



Issue 2 –Spring 2010

## From the Trustees

The past year has been an increasingly busy one for the Rafiki Thabo Foundation with some really exciting developments, especially in regard to our relationship with Ha Fusi Secondary School in Lesotho. In Kenya we have had the privilege of supporting two medical students through university this past year, a commitment that we are delighted to make as better health is really a key element in driving long-term economic change. It is so exciting to think that by our efforts and the generosity of our supporters, we here in the UK can really in a small way make a difference.



*Children from Ha Fusi School, Lesotho with their new computers*

## Thank you!



The trustees would like to thank all those who have contributed to the foundation, but would like to express particular thanks to Cokethorpe School and the Churches of St Luke's and St Lawrence's for their generous support. They would also like to thank David and Elizabeth Dunford for their hard work in Lesotho.

*Left: Students from Cokethorpe pose with Ha Fusi School whilst on a visit in July. Part of the experience involved taking the School to Thaba Bosiu – a site of significant historical interest for the Basotho. Everyone had a wonderful time!*

## News from Lesotho

2009 was a very exciting year for Ha Fusi Secondary School, a fledgling institution just to the north of the capital, Maseru. Having secured the services of Elizabeth Dunford, a retired maths teacher from Nottingham, things have progressed at quite a pace. We are delighted that, thanks to some very determined and persistent work on Elizabeth's behalf, the School was registered by the Lesotho Government in July and, with all the pomp and ceremony that the occasion deserved, was officially opened by the Bishop of Lesotho and a representative of the Ministry of Education (*see right*). Other exciting developments include the donation of 5 computers through the Lesotho Durham Link, powered by a generator kindly paid for with donations from supporters in Nottingham, and the construction of a toilet block. The trustees were delighted to hear that all of the Form C students taking their end of year exams gained good results and progress on to further education.



To find out more about the Ha Fusi project, visit [www.fusischool.org](http://www.fusischool.org)

To read about David and Elizabeth's experience in Lesotho, read their blog: [www.thedunfords.org/blog](http://www.thedunfords.org/blog)



## News from Kenya



*"... thanks so much for connecting me with the Rafiki Thabo Foundation and for the great help. I don't know how to express my gratitude but may God in heaven reward you" Moses*



The Rafiki Thabo Foundation has continued to support Emy Mwanganyi as she completes her degree in Clinical Medicine at Jomo Kenyatta University in Kenya, and is also delighted to be assisting Moses Onyango who is taking a degree in Clinical Medicine and Surgery. Moses attends Lake Institute of Tropical Medicine, Kisumu, and is in his second year. He lives a long way from the University with his mother, and the amount of travel back and forth was becoming a hindrance to his studies, especially given the number of late lectures and early ward visits required. Consequently he applied to Rafiki Thabo Foundation for boarding fees, to ease the pressure and enable him to succeed in his studies. Both Moses and Emy will, on qualifying, be able to support their families, and provide for them in the future.

## Fundraising

Trustee Andy Uglow joined a group of friends of the Rafiki Thabo Foundation to raise funds by climbing the 3 highest peaks in Scotland, England and Wales within 24 hours in June. They managed to complete the challenge in a respectable 22 hours, and raised £2000 in the process. Huge thanks to all involved.

Forthcoming events:

- The Bath Half Marathon, Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> March

Small amounts of money given regularly make a tremendous impact on our ability to support projects. If we know we have a consistent income we can commit to sustaining projects, maximising our impact as a charity. For example, a regular donation of just £6 a month will allow us to support a student through secondary school in Lesotho. If you are interested in setting up a standing order with the Rafiki Thabo Foundation, or would simply like more information, please contact us:

**[trustees@rafiki-foundation.org.uk](mailto:trustees@rafiki-foundation.org.uk)**

