



**Rick McIntosh—Trustee and Build Coordinator.**

Thomas Cook airlines have been supportive of our charity from the start, with free baggage on our many trips to The Gambia, helping us with costs in the early days of our venture to educate these children, it feels to me that Thomas Cook has in some way, NO! A big way, part of our venture, and have now through this wonderful donation from Thomas Cook Children’s Charity , brings the hopes and dreams of the trustees, staff and the people of Ebo Town to fruition.



**AMY YEOMANS—CHAIRLADY/TRUSTEE**

Its amazing news. Something that has been spoken about so often and although due to the amazing fundraising efforts of people and donations—we were close but it still seemed so far away! In times like this with so much uncertainty for many people and finances it is amazing that the build can now be completed. We don’t have to worry about the right time to start fundraising again etc. It was sad when Thomas Cook went bust especially as I know that they were the favoured airline of our teams but what a legacy they have left for us and many others! Cannot wait for the exciting future ahead. We have been through so so much over the years—both heartbreaking and uplifting but this really makes everything worthwhile xxx I cannot wait to see photos of our children in their new school. Thank you Thomas Cook Children Charity.



# THANK YOU THOMAS COOK CHILDRENS CHARITY FOR THIS GIFT.

**KAYLEE NICHOLLS—TRUSTEE/ SPONSORSHIP COORDINATOR**

Thank you so much to all at TCCC for this amazing donation. 2 years ago when I stood on a piece of land on my first trip to The Gambia I knew we would get there—we WOULD build our own school, how could we not with the amazing supporters and sponsors behind us. And until corona virus hit I still believed we would make it within our deadline (even if the outbuildings weren’t quite finished) but the world shut down and our fundraising plans were washed away. It was the first time I had ever thought to myself “what have we done??. This donation means the absolute world to us all and our dream will become reality (ahead of schedule) we will welcome 40+ new students to our school and support 40 more of the poorest families. This really has made the world of difference and will ensure that the legacy of TCCC lives on, doing what it was set out to do, educating children and supporting the community in which they live. Thank you all so so much.



**ELLIE NICHOLLS—TRUSTEE/SECRETARY**

Thomas Cook Children’s Charity, we are humbled by the generosity of this gift, it means so much to everyone who has been fundraising and supporting this amazing challenge, to see dreams come true is quite amazing and thank you for choosing our tiny charity that now can make a real difference to the people of Ebo Town.

**YVONNE DIXON—MEMBER**

Roger and I want to say a very big thank you to Thomas Cook Children’s Charity it means a lot for us to see we can fulfil our dream of getting these children of Ebo Nursery School to have a lovely school to go to. Thank you .



Christine our Butterfly teacher





**Sue Rogers—Trustee writes:**

I feel so privileged to be part of this project, and with the thanks to Thomas Cook Children’s Charity its finally coming to life. We all have seen the hardship in The Gambia and education is the key there. Many ups and down have come and gone but we have muddled through. So, although the road has been tough we never gave up hope that one day our new school would open, so a very big thank you to all at Thomas Cook Children’s Charity we now have a light at the end of the tunnel for the completion of our school.



**Chris Ralphs - Trustee writes:**

**OUT OF SMALL ACORNS, LARGE OAKS GROW.**

Thank you Thomas Cook Childrens Charity for your wonderful donation, our hopes, prayers and dreams will be realised for the children of the here and now and for future children. Covid 19 may have delayed our plans during 2020 but Thomas Cook Childrens Charity, have enabled us to go forward. Thank you.



The children say a huge thank you, to all who have helped ease our lives.



**A NOTE FROM DAVE AND PAULA HOWELLS - THE FOUNDERS.**

Back in 2014, we visited The Gambia with £200,00 in our pockets wanting to find somewhere we could make a difference. We spent it on a very poor school in Ebo Town, children learnt in cramped conditions, with no playground and sanitation facilities. This is where it all began. In June 2017, whilst writing a newsletter to sponsors and contributors updating them on progress, I found it heavy on my heart, to build a school in Ebo Town, something for the children to call their own and be proud of. This seemed such a crazy idea, but it was a long distant dream we guess. Trustees were amazing and in a committee meeting it was decided that we could open the door and see what journey we would embark on. The road has had many challenges twists and turns but through it all the children drove us forward. It has been a challenge to get the build to the point we have today, but now with the shock news of your grant for XXXXX we are able to make a dream come true and complete the school fully, and furnish it with tables and chairs in each classroom. What a gift you have given to us, this is life changing for all the children, families and teachers. This is a legacy for Thomas Cook Childrens Charity. Thank you to all trustees for believing in us, and allowing us to continue in these hard and difficult times.

Thank you seems such a small word, but Thank you from the bottom of our hearts.

**Dave and Paula**



Head Teacher—Lenna, extends you thanks to all. Her life has changed.

