



TOFTA, LMVC News bulletin

**'EDUCATING THE LESS FORTUNATE &
'REACH HIGH THROUGH HARD WORK'**

Tofta Educational Trust P.O. Box 1200, Jinja Web: www.lordsmeade.org Email: toftatrust@yahoo.com



One needy child educated is a proper future secured for the entire society

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Director's Message

Since the last newsletter life has been busy—partly with visitors and partly with a trip to US, where I was blessed to be able to attend the Rotary International Convention in New Orleans.

I must thank all my friends who so kindly hosted me while I was travelling from Portland, Oregon down to Turlock, California. I was able to give talks to several Rotary Clubs.

All our visitors give pleasure by coming and spending time with us. We have been blessed by Tofta Trustee Susie Harris-Kirkwood and her brother Dave Kirkwood, both of whom participated in the ground breaking for the new Tofta Office block. We hope that the new office will bring everyone together so we can serve our beneficiaries better.

We are very blessed by our friends at Wolverhampton Grammar School as they have supported Lords Meade Vocational College for so many years. It was a delight to see them participating & enjoying the sports day in July.

We also enjoyed a visit from the Scholefield family from California, who kindly sponsor one of the LMVC students.

Some of last year's Lords Meade students are now reporting for their tertiary education courses, and many thanks to those sponsors who are so kindly continuing to support these needy youth to climb higher in life.

The Interact Club has had its annual changeover of leadership, which brings new vigor to this service club. Some of its members are Tofta beneficiaries, already giving back to their community.

We are enormously grateful to all our supporters for their continued support as the instability of the financial world makes the future of a needy child so precarious. It is so hard to tell an innocent child that due to financial constraints he, or she, can no longer come to school. The tears of a teenager losing hope in life are so hard to bear.

Any contribution will mean a lot to a needy child.

I look forward to hearing from you.

With best wishes

John Kirkwood

Some of the on going projects at LMVC

Both the Trust and Lords Meade management continue to convey their sincere gratitude to all friends, parents, sponsors and well wishers to the school for having seen them grow up to this ninth year of existence of the school.

Lords Meade Vocational College's growth and existence has been made possible due to your support, financially and by words of encouragement. Thank you very much.

Bellow are some of the current projects going on at the College.



Left: A teachers' house in completion stage. It's a project funded by the Parents and Teachers' Association. 4 teachers will each get 2 rooms.



Left: TET offices under construction at Lords Meade Voc. College. The 2 sets of offices will combine in the new building, as well as bringing the Tofta staff together under one roof.



Left: At LMVC Agriculture as a vocation is made attractive to the youth as a way of reducing unemployment. (In pic), Victor Turyasingura S5 is a student working on vegetable gardens during holidays. Some vegetables are added to the students diet while others are sold to cater for the students needs.

Tools with a Mission. LMVC recently received a consignment of tools from 'Tools with a Mission'. The consignment has brought a useful increase in tools for the vocational departments, especially the agriculture, tailoring, brickwork & concrete practice and carpentry departments. We are most grateful for their support in our efforts to improve the vocational skills of the youth.

Government hails vocational schools

The Government of Uganda has continued to urge parents to educate their children through vocational schools. In the national newspaper (**New Vision**) of 1st June 2011, LMVC was recognized as one of the schools in Buikwe district where vocational skills can be acquired. In her comments, the new minister of education Ms. Jessica Alupo mentioned of not only being job seekers but also job creators and self sustenance to the youth as advantages of acquiring these vocational skills.

“The youth need these skills for their future, as they become job creators and self employed entrepreneurs who reduce the poverty levels and improves community development and livelihoods” the minister noted.

At LMVC, every ‘O’ level student learns at least one vocational skill and attains a crafts certificate during Form Three.



Above: Students during a practical session in the carpentry workshop.

Other vocational subjects include; Catering, Home Economics, Computer studies, Brick Laying and Concrete Practice, Tailoring, Art and Crafts.

Sponsor a needy child through TET

Tofta Educational Trust continues to extend it's sincere appreciation to all individuals and friends who have helped the needy and less fortunate children secure a bright future by sponsoring them for their education through TET.

With the many and increasing economic hardships, the Trust is seeking for more friends who may desire to help a needy youth to come on board and do so. Mutual relationships have been developed between the sponsors and the beneficiaries as there is continual communications and follow up on the child's school performance through the Trust.

Derrick ,(photo on the right) is needy boy who has been affected by HIV/Aids. His father died of Aids and his mother is infected. He is being sponsored by an old student of Mr. Kirkwood. **“I am happy I am sponsored. At school I am sure of meals and also a brighter future because of the good education”** Derrick comments. He was second in class at the end of his second term of Senior 1.



To many of us the loss of a parent is a blow, and we mourn their death. However, to a secondary student the loss of the parent is secondary to the loss of the child's education, hope and future. The death of a loved one usually signifies the end of the dream of one's education and a meaningful life.

For \$60 a month one can make an enormous difference to the life of a needy child.

Sarah gets sponsorship to complete her A-levels



Sarah Madudu, (Left in photo) seated with her parents, is a 17 years old girl, in S.6 at Lords Meade Vocational College. Her father (**centre**) is a retired police officer who is currently a gate keeper at a local hotel and earns so little that he is unable to pay school fees for Sarah. TET has been paying for her fees for day section since her O-levels. This year, she got sponsors (Madam Susie and Dave Kirkwood) through the Trust who paid her fees to enable her stay at school. She does not have to walk her 10 Km to and from school, or collect water for the home before & after school any more. Sarah now concentrates more at school with no worry of being sent back for fees. She hopes to pass to university and pursue accountancy. As the saying goes, educating a girl is educating a nation. Such sponsorships help girls stay in

school and improve their lives, lives of their families and the conditions in their communities. With access to education, girls are able to make informed decisions about their future and are able to protect themselves from sexual exploitation and HIV/Aids. We are most grateful to Dave & Susie for their support in Sarah's future.

Congratulations: To **Jennifer Angwetch**—one of the teaching staff—on her engagement and traditional marriage to Richard Ocheng.

To: Immaculate Mbwali on her graduation from the Masaka School of Nursing. She was a Tofta beneficiary.

To: Henry Kasirye who has been promoted by Nile Breweries to be the new Depot manager in Mbale. He was a Tofta beneficiary at Lords Meade Vocational College & Gulu University.

To: Kepher Tugezoku on his wedding to Elizabeth Nakayima. Kepher is a former Tofta beneficiary and also a former head prefect of Lords Meade Vocational College.

To: Joseph Kirigwajjo on the birth of his daughter Magdalene Janet. Joseph is the Tofta Trust student co-ordinator.

Interact Club hand over

The Interact Club of LMVC held their hand over ceremony on the 10th July at the School's main hall. The guest of honor Rtn. Reagan Tusiime, the President Rotary Club of Jinja, commended the Interactors for the great work of service in the Njeru community. The members contribute towards school fees for a needy boy in a local primary school as one of their projects

In his acceptance speech, the new president Kevin Biiruma pledged to be dedicated to leading the club to greater heights and also to improve on membership recruitment.

Through such clubs students acquire leadership and personal development skills. Other clubs include; Dreams and Teams Club, Peer Supporters Club, Red Cross Club, Junior Achievers Club and French Club.



Guest of honor Rtn Reagan Tusiime, President Rotary Club of Jijna, giving a speech during the hand over ceremony. On his right, is the new Interact president. Kevin Biiruma.

An exciting sports day at LMVC



Top: LMVC girls during a sack race.

Bottom: Wolverhampton Grammar School students during the 100 M race. Ian, their teacher (not in picture) ran in the teacher's race with LMVC teachers. It was a fun filled day.

Lords Meade Vocational College held the finals of their sports season on the Saturday 16th July at the school play ground.

The students who belong to four different houses; Rhino, Zebra, Hippo and Lion tussled it out during the month long season, competing in various sports which included; Athletics, Volley ball, Javelin and shot put throws, basketball, hockey, cricket, netball and sack racing. Hippo house emerged the overall winner with 470 points and received a winners' trophy from the director Mr. John Kirkwood.

The best individual performers were awarded with prizes and certificates from the headmaster Mark Malinga, who advised them of the importance and advantages of sports to personal health.

Also present during the sports day were teachers and student visitors from a link school, Wolverhampton Grammar School in UK who also entertained everyone by participating in 100 M. race.

CAN YOU HELP? Please donate so that the Trust's work can continue to help vulnerable youth to obtain education, accommodation and health services so they may have a better future.

STERLING DONATIONS: Please make out cheques to "Tofta Educational Trust" and forward to:
The Secretary, Tofta Educational Trust, Flat 302, Bridge House, Sion Place, Clifton, Bristol BS8 4BW

ON LINE DONATIONS:

If you prefer an on line option, please donate on line via the Torrey Pines Rotary Club Foundation at: www.lordsmeade.org You will receive a 501(c) 3 receipt.

Phone: +256 772 412345/ +256 774 225355

Please state if you would prefer to support a boy or a girl.

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TET is registered with the Charity Commissioners in UK, and as an N.G.O. in Uganda

www.lordsmeade.org