



ISAS NEWSLETTER

International Scout Active Support

WINTER 2013 – No 05

www.internationalscouts.org.uk



Season's Greetings to all ISAS members and supporters . . . and best wishes for a successful and peaceful 2014

ISAS - International Cafe

Members of the ISAS managed the *International Cafe* on behalf of the HQ International Team at the Gilwell Reunion in September. This provided a much better base and opportunity for meeting and greeting many of our friends and supporters, as well as many Reunion participants interested in knowing more about the ISAS Unit. The *International Cafe* quickly became a very popular place for refreshments and a place to sit and chat!

During the day the ISAS held its Annual General Meeting. This included the election of the 'officers' of the ISAS Unit. Mick Stocks agreed to be Manager for a further year and Alan Beavis (co-ordinating finances) and Tony Fulford (co-ordinating administration and membership) also agreed to serve during 2013-14.

A full list of the elected ISAS Committee is provided at the end of this Newsletter.

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Explorer Scouts improve water source in Mityana (Uganda)



A small group of Explorer Scouts from West Lancashire raised funds and travelled to Mityana (Uganda) during the summer of 2013 to improve the water supply for the local community.

From this . . .



To this . . .



The ISAS Unit was pleased to offer support and advice (including contacts, travel advice, risk assessments, etc) to the Explorer Scout team and congratulate them all on the organisation and completion of such a successful international community project.

25 years on - and still running

An article by Doug Corbin, Deputy Manager ISAS

In 1992 a party of 51 consisting of Cleveland Scouts together with Cleveland Girl Guides and a couple of Scouts from Sunderland took part in a Community Development Project in Kenya. The project consisted of the construction of a new Health Clinic in the village of Murinduko, near Embu, on the slopes of Mount Kenya. The clinic was constructed from natural stone and was for the benefit of the local community who had to travel several miles for even the most basic treatment. The project was arranged with co-ordination between Kenya Scouts and the World Scout Bureau in Nairobi and Doug Corbin and Alan Charlesworth in Cleveland who were the project leaders. During the period of the project the group was visited on site by Garth Morrison, the UK Chief Scout at the time.

In September 2013 two of the original party, Doug Corbin, International Adviser for Cleveland Scouts, and his daughter, Carol, together with four other members from the UK who were on holiday in Kenya, re-visited Murinduko to see the clinic. The original building was still in use and the site had been developed further with the construction of a maternity wing and several other buildings. The clinic is currently treating about 100 people per day and is still an essential facility within the area for the local community.

It is very satisfying to know that a project undertaken by UK Scouts 25 years ago is still being used, and appreciated, by the local community.

The first expedition by Cleveland Scouts was in 1988 and consisted of a Water Development Project when a large water harvesting tank was constructed underground to store relatively clean water for a school at Dida, near Kilifi, in the coastal region of Kenya north of Mombassa. Some VIP latrines were also constructed at the school. This had set the scene for this second expedition in 1992 which was organised by the same team. A project of this size was a new experience for Scouting in Cleveland. The group consisted of 51 members from all walks of life and was an experience of a life time, and was the real star for other overseas expedition to Africa. In 1996 the venue changed to Zimbabwe where another clinic was constructed at Rukovo, near Masvingo; 2001 saw another venue this time in Botswana where an outdoor classroom was constructed for the benefit of the children of Botswana. This was constructed within a Nature Reserve when on one occasion there were three rhinos walking through the campsite; 2005 saw the County in Tanzania for another two classrooms in a school at Einoti,

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25 years on - and still running (cont)

near Arusha. This was followed by an expedition to Zambia in 2009 for yet another couple of classrooms. For this expedition Cleveland Scouts were joined by members from Sunderland Scouts and a group from Durham and Northumberland Girls Brigade which as far as can be established was the first time these two organisations had arranged a joint overseas expedition. Coming up to date Cleveland Scouts have just returned from a successful expedition to Marigat, Western Kenya, after completing school classrooms at a Catholic Mission.

During discussion with Kenya Scouts at their Headquarters in Embu we were told that the local chief still talks about the time when the UK Scouts were at Murinduko. Further projects in this area are still available for any Unit wishing to help less well off people in Kenya.

UK-Uganda Scout Network Reunion

9-11 May 2014

The UK-Uganda Scout Network hopes to hold a Reunion weekend for all those still in Scouting, or have left Scouting, that have visited Uganda.

Visit the ISAS website for further information
(see green panel - page 4)

Missing teachers

An extract from BBC News (Business)
December 2013

When teachers fail to get their salaries, or don't earn enough, they take second or third jobs to pay the bills. And it means no-one is there to teach the children.

It's encapsulated in the pages of a local newspaper. On the front page is a big story about pupils taking national exams and how significant it will be for their future. It shows a country that really values education, where children will walk for miles under the equatorial sun to study.

Open the next page and there's a threat of strike action by teachers still waiting for last month's pay cheques.

See opposite . . .

Project Africa

Berkshire Scouts have just launched a new phase to *Project Africa* following their successful visit and work in Uganda during the summer of 2011. Having raised more than £45,000 for building projects at two schools, the Scouts are now keen to raise funds to support the 8 teachers at the Bukeka Children's Centre (Mityana).

Berkshire Scouts hope to raise £3,000 per year for the next 3 years. For the complete story and further details see their website at

www.berkshirescouts.org.uk/projectafrica.php

Project Africa supporting teachers (Uganda)



Berkshire Scouts are supporting teachers at the Bukeka Children's Centre (Mityana) to help secure a good education for local children from a poor rural area

*young people supporting young people
(helping others)*

For more information visit the website
www.berkshirescouts.org.uk/projectafrica


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International Partnerships survey

The HQ International Team has requested that the ISAS conduct a survey on their behalf. The survey is to collect information on international activities/projects that involve Scouts abroad and/or external agencies and communities.

The aim of the survey is to set up a central database to provide information and good practice for those planning similar future international activities/projects.

Please help with this survey by downloading and completing a survey sheet from the ISAS website (see *green panel - opposite*).

Please also share this survey as widely as possible so that the many locally organised great international partnership activities/projects can be shared. Thank you!

Toys for smiles

The Scout & Guide Fellowship UK are supporting the *Toys for Smiles* campaign. Further details and a resource pack can be found at www.sagf.org.uk

During half-term 2,400 toys were taken to the Pitt Rivers Museum, Oxford, and shipped to Amman ready for distribution to the children in the Za'atari Refugee Camp, Jordan.

The project has also recently received 18 footballs from Reading Football Club ready for the second shipment that will leave the UK in January/February 2014.

Facebook page

Have you visited and 'Liked' the ISAS Facebook page?

At the time of publishing this Newsletter there are 98 'Likes' . . . so very close to our 100th 'Like' . . . could that be you!

Visit the Facebook page via the web page link (see *green panel - opposite*).

Membership news

Donations for 2014 membership should now be sent to Tony Fulford, our Membership Secretary, together with an updated Gift Aid declaration if appropriate.

It's never too late if you have not got around to sending your membership donation!

It was agreed at the recent AGM that any member missing two consecutive year subscriptions will be deleted from the membership list until a subscription is received.

Please contact Tony direct if you have any membership queries:

enquiries@isasunit.org.uk

Committee News

The ISAS Committee has not met for some time (other than for the AGM at the Gilwell Reunion). The Committee will be convened when there is sufficient business that requires a face-to-face Meeting and there is justification for the expense of the membership to travel from all parts of the country. Please use the ISAS enquires email (see *green panel - below*) if you have any business you would like considered by the ISAS Committee.

Committee membership (2013-14)

Manager: Mick Stocks

Deputy Manager: Doug Corbin

Co-ordinator (admin/membership): Tony Fulford

Co-ordinator (finance): Alan Beavis

Committee members: George Devine;

David Mowbray; Ann Shannon; Peter Short;

Marv Takel; Carolyn Taylor

Ex-officio members:

Nigel Hailey, HQ International Commissioner;

Clive Leader, Assistant HQ International

Commissioner (supporting ISAS)

All members of the ISAS are encouraged to provide their thoughts on how to move the ISAS forward in the coming years. Please send your thoughts to the email address below.



visit the ISAS web site at:

www.internationalscouts.org.uk/

An online Application Form for membership of the ISAS can be found on the ISAS web site (above)

Visit our Facebook Page via the web site (above)

Please send email enquires to:

enquiries@isasunit.org.uk

Contributions for the next issue of the *ISAS Newsletter* will be welcomed (via the email address above)

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