

Happy Christmas to all our Kisoro supporters!

The summer now seems a very long time ago, but we would like to bring you a brief report on our 10th anniversary ceilidh, held in June of this year, and some important news overleaf regarding the future of the Kisoro Trust. Please take the time to read this and let us know of any questions you have. You can contact any of the Trustees using the details below.

Kisoro Ceilidh IV

Almost 200 people joined us earlier this year to mark ten years of the Kisoro School for Deaf Children in Uganda. The venue was the refurbished St Paul's & St George's Church in Edinburgh, which proved to be a great space for a long night of enthusiastic dancing. The atmosphere was one of fun and celebration, with a great mix of young, old and in-between joining together in all the traditional ceilidh dances, plus a few more unusual numbers to keep everyone on their toes. It was impossible not to dance to the infectious music of Iain MacPhail and his band – who very kindly stepped into the breach after our advertised ceilidh band cancelled with less than a week

to go before the event. Very many thanks (and a large bottle of whisky) to Iain.



Many of our regular supporters were at the event, including staff from a local primary school who have forged links with Kisoro, families of children who have organised fundraising events on our behalf, and of course many who have given generously to Kisoro over the years. We are delighted that so many people could come, and thank you for helping us to raise a further £600 for Kisoro.

all photos by Liz Jarvis

The Kisoro Trust

Recognised Scottish Charity No. SC 029384

91 Restalrig Avenue, Edinburgh, EH7 6PN, Tel: 0131 661 1930

www.kisoro.org

Forward to the future

Over the last couple of years, aware that we were approaching our 10th anniversary, the Kisoro Trustees have been giving careful consideration to the long-term future of this project. When the Kisoro Trust was originally set up, the intention was that it would provide finance towards the set-up and running of a class of around 15 deaf children, until larger and more sustainable funding could be achieved from other more local sources, or the school was taken over by the Government and fully integrated into the education authority's long term plans.

Thanks to the generosity of so many people who have given up their time and energy to hold fundraising events, and the huge number of regular donors, the school has grown year by year and the Kisoro Trust has been able to support seven primary classes of deaf children. Many more children have therefore been given the chance of an education than we originally expected. However it was never intended to fund the school in perpetuity - just establish it on a stable footing before handing over full responsibility to the project managers in Uganda.

In view of this, the Kisoro Trust met in 2010 with a director from World Vision, one of the world's biggest international development agencies, for advice on the best way forward. He suggested that we follow a standard procedure of agreeing with the project managers in Kisoro a gradual reduction in funding over a number of years, allowing them to focus on making the project increasingly self-sufficient and sustainable before eventually withdrawing our financial support and handing over full responsibility.

We followed this advice and agreed a gradual decrease in the amount transferred to Kisoro in 2010 and 2011, which coincided with a natural decrease in the amount we received from donations and fundraising events over this period. We plan a further decrease in 2012, with no further financial support committed at this stage beyond December 2012. However, we are likely to have funds remaining in our reserves at this time, and it would be at the Trustees' discretion to make further gifts to Kisoro if funds allow.

Clearly many of our donors have been committed to supporting the children for a number of years and if they would like to continue to do this, the Trust would gladly pass on their gifts and reclaim any Gift Aid, as long as it remains viable for the Trust to do so. The money passed on would not form a regular commitment to the school but would simply be an annual donation towards running costs or a relevant project.

The current Trustees of the Kisoro Trust do not plan to do any further active fundraising beyond 2012. However if any of our supporters wish to become more closely involved in the running of the Trust, there could be an opportunity to do so. If you feel this is something that you would like more information on, please get in touch with us as soon as possible.

We are giving our donors a year's notice of these plans, to allow you to consider and prepare for any possible changes to your own giving accordingly. We will continue to keep you informed of developments via the newsletter over the course of the next year. In the meantime, if you have any questions, please don't hesitate to get in touch.

Happy New Year

Finally, best wishes to you all for the New Year – we wish you all a happy and prosperous 2012.

To Make a Donation

I would like to make a donation to the Kisoro Trust. I enclose a cheque for £

Name:

Address:

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Tel:

Email:

If you are a UK taxpayer, you can increase the value of your gift significantly, at no extra cost to yourself, by completing the Gift Aid Declaration below:

Please treat as Gift Aid Donations all donations made by me to the Kisoro Trust from 6th April 2001. I understand that I must pay sufficient tax each year to cover the amount to be reclaimed.

Signed:.....

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