

KAMBIA HOSPITAL APPEAL

www.kambia.org.uk

Issue No 15

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2006 Highlights

Another busy and productive year for the KHA - we have had visits from Kambia by the Matron, Frances Pearce and the Nurse in Charge of the Under 5's Clinic, Veronica Jarboe - you can read about their visit in this issue. From the UK, David and Lis Holmes along with Pat Fogarty were in Kambia in April and Shona Lockyer and James Dowling went out in May. We have got our first Cheltenham 'Scholar' - Joseph Koloko - currently studying at Njala University for the qualification of Community Health Worker - similar to our 'paramedic' but with a lot more focus on tropical diseases, symptoms and treatment.

A Container sent out by the KHA arrived in Kambia during Lis, David and Pat's visit - and was greeted with much excitement! As well as medical equipment we were also able to send out 50 Bicycles donated by a UK Charity and these are being put to good use in Kambia town as well as at the rural Health Clinics where they are used by the Nursing staff on their outreach visits.



Contents of the
Container being
unpacked.

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Donation form

Help us to save & make money!

Help us to **SAVE** money by receiving future Newsletters via e-mail (thank you to all of you who have already done this). This helps cut down both our printing and postage costs. Just email shona.lockyer@spitfireuk.net and we'll add you to the list - put a copy of this Newsletter next to your computer to remind you!

Help us to **MAKE** money by using the Amazon link on our website to buy all your DVD's, Books, Electricals etc.

TBA Training Update

The money we sent out for the TBA (Traditional Birth Attendant) Training has been well spent and over 300 new TBAs have been trained and 100 have had refresher training. David, Lis, Pat, Shona and James were all in Kambia when some of the Ceremonies took place. The format was similar for all of them – representatives from the District Health Management Team (DHMT), the Chiefdom, local dignitaries and ‘Elders’ and, of course, the ‘Cheltenham People’ would sit at a table in front of what seemed to be the whole of the village. Prior to our arrival there would be much activity in preparing food and we would often be greeted by colourful dancers and musicians.



TBA's in their new 'Uniforms'

The TBAs would all be seated together and once all the speeches had been made they would be presented with their new ‘Uniforms’, their non-transferable Certificate and their ‘Box’ (see later). The TBAs would then change into their new Uniforms and come back to the Ceremony to be greeted and recognized by the community. James managed to take some wonderful photos, but was mobbed by children wherever he went!

Extract from a letter given to us by one of the Nurses who carried out TBA training: “On behalf of the DHMT and especially the Cheltenham people, I thank you for a job well done. God Bless us all.”.

TBA “BOXES”

This is a wooden box made locally in Kambia town that contains basic supplies for TBAs:

Surgical spirit-cotton wool-safety pins-nail clippers-razor blades-torch and batteries-towels-bandages-gauze-soap-needle and thread-apron-plastic sheeting.

The other item included was a smaller box with compartments, each compartment has a picture and this box is used as a method of compiling statistics – if a TBA delivers a baby safely, she puts a stone in the relevant compartment, if she has to refer the Mother to the local Clinic, she puts a stone in that compartment etc. A primitive method but as many TBAs are illiterate, it works!



Sister Rogers with the 'statistics' box

COMIC RELIEF

James, assisted by Moses Kabbah (representing the District Council in Kambia) is working hard on preparing a funding application to Comic Relief. In the past we have been unable to apply for funding but CR now have a new category “People Affected by Conflict” under which we can apply So we are! Out in Kambia, Moses has organised over 42 meetings throughout the District to discuss the Comic Relief Bid – he has consulted with Chiefs, Elders, Women’s Groups, Youth Groups and the DHMT – these meetings have been held at the Health Clinics and Moses has summarized all 42 reports and sent the findings to James. The next step is for James, the Committee and Trustees to determine which projects would be suitable for a funding application. Obviously there will be thousands of applications so we may not be lucky, but let’s all keep our fingers crossed. Thanks to James and Moses for all their hard work - whatever the outcome.



FUNDRAISING HIGHLIGHTS!



On Saturday 14th October we held a **'QUIZ NIGHT'** at the Sacred Hearts Hall in Charlton Kings. We had over 120 people and a great time was had by all! We had some imaginative team names including "How do you solve a problem like Korea" (originally a headline in The Sun!) "But we thought this was Speed Dating", "The Fistula Fixers" and "The Kambino Bambinos" - to name a few!! The quiz night raised over £1200.00 so thanks to all of you who supported this event.

Thursday 23rd November saw the:

DELREY HOUSE CHRISTMAS SHOPPING EMPORIUM



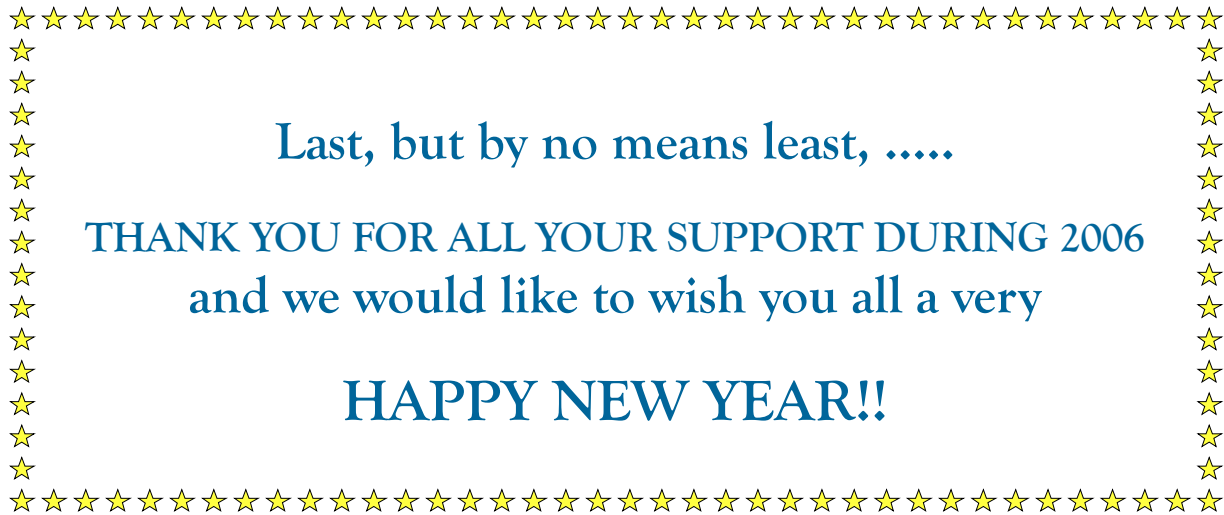
A relaxed evening of shopping and supping! With over 12 stalls selling some wonderful products ranging from Tunisian Pottery to Baskets from Madagascar this was a shopping event not to be missed. The event raised over £3,000 and was organized by Polly Boyd and Lizzie Pelly and held at Lizzie's House - so a HUGE thank you to both Polly and Lizzie!

2006 Visits - to/from Kambia

In June of this year we received Frances Pearce and Veronica Jarboe. Frances and Vero had a very busy and productive fortnight here in Cheltenham, they spent the majority of their time at the St. Paul's Maternity Wing but also at Gloucester Royal and other NHS sites around the county. Our thanks go to all the people who helped organize this visit - Richard Kerr-Wilson, Yvonne Robertson, Viven Mortimore and Matron Maggie Lewis who organized their timetable and arranged all the visits, to Paula Froggatt and Shona Lockyer who 'hosted' them and to all the other people who took them out for meals, outings and generally entertained them - you know who you all are - many many thanks!

In April a visit was made to Kambia by David and Lis Holmes and Pat Fogarty. David performed vital surgery and both Lis and Pat provided valuable nursing care on the Wards Lis gave us all a memorable talk at our AGM about their visit and some of the experiences they had. I don't think anyone who was there will forget the tale she told of the severely de-hydrated baby twins and their emergency dash to the hospital whilst being administered water from a medicine bottle dropper.

David, Lis and Pat also attended several of the TBA Ceremonies on behalf of the KHA and were all moved by the warmth of the welcome they received. I think almost everyone they met sent their 'greetings and love to Chelt-Nam' (as they call it!).



Last, but by no means least,

THANK YOU FOR ALL YOUR SUPPORT DURING 2006
and we would like to wish you all a very

HAPPY NEW YEAR!!

I would like to help the Kambia Hospital Appeal and enclose a donation for:

£10 £25 £50 £75 £100 Other £

or please pay The Kambia Hospital Appeal £..... each Month/Quarter/Year
(delete as appropriate) commencing/...../..... until I cancel this order.

Signature: Date:

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Bank Account No: / / / / / / /

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GIFT AID

I am a UK taxpayer and would like this donation and any further donations I make from
the date of this declaration, until I notify you otherwise, as Gift Aid Donations

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Mr. J. Kloer, Treasurer, Kambia Hospital Appeal, 78 Painswick Road, Cheltenham.
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