Annual Newsletter Issue no 16 - 2015



Arusha is in the north of Tanzania, East Africa.

ACT is a small educational charity operating since December 1999

Malaysian Students' Fundraiser The Three Highest Peaks of UK in 36 hours!



UKECares Team at the peak of Snowdon

In April 2015 twenty students from different universities in UK signed up for one of the biggest challenges of their lives. They aimed to climb the three highest peaks in UK in 36 hours, Ben Nevis in Scotland(1344m), Snowdon in Wales(1085m) and Scafell in England(978m).

This adventurous fundraiser named UKEClimb for Kids, was organised by Gloria Lee and Nicola Choon, executives of UKEC, the United Kingdom and Eire Council of Malaysian students.

The successful challenge covered 42 kilometres in wintry conditions.

In May 2015 ACT found out that it would receive a total of £5000, raised by the students, to be paid over two years.

This very welcome news means that ACT can continue to support its projects for a few more years.

In June and July Gloria and Shawn(another executive of UKEC) visited Tanzania on a teaching programme in a local school. They visited ACT's projects and enjoyed an enthusiastic welcome from the children and their teachers.

Here are some questions and answers about the challenge:

Which peak did you find the toughest?

"Ben Nevis, most definitely! We arrived at the tail end of winter and stepped into 3 feet of snow at one point!"

How was the weather?

"It got progressively better. Ben Nevis wasn't favourable but the others were fine."

What was the biggest challenge?

Tien Eu Min from University College, London said "None really. Can't wait to attempt other mountains in Europe!"

William Chu, also from UCL said "I'd gladly do it all over again!"

For Nicola Choon, the most memorable part of the climb was touching the stone on Snowdon's peak at sunset and descending by moonlight. In her own words "To think the experience had a function beyond that, to raise funds for a great cause miles and miles away, was even better."

Gloria Lee, the head executive of UKEC said: "It was definitely challenging leading a group of 20 students up snowy mountains in bad weather conditions. To be able to use this challenge as a platform to raise funds is a true blessing. The camaraderie that we built over 36 hours still lasts till today."

ACT congratulates these brave students who are obviously used to more pleasant climes for their adventurous and generous spirits.

ACT for Action

Maasai Kindergarten

Forty-six children graduated from the kindergarten in Olmuringiringa village in November 2015.

The three teachers and two assistants continue to provide over 80 children with a varied foundation of pre-school learning. Thanks to Suzana, Leah, Elias, Ester and Naishive for their dedication and thanks to the director, Ole Supeet, for his encouragement and guidance. Ole Supeet is the head of the village primary school with over 1000 students. ACT appreciates the time he devotes to being avolunteer for ACT while having an extremely busy professional job. Other good news from the village is the installation of electricity for the first time. ACT has supported the school since 2002.



Ishbel Brydon, project manager. brought some sports equipment from UK.

EK Muzungu Club

ACT thanks John Collard and friends, known as the EK Muzungu Club, for their on-going financial support since 2008. John and friends climbed Kilimanjaro in 2008 and their first generous donation enabled ACT to build a classroom and start the foundations for two teachers' houses.

Secondary Students

ACT has supported three underprivileged girls in secondary schools in Arusha in 2015.

ACT provides uniforms, shoes, stationery, books, lunches, pays for school fees and educational trips.

How can you help?

Please visit ACT's website for more information www.arushachildrenstrust.org

In 2015 the average monthly cost of running the kindergarten was £255.

To sponsor a secondary student costs £165.

Donations can be made through Paypal via the website or directly to:

Bank of Scotland 43 Comely Bank Road Edinburgh EH4 1AF United Kingdom

Arusha Children A/C Sort Code 80-11-05 Sterling Account No. 06002520

Thanks

Thanks go to Tropical Trails Safari Company, Arusha, for transporting supplies to ACT's projects.

Thanks to clients at Karama Lodge, Arusha, for bringing gifts of stationery through Pack for a Purpose and thanks to the yoga classes at Karama.

Thanks to all our supporters, donors and those who have visited the projects.

Thanks to Bob Gray in New Zealand for his expertise and time updating the website.