



The Catherine Bullen Foundation

Making a difference in rural Namibia

NEWSLETTER

No: 28

Autumn 2016

The Foundation's first fundraising event in Namibia!

Around two months ago, Margo Bishop, Marketing Manager for ATI Holidays based in Namibia's capital Windhoek, got in touch with the Foundation to tell them that she was running a half marathon to raise funds for their projects. Margo had attended a travel trade show in Cape Town and her colleagues had persuaded her to run a half marathon although having never run since a child. So committed to the task, a period of intense training began and knowing of the Foundation's work in Namibia, she decided to nominate it as her charity to run for. Margo commented 'I know Roger and Linda Bullen and have seen the tireless work that they do. They travel to Namibia regularly to personally work at grassroots level with the communities that they raise funds for and support. I am Namibian and can see the direct benefits our marginalised communities gain from the Foundation and the work that they do; this is why I have chosen to run a half marathon in Namibia; for the benefit of some of the poorest people in our country'.



Margo Bishop, Marketing Manager for ATI holidays in her running gear.

The 'Lucky Star' half marathon which takes place on 1 October, starts at Walvis Bay on the Atlantic coast and follows the shoreline to Swakopmund which is the half way point and then returning to Walvis Bay to complete the distance. With the desert on one side of her and the ocean on the other, it will be quite a challenge. Please support Margo and sponsor her, by going to

<http://uk.virginmoneygiving.com/MargoBishop>

Foundation's current project is on track to open on 26 October



Photo showing progress in June 2016. Dining area awaiting paving and the kitchen was well on the way to completion.

The Foundation's current project at the Eiseb Primary School hostel is nearing completion and plans for the official opening to take place on Wednesday 26 October are in hand, and will be attended by trustees, Linda and Roger Bullen who leave for Namibia at the beginning of October. Fifty tables have been ordered and they will be delivered to Komeho's office in early October. Riaan our contractor has agreed to transport them free of charge to Eiseb. Also the Ministry of Education for the Omaheke region have generously agreed to donate 300 classroom type chairs in recognition of the Foundation's work at the hostel and in the region.

Currently there is no mains electricity at Eiseb and it was decided to seek a quote for installing a solar powered system. However, costing at around £12,000, this is too expensive for the Foundation to afford. The alternative would be to purchase a portable Honda petrol driven generator although disadvantages are the supply of petrol, noise and it could easily be stolen. Linda and Roger will discuss the generator with the school and make investigations to ascertain when mains electricity will come to Eiseb.

The large expanse of roof on the project is ideal for capturing rain water. Our contractor has been requested to install two 10,000 litre tanks at each end of the building on concrete plinths for this purpose.

Home found for knitted items

Due to the productivity of the 'ladies that knit' in the local community, Linda and Roger were becoming overloaded with knitted blankets, jumpers, cardigans and hats. There was no sign of donated container space becoming available to get them to Namibia and their spare room was slowly disappearing under

25 to 30 dustbin bags full of items. However, they were made aware of an organisation in north London that would take them. So on Wednesday 14 September, the Land Rover was loaded up with the bags plus boxes of jumpers from Christchurch Church in Colchester and Linda and Roger took them to London. There they met representatives of a group known as 'Les Reparateurs' which support an orphanage and people in need in the former Belgian Congo. The delivered items would go into a container and be shipped in two weeks time. The Foundation is very pleased they are going to Africa, but sadly not Namibia. Perhaps next time.



The Defender all loaded and ready for London.



Representatives of 'Les Reparateurs' helping us to unload.

Fund raising

Seafood Supper, The Company Shed, West Mersea – Saturday 3 September

Another popular annual event in the Catherine Bullen Foundation's fundraising calendar took place on Saturday 3 September, when friends and supporters enjoyed the unique atmosphere and delicious seafood at 'The Company Shed'. After expenses a total of £791 was raised for projects in Namibia.



A full house in the rustic Company Shed

Shop Collections

Since the last newsletter, our volunteers have carried out the following shop collections at Manningtree Co-op (£229.98), Ipswich Co-op (£82.17), Stanway Co-op (£148.82), Brightlingsea Co-op (£158.96), Abbots Rd Co-op, Colchester (146.51) and the Frinton Triangle Shopping Centre (£206.73). Many thanks to Nicky, Mike, Sandra and Shirley for their help. We have two left to complete the year at West Mersea Co-op and Tesco at West Mersea.

China smashing stalls

This continues to be very popular with both adults and children and we have attended the following events - Colchester Hospital Radio Fun Day (£138.70), Cancer Research Fun Day (£256), Five Parishes Show (£214.35), Mersea Lions Summer and Transport Show (£243.60), and the Clacton Car Show (£149.35). Our final appearance with the stall will be at the Zeppfest on September 24/25 at Great Wigborough. Thanks to Graham, Nicky, Kim, Paul and Emma for their help and to everyone who keeps us supplied with china.

Colchester County High School for Girls

This was Catherine's former school and it continues to support the Foundation. Two non uniform days were held raising a total of £790.67.

Other Fundraising events

West Mersea Street Party – Saturday 18 June

This was held to celebrate the Queen's 90th birthday and we attended with a sales and cake stall and raised £105.30.

Orthofest – Saturday 2 July

Each year the Orthopaedic Consultants at Colchester General Hospital arrange a family event to say thank you to the staff of the Orthopaedic Department. This year it was Consultant Tim William's turn to host the event and being a supporter of the Foundation decided to make it a fund raiser for us. This took the form of a mini fete in his garden at Langham with hospital wards and departments providing stalls. Music was provided by among others by the group 'Special Measures'. A total of £1,059.85 was raised and a huge thank you to everybody who took part and to our own Foundation volunteers, Eilish, Elizabeth and Ian who ran the bar and Paul, Kim and Emma who helped with the china smashing stall. Many thanks to Tim and Becca for hosting the event

Norfolk and Suffolk Aviation Museum Family Day – Sunday 24 July

This museum is based at Flixton, nr Bungay and Roger was one of the founder members. So each year the Foundation attends one of their events with a sales stall and this time, £203.70 was raised.

Mersea Island Car Boot car park collection – Sunday 14 August

This car boot is held every Sunday from Easter to September and Florence the organiser, nominates a charity each week to man the car park and collect the entrance fee. Our grateful thanks to Florence for giving us a slot resulting in £257 being raised.

Friends of Namibia Summer Celebration – Saturday 20 August

The Friends of Namibia Society is a networking organisation for charities and church groups with projects in Namibia. Before Namibian Independence it provided support for Namibian exiles in the UK. On Saturday 20 August, a social event was held in the grounds of ACS International School at Cobham in Sussex where the Foundation was nominated to receive any monies raised which totalled £155.54.

Fundraising Photo Album



West Mersea Street Party Stall



China smashing at the Mersea Lions Summer and Transport show



Orthofest



Left: The Foundation's stall at the Norfolk and Suffolk Aviation Museum's Family Day.

Centre: Linda collecting at the Frinton Triangle Shopping Centre

Suni E.V.

Suni e.V. is a non-profit making organization that supports vulnerable children and young adults in the Omaheke region in Namibia. They sustainably improve educational opportunities and living standards at their [partner schools in Namibia](#) through intercultural exchanges, transfer of knowledge and financial support. The exchange of teachers and children from Europe and Namibia is also very important to them and they regularly organize intercultural projects and art events.

In Namibia, they operate in cooperation with the local Ministry of Education and several local non-profit making organizations. Currently, they have a partnership with five schools and one hostel in the Omaheke region.

Suni e.V. is a small and young organization. Thus, personal contact with all of our partner schools with members of Suni e.V. is guaranteed. All their staff members in Europe and Namibia work on a voluntary basis and all donations go directly and solely to their programmes and projects. It is a registered charity in Germany and a member of the German-Namibian Society.

The Catherine Bullen Foundation's main sphere of operations is also in the Omaheke region and it has formed a close relationship and formed a partnership with Suni E.V., meeting their volunteer teachers in Namibia and sharing ideas and experiences. Two years ago Roger and Linda attended their AGM in Trier in Germany and gave a presentation of the Foundation's work. Last June, they again attended the AGM which was in Hanover and gave Sun E.V. an update on their projects.



Roger and Linda with the board of Suni E.V. at their AGM in Hanover on 25/26 June 2016

Presentations

The Foundation is pleased to give presentations to groups and clubs on its work during the day or evenings. Recently, we have visited the Civil Service Retirement Club and Colne Engine WI. So if you are looking for a speaker please contact us.

Donations

We have continued to receive individual donations, both large and small, which are very much appreciated. Each donation receives an acknowledgement of thanks from the Foundation and through this newsletter we would like to thank you again for your continued support.

Regular giving

Some of our donors have made a more formal arrangement by setting up a standing order to donate a regular monthly or yearly sum. If you would like to support us in this way, please email us at rogerbullen409@btinternet.com and we will supply you with the Foundation's bank details so that you can set up a standing order.

Forthcoming Events

At the date of going to press, we have the following events planned

Saturday 24/Sunday 25 September 2016

China smashing stall at Zeppfest, Great Wigborough

Saturday 10 December, 2016

Shop Collection – West Mersea Co-op

Saturday 24 December 2016

Shop Collection – West Mersea Tesco Supermarket

The Catherine Bullen Foundation

invite you to an

Indian Lunch

**at Titash Indian Restaurant,
High Street, West Mersea**

**Sunday 5th or 12th February depending on the tide.
Details to be advised as soon as this is known**

**To book your place, phone 07733 140748/07771 630928/01206 383368 or
send a message on Facebook or email: rogerbullen409@btinternet.com**

We are currently planning next year's shop collections and other regular events.

If you would like to help at any of these or organise an event in support of the Foundation, please let us know. We will add events to our list on the website and in the next newsletter.

Make a difference!

The Catherine Bullen Foundation is working with local communities to help build and nurture a new life for the people in rural Namibia. Because we are a small charity, our overheads are small and are personally covered by the trustees, so that every single penny donated to us goes to the intended project, with spending strictly monitored by the UK trustees and their ngo partner in Namibia. All visits to Namibia are self-financed and no charitable funds are used for this purpose. Please help us make a difference by making a donation, either on line at www.namibia-aid.org.uk or sending it to the address below.

How to contact us

By Email: info@namibia-aid.org.uk

By Post: The Catherine Bullen Foundation
Pear Tree Cottage
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By phone: 01206 383368 (inside UK) or 0044 1206 383368 (from outside UK)

Mobile: 07771 630928
07733 140748

Donation/Gift Aid Declaration

(The Catherine Bullen Foundation – Registered Charity No. 1110516)

Details of donor

Title..... Forename(s).....Surname.....

Address.....
.....
.....

Post Code.....

Signature..... Date.....

I want the charity to treat

*the enclosed donation of £..... as a Gift Aid donation

*the donation(s) of £..... which I made on/..../.... as (a) Gift Aid donation(s)

**delete as appropriate*

You must pay an amount of Income and/or Capital Gains Tax at least equal to the tax that the charity reclaims on your donations in the appropriate tax year. (currently 25p for each £1 you give).