

STAND UP FOR AFRICA

SUPPORTER NEWSLETTER

Issue four | June 2007



Dear friends 

Welcome to the fourth issue of Stand Up For Africa's (SUFA) supporter newsletter.

Thanks to your commitment and donations, SUFA continues to develop and grow. And thanks to you, our development programme continues to make a significant impact, giving disadvantaged children and young people in Africa the support they need to build a brighter future for themselves and their families.

In this issue, you will read how SUFA friends and supporters are Standing Up and making a difference. From the USA to Hong Kong, our Support Groups are busy raising money and awareness – read about their activities on page 2. You can also find out what some of our individual fundraisers have been up to, including Sandi Langton who raised money for SUFA's Youth Drop-in Centre Project while motorbiking from the UK to South Africa (see page 4.)

This issue also features an article about the new Matangini Water Project, which is bringing safe, clean water to African schoolchildren. Turn to page 3 to find out how you can help.

And, finally, on the back cover we explain how you can Stand Up For Africa in 2007. Treat yourself to something from our new online SUFA Shop. Travel to West Africa to learn about slavery past and present, and visit SUFA's Maison de l'Enfance Project. Become a SUFA Ambassador and represent SUFA in your community. Or make a donation to support our vital development work. Whatever you do, whether it's donating, fundraising, shopping or volunteering... make sure you do it for Africa!

On behalf of everyone at SUFA, thank you for supporting African-led initiatives that tackle poverty and suffering in Africa. Thank you for supporting Stand Up For Africa.

Francesca O Arhin

SUFA Trustee

FUNDRAISER'S BIG BIKE TRIP A BIG SUCCESS



In March, Sandi Langton arrived home after her gruelling 20,000-mile motorbike trip from Dover in the UK to Cape Town in South Africa. Along the way, this intrepid SUFA supporter became one of very few women to cross the Sahara desert by motorbike and also helped us to raise the £5,000 we needed to fund our new Youth Drop-In Centre in Kampala, Uganda.

Sandi, who is South African, took time out during her arduous journey to visit the Youth Drop-in Centre Project where she met young people (pictured) and our partner Safe Alternatives for Youth Association (SAFY). She also attended the ground-breaking ceremony at the site where the new Drop-in Centre is being built. Thanks to Sandi and all our generous supporters, the Project will be able to provide vital services, including HIV/AIDS awareness and prevention programmes, for hundreds of deprived young people.

See inside for Sandi's story ❖

SUFA Support Groups in action

Thank you to all our Support Groups, who have been busy raising money to support our development programme. Your hard work and commitment is giving deprived children and young people in Africa the chance to build a brighter future for themselves and their families.

PASSION FOR AFRICA



Last year, Leeds City SUFA Support Group, led by Cynthia Karambi, organised Miss Passion For Africa Leeds 2006 in partnership with Ben TV And Western Union. Attended by more than 300 guests, the event raised money and awareness to support SUFA. The Miss Passion For Africa Show blended African dances,

fashion, drumming and fine dining. British-born Ghanaian Nancy was crowned Miss Passion for Africa 2006, and the runners-up were Jessica and Vanessa.

SUFA SELECTED FOR STUDENTS' STUDY PROJECT

Gabrielle and Ariel, students at East Lyme High School, Connecticut, USA, decided to raise money for SUFA as their independent study project:

"Our main goal was to do something for others. We decided to support SUFA because of the number of projects changing lives everyday. In efforts to raise money towards these projects we held various fundraisers through out our school. Our main event was a concert, which had a tremendous outcome attracting people of all ages. In result we earned over \$600."

SCHOOL BEATS FUNDRAISING TARGET



Burgate SUFA Support Group, Burgate School & Sixth Form Centre, Hampshire, UK, is raising money to help fund a primary school in Benin, as part of SUFA's Maison de l'Enfance (Children's Centres) Project, which supports children who are at risk of being trafficked and other

forms of abuse. Phil Rushworth brings us up-to-date with the Support Group's recent fundraising activities:



"We met the Easter target and we're now at £5,200. The money from the Sponsored Swim amounted to about £700. Other than that, we had the Sponsored Walk, with about 30 people taking part, an Upper School Social and a football tournament. The most recent event was the 1980's disco, which raised £925."

FASHION STATEMENT



In February, the African-Caribbean Society SUFA Support Group at Cardiff University, Wales, was Standing Up for Africa in style to support our Maison de l'Enfance Project. Group coordinator Beatrice Baiden led the Group's involvement in their University's Global Village event. They arranged for SUFA t-shirts to be modelled during the fashion show, raising awareness of our work and encouraging students to buy our branded clothing from their stall. They also displayed SUFA information leaflets and copies of our Gift Catalogue, raising £96 in donations.



Find out about SUFA's development programme at www.standupforafrica.org.uk

FRESH HOPE FOR SCHOOLCHILDREN

SUFA's new Matangini Water Project is providing clean, safe water for primary school children in East Africa. The Project was founded in 2005 by Dr Mark Booth, University of Cambridge. Mark continues to lead the Project, which is now part of Stand Up For Africa's development programme.

Mark explains: "The Project's aim is to provide safe, clean water for schoolchildren and teachers in East Africa. We install boreholes in the grounds of primary schools that are most affected by parasitic diseases. We built the first borehole for Matangini School in Makueni District, eastern Kenya. The local community provides manual labour to dig the boreholes and we train them to maintain the pump so that there will be safe, clean water for the school for many years to come.

"The first borehole was completed in July 2006 and now provides a lifeline for the whole school. About 400 students and their teachers have clean, safe water to drink. They can also use the water to irrigate the school vegetable patch, which is a vital source of nutritious food for the children."



▲ In Africa, many people become infected with potentially fatal parasitic infections from drinking polluted water. In 2007, the Matangini Water Project aims to provide clean, safe water in five schools, providing a lifeline for thousands of children and their teachers.

Support our 2007 Appeal

In 2007, our Project target is to raise £5,000 so that we can build boreholes in five more schools, providing safe, clean water for more than 2,000 children aged between 3 and 14. Each borehole costs just £1,000 to install and provides water for hundreds of children. So please, donate whatever you can afford, and give Africa's children the safe, clean water they so desperately need.

Donate directly to our Matangini Water Project 2007 Appeal by visiting www.justgiving.com/matangini

STOP PRESS... Dr Mark Booth and PhD student Angela are taking part in the 2007 ASICS British 10k London Run to raise money for the Matangini Water Project. To sponsor Mark and Angela, visit www.justgiving.com/marks10k

Fundraisers' News



▲ Daniel Rutland fundraiser: Daniel Rutland and fellow fundraisers take a break during their Walk for Freedom.

Daniel Rutland organised a Walk for Freedom from Oxford to Reading, UK raising money for SUFA. Before the walkers left, St Clements Church held a service on the theme of slavery and freedom. The Walk joined forces with the March of the Abolitionists, which commemorates the bicentenary anniversary of the abolition of the Transatlantic Slave Trade.

Lascelles Lawrence took part in the Nike Run London 10k and raised £626.18.

Claire Street nominated SUFA for the collection at her wedding and raised £135.

Dr Iain Charlton, Oxford, UK, donated £100 from the sales of his 2007 photographic calendar, which featured African mammals.

In the last 12 months, **Thomas Smith** made supporting SUFA's work his fundraising priority. He helped raised nearly £1,000 towards the building of our Uganda Youth Drop in Centre.

Irene de Lorenzis, Berkshire, UK, asked for donations to SUFA instead of birthday presents for herself, using Just Giving's fundraising website (www.justgiving.com) to raise £83.33.

*Thank you so much
for Standing Up
for Africa!*

THE BIG BIKE TRIP: Sandi's Story

Here's an edited extract from supporter Sandi's account of her eventful Big Bike Trip. Read her full story and see her photos at www.standupforafrica.org.uk

"The high point of the trip was crossing the Sahara on my motorbike: very few women have accomplished this. There are no roads, just a dirt track through the desert, and the Nile was our main means of navigation. Sometimes people would approach us with water and dates – in spite of it being Ramadan. We finished each day utterly exhausted and happy to be alive.

"My second highlight was visiting SAFY in Kampala, Uganda. I arrived with a smashed-up ankle and was feeling the strain of long-term travel. I had a few dark days, during which I doubted I had what it took to be this 'hero' the kids were expecting. I contemplated quitting. Fortunately, Elsie [SUFA's Founder/Director] was on my case and her kind words encouraged me. She made me realise who I could be. I realised that in each of us there lives an 'Everyday Hero' and it is up to us to rise to the occasion.

"With my spirit renewed, I met the kids and faced the poverty and other things that many of us don't want to look at. I allowed myself to interact with these young people in a personal way that meant opening up my heart. I will always remember how their resilience and positive outlook on life should be my inspiration.

"On 11 December, SAFY held a ceremony to celebrate breaking the ground for the new Youth Drop-in Centre. Loads of young people and all the local community leaders went to the site, and we had a lovely time in which we all thanked each other and God for the progress that had been made in realizing the dream to help kids in this area.

"Thanks to everyone who contributed to the fundraising appeal. The new Youth Drop-in Centre will have a positive impact on so many young people's lives."

About the Project

The Youth Drop-in Centre Project is led by SUFA's partner in Uganda, Safe Alternatives for Youth Association (SAFY). Born into extreme poverty, young people living in Kitamanyangamba slum have little hope for the future. The school dropout rate is 80 per cent. Forty per cent of young people aged 15 and over use drugs. There are high levels of crime, unwanted pregnancies and sexually transmitted disease, including HIV/AIDS.



Thanks to your generous support, SUFA and SAFY have achieved a great deal in the past couple of years, including:

- Raising £5,000 to build a new Youth Drop-In Centre.
- Establishing a Youth Club Network that has enabled us to reach young people throughout the community.
- Recruiting and training young community leaders to help run the project and provide peer support.
- Providing vocational counselling and training to help young people find jobs.
- Raising funds to pay for a set of reconditioned computers. SAFY is now able to offer computer skills training, giving young people a better chance of finding work.
- Raising funds to pay for games and sports equipment, encouraging young people to come to SAFY and have fun in a safe, supportive environment.

The young people of Kitamanyangamba are eager to improve their lives. Will you support them? Visit www.standupforafrica.org.uk to make a donation.

BENIN PARTNER VISIT



▲ Norbert meets SUFA trustee Anita Amentor.

▼ Norbert with Neil Howard and SUFA Founder/Director Elsie Nemlin.



In September, SUFA held a reception in London for Norbert Fanou-Ako, Director of ESAM, SUFA's partner in Benin. Norbert met SUFA volunteers and supporters, and talked about what is being done to address child slavery and trafficking in West Africa. He also attended the 16th International Congress on Child Abuse and Neglect (ISPCAN) in York.

During the reception, Volunteer Programme Manager Neil Howard was presented with SUFA's Volunteer of the Year 2006 Award in recognition of his hard work over the past three years. One of Neil's many achievements was his work as an intern with ESAM, when he helped establish SUFA's Maison de l'Enfance Project.

THREE YEARS OF ACHIEVEMENTS



SUFA Founder/Director Elsie Nemlin presents the cake at our third anniversary party, held on 30 September at L' Experience Restaurant in London, UK. This was a wonderful opportunity for SUFA volunteers and supporters to socialise and celebrate our achievements.

NEW CORPORATE RELATIONSHIPS

SUFA has developed two exciting new corporate relationships.



RoadHogs (www.roadhogs-shoes.com) is producing a shoe featuring the SUFA logo and a quote from Nelson Mandela. A share of the sales profits will be donated to support our work.



JFS2000 (www.jfs2000.co.uk) is Standing Up For Africa by donating 10% of the purchase price of its children's games and

educational products. Thanks very much to all our corporate partners – we really do appreciate your donations, awareness raising and support.

SUFA'S FIRST PATRON

We are honoured that our long-standing supporter and friend Nick Marple has agreed to become Stand Up For Africa's first Patron. Nick lives in London, UK, with his wife Sophie. Nick explains why he supports SUFA:

"SUFA supports projects that are led by Africans and already show potential. Through SUFA projects, Africans are empowered and can show that they are fully able to play a role in their own development, rather than having an outsider tell them how to do it."

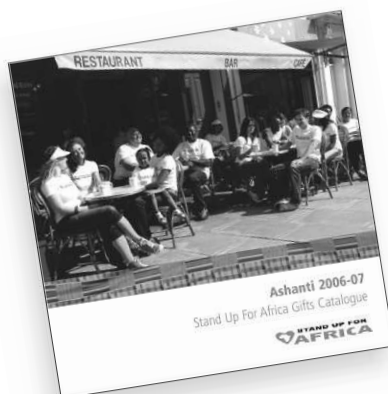
Read the full interview with Nick at www.standupforafrica.org.uk

IF YOU LOVE AFRICA, STAND UP!

Shop with SUFA

Support Stand Up For Africa by ordering from our fabulous range of branded clothing and gifts:

- Shop with SUFA online at www.securegiving.co.uk/shop/sufa/index.html
- Request a copy of our Ashanti 2006-07 Gift Catalogue.
- Buy direct from our office (10am and 12 noon, Monday to Friday) at Unit 74A-75 Battersea Business Centre, 99/109 Lavender Hill, Battersea, London SW11 5QL, UK.



Skills Exchange

Our Skills Exchange Project connects community groups in Africa with volunteers and interns from the North. This is an exciting opportunity for you to make a personal contribution to Africa's development. There are no age restrictions, and many placements do not require any qualifications or experience. There are opportunities in Benin, Ghana and Uganda.

So if you love Africa, why not Stand Up and share your skills? You will find full details and a Project Application Form at www.standupforafrica.org.uk.

SUFA Ambassadors

Being a SUFA Ambassador is a great way to have fun, learn new skills and make friends while fighting poverty and suffering in Africa. Ambassadors are volunteers who represent SUFA in their community. They build awareness of SUFA's work and raise vital funds to support our development projects. We provide all the advice and support you need, including fundraising materials and advice.

Interested? Visit the Volunteers page at www.standupforafrica.org.uk and complete the Ambassador Application Form.

Make a donation

We are an independent charity and your financial assistance is vital if we are to continue our work with deprived children and young people. **If you would like to make a donation or arrange a regular, monthly gift to support SUFA's work, please visit www.standupforafrica.org.uk**

Explore Africa 2007



This year, we commemorate the bicentenary of the abolition of the Transatlantic Slave Trade. To mark this historic event, we offer you the chance to participate in a trip of a lifetime. As part of our Explore Africa 2007 Project, you are invited to visit our Maison de l'Enfance Project in Benin, West Africa, and learn more about slavery past and present. **Full details of this exciting opportunity can be found at www.standupforafrica.org.uk**



www.standupforafrica.org.uk

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