



Newsletter Winter 2023

Dear Friends of Double Joy

Having seen the original giant sized card just last week, I think the children and young people of Sheffield Quaker Meeting have excelled themselves in the design for this year's Double Joy Christmas card.

The depiction of children playing happily around a Christmas tree has elements that remind me very much of watching the children at play during my visit to Double Joy some years ago now.

Details of how to purchase cards are on page 4.

There is a lot of good news in this issue, not least of which is of the new water supply (see page 2) which has had a wonderfully positive impact on all at DJ. There are, of course, requests for additional sponsors for secondary education, and I'm sure that those of you who are able will offer support.

My very best wishes to you all for a healthy and happy festive season.

Hilary Hall, Newsletter Editor



Manager's Report

Our most important news is that from August 6th we finally have a reliable water supply!



Feeding time for the chickens

The 48 chickens the children keep are laying lots of eggs nowadays.

Our rented acre of land yielded a good maize harvest and we expect a second crop in the next few months.

Of the 85 children living on site, 80 attend 2 local primary schools, (walking in daily) while 5 nursery age children stay on site for daily play activities.

By November 2023, 20 more children will have moved on from Double Joy to secondary education. We need sponsors for them at boarding school/college over the next 3-4 yrs. By the time you read this we will have 50 students living outside Double Joy, 5 at Vitech Training Institute as boarders and 29 students living at secondary school.

16 youngsters will attend secondary schools as day students near their family homes where our outreach staff team will monitor their progress.

Soon we will renew the corrugated iron roofing sheets (mabati) on the dormitory block, the main hall and the sick bay, at a cost of about £4500.

We are most grateful for your continuing kindness and generosity.

Peter Atin, Manager

The new water supply

Although the water tap in the picture may look just like a garden tap, it represents a leap forward for Double Joy and its locality.

Safe drinking water, indeed any water, has been scarce and therefore an expensive commodity during dry spells. Previously rainwater would be drained from roof-level guttering into collecting tanks and when this was exhausted Double Joy had to resort to buying water brought in by tanker or donkeys (each laden with four 20 litre jerry cans) labouring up from Lake Victoria 1 km away.

ShareAfrica, a US not-for-profit agency which runs several programmes in Kenya, funded a borehole which pumps potable water up from 150 m below ground, and which is then lifted up to a 5 m high water tank by a solar panel powered pump. The water started flowing on 6 August.

There will be a second phase which will then provide water for the whole neighbourhood.

We thank ShareAfrica very much for their generosity to Double Joy as well as the local community.

Eric Roseden



A message from our Deputy Manager and Store Keeper

Here in Double Joy things are going well and the children are healthy and satisfied with their care. Everyone here is more than happy with your help, our good Friends of Double Joy.

The children take their education very seriously and really appreciate the chance the support of their sponsors gives them.

One of the children said, "Here in Double Joy we sleep well, and we sleep on mattresses! [children ordinarily sleep on reed matting at home]. We eat a good balanced diet. Our staff are wonderful and take good care of us. Every afternoon and at weekends we play ball games in our games field".

We thank you a lot, we appreciate your good work for us, especially now that Double Joy has enough water, not because of the rains, but due to our new underground water supply.

Thomas Ojala



Historic moment! Water emerging from the ground 6 August 2023

Three cheers for our new water supply!



Treasurer's Report

We continue to send £7,500 monthly for general running costs and, whenever affordable, £2,000 more towards secondary education.

£4,000 comes in every month from Standing Orders, (four new monthly donors have joined us recently) so we rely on one-off donations, to make up the difference. As our bank balance fell rather low this summer we claimed Gift Aid on your donations from the UK government, of £20,927.25 in August, a much needed increase to FoDJ's bank balance. We really appreciate the boost Gift Aid money provides, from those of you who can claim it on their tax.

Trustees also raised £3,429 from car boot and bicycle sales, plus a 60th birthday party.

We are very grateful also for two large recent donations of £4,000 and £17,968. These have been very encouraging, although we still need to find money to fund students going onto Secondary Education and vocational training, of which there are twenty new entrants this year. We need regular donors and sponsors to support secondary school and vocational training students. Any help with this would be most welcome.

Thank you everyone who gives to Double Joy, and to all the people who fund raise. Without you we could not keep supporting this worthwhile cause.

Sue Hilliard, Treasurer



'Parking the bus' - football fans will understand the expression!

Sponsorship of secondary education

is needed for our over 15 year olds who left Double Joy to take up high school or training college courses.

We are always looking for new sponsors for secondary education. As of January 2024 we will be supporting 50 children at a mixture of local and boarding schools. We currently have 15 fantastic regular sponsors who provide the children with the stability and means to access a good education. However, we still have 35 children needing sponsorship. To cover all education expenses, we ask for £400 per year for 3 - 4 years, according to the courses involved. Although we prefer to have this paid in full in December as fees are due in January, we truly appreciate any support you are able to give at any time.

If you are interested in supporting a child through their education and giving them the freedom to learn, please get in touch with me, Joanna, at

doublejoysponsorship@gmail.com

I will be in touch with the current sponsors in the coming weeks to request the 2024 fees. Thank you all for your continued support.

Joanna Riley



Lovely to see that Mary Hinde, founder of Double Joy, is still taking a hands-on role helping children to learn to read. *Ed*

Fund Raising



My name is Alice and I have been collecting cuddly toys for years. I have grown out of most of them now so I am donating them to raise money for the children at Double Joy.

Doesn't this lovely picture of Alice, age 12, from Lancaster, say it all - 'the joy of giving'! Ed

Christmas Cards for sale

designed for Double Joy by children and young people at Sheffield Quaker Meeting

8 for £5 (including postage to UK addresses).

All profits to Double Joy.

To buy contact Chrissie Hinde at

Chrissiehinde@ymail.com

Please send details of any of your own fundraising ideas and activities to Eric Roseden, for inclusion in the next Newsletter.

Donations by post for Double Joy should be sent to the Treasurer -

Mrs Susan Hilliard, 40 Downside Close, Blandford Forum, Dorset DT11 7SD

Tel: (01258) 454415 e-mail: special_lily31@yahoo.co.uk

Cheques (UK only) should be made payable to 'Friends of Double Joy'

Bank details: The Co-operative Bank, Stockport, Sort Code 08-92-99, acc No. 65063707 Type no: 78

Ready to print STANDING ORDER FORMS for making **regular donations to Double Joy** and **Gift Aid Declaration forms**, are available to download from the website. No gift is too small.

Donations via the website: To give to Friends of Double Joy from anywhere in the world, by debit/credit card or JustGiving, go to www.double-joy.org.uk and press the 'Donate' button to contribute.

If you struggle to negotiate this page, please contact Eric at doublejoy1994@gmail.com and he will do his best to help.

Friends of Double Joy (Reg Charity No 1087172)

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