

CHOLE CHANGING

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE CHOLE MJINI TRUST FUND
Issue 11
www.choletrust.org



JO MOBERLY TO TEACH ENGLISH ON CHOLE

We are delighted that Jo Moberly will be teaching English



in the Learning Centre and the new Primary School library for

seven weeks from next month. Jo is a Swahili speaker, having passed the International Baccalaureate Diploma at the International School of Tanganyika, Dar-es-Salaam. She also completed an Intermediate Swahili course, and is a qualified English as a Foreign Language teacher.

To prepare she has been working hard to become familiar with the Genki English Language teaching software, a copy of which has been kindly donated by Richard Graham, CEO of Genki; Genki is used in both the Learning Centre and the Primary School.

Jo will share the same village house that Ben Dewfall



rented two years ago with a volunteer who will be working on coral reef restoration. We look forward to her account of what is sure to be a wonderful experience, for her and her pupils, in a future Newsletter.

ZUBEDA BAHARI BHAI

In December Zubeda Bahari Bhai achieved a double triumph, becoming not only the first woman from Chole to graduate from university, but also Chole's first ever science graduate.



My name is Zubeda Bahari Bhai, I was born in 1992 at Chole village, the first born in the family of five. Chole Island is the smallest island in Mafia district. I [am] very proud to be born at this Island since there are lots of historical sites such as ruins which were used by people [who] lived in Chole many years ago. So many foreigners came at Chole Island to look at those ruins. Also in this beautiful island there are many interesting things, among of them are bats, and good weather condition since this island is surrounded by ocean. So I welcome visitors from inside and out of Tanzania so they can see and enjoy interesting and wonderful things of Chole Island.

My education journey started in 1998 at Chole primary school and I completed in 2005. I was among of 27 students selected to continue with secondary education at Kitomondo secondary school where I completed my ordinary level education in 2009. Thereafter I selected to continue with advanced education at Ifunda Girls High School in Iringa region and I was the only girl among 10 students who passed the examinations. I was very happy to get that chance and starting to think that my dreams start to succeed.

I completed my advanced education in 2012 and selected to continue with university studies at St John's University of Tanzania at Dodoma region. I was taking Bachelor of Science with Education (BSc Ed). Mathematics was my major and Chemistry as my minor subject.

Well! I receive laptop computer from Chole Trust Fund once I started my university studies. That computer was helpful in my whole university life since I used it in many activities such as typing, searching materials from the internet and so many things, hence it help to minimise cost and make my university life. When our teachers give us an assignment I used my computer to search material from the internet and type by myself. I'm happy to get the computer because I learn lots of things through it.



During the period of my studies there were many people watch over me and help me in one way or another. Thanks my family, CSWD and Harambee Committee for their support that helped me to fulfil my dream. Without your support I could not be able to reach where I reached. May almighty God give you power to continue to help other students so as they can achieve their goals.

I really proud and feel great being a first woman graduated from Chole Island and this means that women can make it once we get strong support like what I got. Up to now I finished my university studies and I'm at home waiting for the government employment as mathematics and chemistry teacher.

CHALLENGES

During my studies I faced many challenges. The biggest come up once I started secondary education, because the language used at primary school is Kiswahili while at secondary school is English so that was my biggest challenge. I tried to my level best to overcome this challenge and at the end of the day everything went okay. My advice to Chole students is they have to learn English before starting secondary education otherwise they will be in trouble.

Another challenge was insufficiency of reading materials such as books. In many government schools there are lack of reading materials so I used to borrow books from my fellow students so that I can gain more experience since I was taking science subject so more practice is needed to pass the examination. My advice to students from Chole is that they have [to] study hard because life is not simple as they think, and in this world without education you will remain be a servant and you won't have a good life at the future.

Finally I say thank you Harambee Committee for your help because you're the one who make my dreams come true and I beg you to continue help me because I have a plan to take masters few years to come. I will inform you once I [am] ready for that so that you can give me your support and I will be so thankfully.

Nothing more to say than wishing you all the best in all things you do. I have nothing to pay you but God may do. Thank you and God bless you

THE CHOLE MJINI TRUST FUND

C/O 6 Manchuria Road
London
SW11 6AE

Tel / fax : +44 (0) 20 7228 9864

Email : chole@rech.co.uk

Website : www.choletrust.org

Registered charity no. 1136480

insideKENT COMPUTERS 4 AFRICA

As Zubeda Bahari Bhai's story makes clear, a laptop is essential for students at university. And on Chole there are also small solar powered networks in the Learning Centre and the new Primary School Library, through the generosity of our sponsor **Really Simple**



Systems, which has allowed us to purchase laptops from **Computers 4 Africa**, a

remarkable NGO which refurbishes surplus IT equipment and recycles it to Africa.

In addition we are so grateful to **insideKENT**, the leading lifestyle magazine in Kent, who contacted C4A earlier this year and offered two laptops to Chole.

This equipment really does make a big difference, and we would encourage you to suggest to your employer that any computers that are replaced should be donated to C4A.

NEW WEBSITE — CAN YOU HELP?

In early 2017 we will have to change the hosting arrangements for the Trust's website, and would like to take the opportunity to get the website re-written and updated.

The website is primarily a reference point for information about the Chole Project, rather than a sales or marketing tool. It therefore needs to be easy to navigate and maintain, and for the content to be clearly indexed.

If you could help — or know anyone who might be able to — then please get in touch. Unfortunately we cannot offer to pay, so are looking for a volunteer.

CHOLE MJINI LODGE

The Trust is about helping others - but there are many other reasons to visit Chole!

An internet search quickly brings up the virtually unanimous praise for Chole Mjini Lodge as a destination for a very special holiday, but why not see for yourself at www.cholemjini.com which also has many wonderful photographs?

You can contact the Lodge at **Chole Mjini Lodge, Chole Island, PO Box 20, Mafia Island, Tanzania** ♦ Tel: +255 787 712 427 or +255 784 520 799 ♦ Email: 2chole@gmail.com

Good tour operators specialising in Africa can also give you extensive details about Chole Mjini Lodge.

Please also do not hesitate to contact **Anne de Villiers personally** about the Chole Project at anne.k.dev@gmail.com

NEW LONG TERM BURSARY FUND

A major challenge that always faces the Trustees is that once a child receives a secondary school bursary we become morally committed to supporting him or her through the education system for perhaps ten years, for as long as his or her talents and commitment stretch. This means that we always have to keep an eye on the long term, and have the objective of building our reserves to be equal to one year's grants.

An enormous contribution towards alleviating this long term funding challenge has been



made by Loki Osborn and his wife Lucy Welford. Loki and Lucy visited Chole in January with their children Felix and Scarlett and, in addition to getting involved in the obligatory game of football, visited the projects in the village and the ruins on Kua.

Following their visit, Loki and Lucy have pledged US\$5,000 a year for ten years to set up a fund to educate six children from Form I right through university or college. Because bursary awards are made by the Harambee Committee we cannot arrange for donors to be associated with specific pupils, so the fund is being structured to support 'virtual' pupils, with an amount equivalent to six Form I bursaries being released in the first year, six Form II bursaries in the second year and so on.

Loki and Lucy say that part of their motivation in making a long term commitment to Chole is that, as they grow up, they want Felix and Scarlett to come to understand and value the efforts the community is making on its own behalf, and the challenges it faces. We are overwhelmed by their generosity to the Chole community, especially as both Loki and Lucy are already involved with other projects.

Loki heads up Connected Conservation, a consultancy specialising in managing and researching human / animal conflicts (and especially conflicts between elephants and humans) across south and east Africa (www.connectedconservation.com). Connected Conservation grew out of the Elephant Pepper Development Trust, which itself was the result of research showing that human / elephant conflict could be managed by growing chilli peppers!



Lucy is Chair of Fair Trade Label South Africa, which aims to increase the awareness of Fairtrade in South Africa and to develop the local markets for Fairtrade products, with a special focus on local and African goods. Many

of us will have already come across the Fairtrade movement when we do our regular shopping. We may not however have considered how closely aligned the Chole Project is with the Fairtrade movement's philosophy, in that both seek to create the conditions for communities to become self sufficient in a very competitive world.



We look forward to the next time we welcome the whole family to Chole, and to the growing involvement of Felix and Scarlett.

2015 AUDIT

We have just received a draft of the 2015 Harambee audit; once it is signed off the audited will be placed on our website. Total spending in 2015 was 92.3 million Tanzanian Shillings (£29,000 at today's exchange rate), which included Tshs 20.7m (£6,500) on the Kindergarten and Tshs 7.0m (£2,200) on the Primary School Library. Most of the balance was educational bursaries.

How You CAN HELP

Our objective is to become redundant when the people of Chole achieve self sufficiency. However the road to self sufficiency needs a level of investment, especially in education, healthcare and facilities, beyond the capacity of a poor community, however hard it tries.

You can help in any number of ways:

- By becoming a regular donor. Regular donations are especially valuable, giving children entering the schooling system confidence that they will be able to complete their education.
- Just £25 / month funds an annual Form V+ secondary school bursary for a child.
- The Trustees will be happy to discuss specific projects for larger commitments. For example, a long term donor generously funds the Kindergarten.
- If you - or someone you know - is planning an adventure such as climbing Kilimanjaro, then doing it on behalf of the Trust can be a very effective way of fundraising.
- Practical help; for example, a few months teaching on Chole can be rewarding and can contribute a great deal.

If you would like to help the Chole Project then please contact us at:

**chole@rech.co.uk
+44 (0)20 7228 9864**