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Welcome to our Spring Newsletter

It has been a productive start to 2012! In March, a 40ft container left our warehouse, bound for 22 schools in Kwa-Zulu Natal, South Africa. Currently a 20ft container is heading to School Aid South Africa for distribution to schools in townships around Johannesburg and Pretoria.

We were delighted to receive a substantial donation from the Dulverton Trust. This welcome funding allows us to support the education of many more African children. We are grateful to the Directors and Board of Trustees of Dulverton for their encouragement and support.

Through extensive work by trustees and volunteers a new system for monitoring and evaluation has been established. This system will provide detailed analysis of the impact your donations and support have on the schools and communities we work in.

In March, we said goodbye to our long-term Treasurer, Nick Butterworth, a founding trustee. John O'Halloran is our new Treasurer, supported by volunteer Bookkeeper Carolyn Bradley. Our Secretary Philip Rimell has handed over responsibilities to Roy Abraham. We are grateful to Nick and Philip for their many years of commitment, and welcome John, Roy and Carolyn to their new roles.

I hope you enjoy reading about our activities – and thank you for your ongoing support.

Kind regards,

Clare Junak



Twilight Children's Shelter library opens its doors



In January, the Twilight Children's Shelter in Hillbrow, Johannesburg, opened its new library. The boys of the Twilight project helped decorate the library walls with patterns and inspirational sayings painted in bright colours. The children were given lessons in how books are used, and two were selected to become library assistants. The library is already proving a success. The boys borrow the books to complete their school homework.

First shipment to Lesotho a success!

A 40ft container of resources sent to Lesotho in 2010 has been distributed among 171 schools in under-privileged communities, and we have recently received thank you letters with beautiful drawings from the children to show their appreciation.

These resources will also assist unqualified teachers to study and gain a qualification through the



distance-learning programme at the Lesotho College of Education.

A second shipment to Lesotho is planned for November.

School Aids intern finds employment

Read about our first intern, Sara Darwish's experience working at School Aid:



'I'd never considered applying for a job outside of finance until I saw an advertisement for the role of School Aid Operations Intern. I believe that education is the most valuable investment you can give a person and for this reason I was excited about working for School Aid. The best part of my job as an Operations Intern is the variety. Working here has definitely nurtured a wide range of skills, from communications to the creative, and assisted me in securing full-time employment.'

Sara left us in April for a full-time post in accountancy, adding, 'I would definitely recommend you to apply for the Operations Internship position at School Aid.'

School Aid has appointed a new intern, Thomas Broom, who will start work on 22 May. We look forward to him joining us.

We urgently need primary books!



Children in Africa who want to go to secondary school must first pass their primary school exams – in English. But English is rarely a child's first language, and may not be introduced in schools until around the age of six or older. Where resources are limited, bright and potentially successful pupils are often excluded before they have a chance to develop their true potential.

Books and educational toys can make all the difference to a child's success in these early years – so School Aid is focusing on sending out more early years and primary

school books.

We need primary textbooks, reading books, art and craft supplies, and educational toys – urgently! If you can help, please call us on 01753 885603 (9.15am-3.00pm Tue-Thu) or click the donate button below to find out more.

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