mixed with condensed milk, served on three days. Tapalapa, (local bread) will be served with a bean sauce twice a week. We will need to buy bowls and spoons plus a small amount to have them washed each day. We estimate that it will cost only **£10 per annum to feed one child**. Please see our website for more details.

Student News



Sendeng Suso

Female, D.O.B. 30/03/1986

Sendeng currently attends the Management Diploma Institute and completed her Certificate in 2006. She is now in the second year of her Diploma Course. She lives in Lamin Village. Her parents are traditional Griots from the Mandinka Tribe. They are the oral historians of the families in the area and attend all local ceremonies. Sendeng is a very bright girl who has been doing well since GTS commenced sponsorship in 2000. She is now sponsored by Eileen Renwick and Tania Leonard.

Isatou Bojang

Female, D.O.B.
09/03/1988

Isatou is in Grade 12, her final year, at Daddy Jobe Secondary School. She is sponsored by Lisa and Dave Hardy.



Fatoumatta Jallow

Female, D.O.B. 1990

Fatoumatta has completed Grade 12 at SOS Children's Village Secondary School. She lives in Manjai Kunda and is sponsored by Roy Hockaday.

Mariama Bah

Female, D.O.B. 01/01/1987

Mariama has finished Grade 12 at Charles Fawles Senior Secondary School. She has had excellent reports from the school and is determined to do well. She lives in Madiyana and was sponsored by Mark Delong.



A HUGE THANK YOU TO ALL OUR SPONSORS!

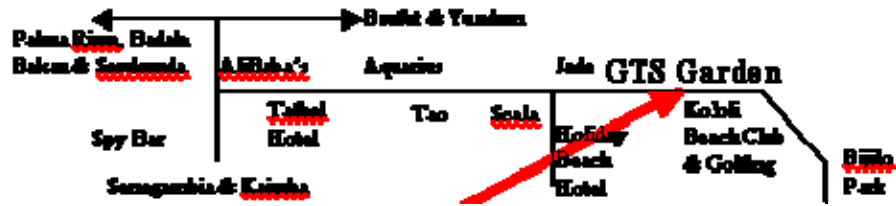
You have given these young people the opportunity of a lifetime.

Please visit our website for other Sponsorship Profiles and photographs

www.Getsuk.org/fundraising



Map & Directions to Restaurant and Office



Make your way to the 'Senegambia Strip' (all taxi drivers will know it), turn left at Ali Baba's restaurant on the corner. GTS is the last restaurant on the left.

The restaurant produces delicious, reasonably priced food and has had very good reviews in the 'Rough Guide to The Gambia'. The staff will give you a great welcome!

MEMBERS NEWS MEMBERS NEWS** MEMBERS NEWS**

An exciting new facility for Members has opened in Kololi.

We hope that if you are a member of GTS or GETS that you will visit the GTS Kololi club and enjoy the setting, the air conditioned library and roof top sitting areas.

The members club, bar and restaurant will provide employment for a further 4-6 Gambians and will provide an income for Francis independent of the charity. The accommodation provided is clean and straightforward, but fully functional to provide a central base for any visit to The Gambia. All double ensuite rooms are very reasonable priced and discounts are offered to volunteers. There is a small dip pool, plenty of space for sitting privately in the sun or shade, and with the members club on hand as a convenient bar and restaurant, in which you can truly relax without any hassle from bumsters or opportunists. Come and see for yourself!

GETSuk Fundraising Secretary **Shirley Britton** visited the GTS office for a morning at the end of September and met with **Helen** the new GETSuk administration assistant. It was a busy time in the office as parents were collecting their cheques to pay for the children's school fees.

Shirley writes: It is much more than just collecting signed cheques, as photographs are also taken of the students. The parents must bring along the student's school report which is filed into the named student's file, together with the photograph. Any queries are sorted out at the same time, if possible, as most parents have travelled some distance to visit the office.



RAISE FUNDS FOR GETSuk FREE

WHEN YOU SHOP OR BROWSE ON LINE

All you need to do is log on to the [easyfundraising site at - www.easyfundraising.org.uk/gambiaeducationteaching](http://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/gambiaeducationteaching)

or set your homepage and use it every time you search the Web -

www.gambiaeducationteaching.easysearch.org.uk

Your support is greatly appreciated

Attention, all Members!
Further changes to the GTS Kololi compound add new alternatives to the accommodation available

Three self contained en-suite **double rooms** are available at £80 a week: each has a powerful fan and is equipped with a fridge, an electric kettle and cups, glasses, plates etc for guests to make light meals

Also - a self contained, two double bed roomed **house**, for up to 4 members with sitting room, verandah, kitchen and shower/toilet. It has a big roof garden with excellent views all round (ideal for sunbathing or star gazing). The whole house costs £160 a week fully occupied or £140 per double room, single occupancy.

We also are letting a self contained **flat** on the ground floor with a private sitting area and two double rooms. The costs are the same as for the house. (Optional use of Air con £25 at a week, booked in advance)

All accommodation is cleaned daily during your stay, the house towels and sheets are changed regularly by Fran's wife Filley, who can also be booked (in advance) for shopping trips and traditional cooking sessions - as well as a laundering and ironing service,

The compound itself has a tiled, outside sitting area with attractive, 'thatched roof' tables with chairs

To check availability, for more details or to book any of the rooms, please contact Francis with your visit dates by email on Francis@GETSuk.org

People staying MUST be members of GTS