

The Changarawe Project

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Autumn Update 2007.

My daughter Rose Walford, who is a Trustee of the charity, visited Changarawe in September for the regular biannual meeting between a member of the U.K. board and Felistas Kalomo, the Tanzanian director and the local board. She was accompanied by her friend Kate Willoughby.

I'm sure you will all be delighted to hear that they stayed in Felistas' lovely new house. Although she is still in a very delicate state following the fire and deaths of her son and houseboy, having a comfortable home to live in again has helped her move forward.

Thank you all again for your stupendous generosity.

Sadly, Jaki Grudzinskas and Sarah Barry (Fawcett) have both resigned from the U.K. Board of Trustees for personal reasons. They remain committed to the Changarawe Project and will continue to support us in our activities as much as possible. I am **very** grateful to them for their staunch support for the last few years. Following her visit to Changarawe with Rose, we are delighted that Kate Willoughby has joined us as a trustee. She has a B.A. in business studies with Spanish and a Masters in marketing with a special interest in fair trade, and will be an important member of the team.

During the last six months, exciting developments have been taking place with two new initiatives which will help us with financial support and enable us to widen our profile. **The Worshipful Company of Stationers and Newspaper Makers** in London, thanks to the kindness of its' new Master, John Waterlow, has chosen The Changarawe Project to be its charity of the year 2007-8. I have already been hospitably entertained at the Stationers Hall for lunch where I very much enjoyed meeting members of the Company. The Master is planning a fund-raising event for The Changarawe Project in 2008. I am extremely touched by his thoughtfulness in supporting the charity in this amazing way.

Stephen Saker, whose family have been friends of the Walford family since the 1950s, has started fund-raising in Florida where he has lived for many years. I attended a wonderful party in his home in Orlando to introduce the Changarawe Project to his friends

and family, and have been overwhelmed by the interest and generosity of everyone I met there. I am so grateful to Stephen and his wife Marguerite.

We now have 14 employees in Changarawe Village, 100 children in the school and from January 2008, numbers in the Nigel Lloyd Fund for orphan educational support will be up to 80 who will be funded throughout their education and vocational training. We are also employing 12 Story-telling Grandmothers and 2 Gardening Grandmothers in the school garden growing vegetables for the children. At any one time we have 150 people borrowing from the Micro-credit Scheme. We run 4 HIV Seminars per annum.

Although it sounds as though we are doing a lot, and we **are** beginning to make a significant impact, in a large community of approximately 4,300 people it is still only a drop in the ocean. We are seeing more and more orphans, widows and abandoned women, and increasing numbers of grandmothers caring for their orphaned grandchildren.

If you haven't already done so, please do look at our web-site which gives a real flavour of the project.

In order to maintain the status quo we now have to raise at least £10,000 per annum. All U.K. help is voluntary.

Ways you can help.

- Regular cash-flow is a big issue, and donations through standing orders are the backbone of our finances, enabling forward planning. A regular donation of £5 per month which comes to £60 per annum, pays our nurse for 2 months, for example. If you feel able to make a small regular commitment, it really will make a significant difference.
- We are now registered with 'justgiving.com', and if you are running a marathon, or any other sporting event and want to help us, donations can be made through them, or of course, directly to us at the charity's address.
- Find outlets with local shops to sell our lovely cotton bags, aprons and other goods made in the village - they are fairly traded and each sale provides income for the charity as well as Redina who makes them.
- Hold your own event for Changarawe. I am always happy to give a talk to a group or school.
- Attend our regular fund-raising events and bring your friends along too - spread the word!

Thank you **all** for your interest and support.

Happy Christmas and very good wishes for the New Year.

**Carolyn Walford.
Director, The Changarawe Project.**