

Gumboots Foundation UK



Annual
Report 2015
(1st March 2014 to 28th
February 2015)

Helping to
educate and
empower some
of South Africa's
poorest children

Our mission and goals

The Gumboots Foundation's mission is to address poverty and AIDS related issues in South Africa by improving education, nutrition, employment and wellbeing.

Our goals are:

1. To empower children through education, both formal and informal, whilst also ensuring that their basic needs are met by providing food, shelter, healthcare and recreation.
2. To strengthen and support local home grown projects with local leadership and to secure a sustainable long term solution.
3. To help strengthen local communities both through financial assistance and by fostering a mutual understanding.
4. To provide individuals with an opportunity to be directly involved financially and personally in community development projects.
5. To provide honest and informative feedback on the progress of the projects and transparency on the use of donor money.
6. To seek partnership rather than dependency, with the focus being to uplift all involved through building relationships between donors, Gumboots and beneficiaries.



A chance to learn in the peace and shade of the Ratang Bana garden

Our funding criteria and our projects

This year Gumboots UK provided £62,330 in project support, the primary criteria for selection being that projects are:

- Home grown
- Self-sustaining in the long term
- Community based & locally led

We currently support four projects, which are based in the Alexandra District of Johannesburg, South Africa:

- Sigiya Sonke Youth Dance Group
- Ratang Bana Community Centre and Family Support Network
- Leratong Pre-school
- Phetoho Education Project

We also work with The Caitlin Fund which helps young women, who come from both the Alexandra District and Pietermaritzburg, to achieve their educational goals.

All of the projects in different ways work to meet our primary objective which is to bring about change in individuals' lives by improving their chances of obtaining employment through supporting them in gaining access to quality education and training. We also seek to promote well-being by improving access to healthcare, welfare services and affordable fresh food.

Interested readers will find further information about our work, including inspiring personal stories about some of our beneficiaries, on our website (at www.gumboots.org.uk) and within the twice yearly newsletter produced by Gumboots SA, copies of which are uploaded to the site.

Governance of our Charity

The Gumboots Foundation Trust Document/Charity Commission Application is the Foundation's governing document.

Methods for the recruitment and appointment of new trustees are as outlined in the Essential Trustee document CC3 regulations from the UK Charity Commission.

Decision making is via Trustee Board Meetings which are held quarterly.

Fundraising Committee meetings are held when needed.

UK Gumboots Foundation Trustees at the date this report was approved are:

Angela Dyer, Vivien Hunt, Mark Escolme, Karen Beard and Graham Allibone.

Their roles and Responsibilities are as follows:

Secretary: Angela Dyer

Finance: Graham Allibone

Communications & Website: Vivien Hunt

Fundraising: Karen Beard, Angela Dyer, Vivien Hunt and Graham Allibone

Regular volunteers: David Lightfoot, Margz Green, Jaimes Nel and Brett Siddaway

History and context

The Gumboots Foundation UK is now thirteen years old and continues to be run entirely by a small group of volunteers committed to making a difference to children and young people's lives in South Africa.

Registered in 2008 as a UK charity, Gumboots UK is regulated by the UK Charity Commission and complies with UK charity law.

Gumboots UK is the primary fundraising body for a number of South African projects, most of which are based in the Alexandra District of Johannesburg. Residents of Alexandra District, (also called Alexandra Township), are amongst the poorest and most disadvantaged citizens in South Africa. These local projects are administered by our partner organisation, Gumboots South Africa.

Whilst Gumboots UK and Gumboots SA are independent organisations, we work closely together to raise funds, create awareness of project needs and build relationships between donors and those benefiting from financial support.

Our partner organisation in South Africa applies for grants to Gumboots UK on an annual basis. Each project application is approved or rejected by the board of UK Trustees, who decide how funds raised in the UK are to be spent.

In South Africa, Gumboots SA works alongside each project in Alexandra Township, to provide community, personal and financial support. Special acknowledgement is due to John Lightfoot and Jenny Prangley, directors of Gumboots SA, without whose tireless efforts the continued work of the projects would be much more difficult. Gumboots SA accounts to Gumboots UK for the grants provided and keeps us informed about the progress of each project. It also produces a lively twice yearly newsletter, 'The Beat', which is distributed to Gumboots' donors and supporters worldwide. For further information about the work of our charity readers of this report are recommended to read The Beat, copies of which are to be found on our website.

History and Context continued

Kidlinks World is our sister organisation in the USA which also supports the Alexandra projects, (in addition to other selected projects), whilst the Kadey Family Charitable Corporation in Canada supports the Kadey House Orphanage which is based at the same site as Leratong Preschool.

Alexandra District, Johannesburg, South Africa



Leratong Pre-School Project

This year Gumboots Foundation UK donated £29,826 to Leratong, supporting 130 children aged 3 to 6 years old through early years education.

Leratong Pre-School continues to receive the majority of its annual funding from supporters of Gumboots Foundation, in particular Brita Water Filters UK. This year we provided £23,965 for the teachers' salaries and an additional £5,861 to cover the teachers' medical care and retirement fund, children's food, outings and other provisions, building maintenance and internet costs.

The project is managed by Peggy Chauke, a highly respected community leader and local councillor. Just after the end of this reporting year Peggy suffered a terrible loss. In March 2015 Peggy's daughter Asnath died, only five weeks after her own baby daughter passed away at the age of 3 months. This double tragedy has affected the whole of Leratong, children and adults alike, and the entire Gumboots team. Although it is clear that Peggy has huge support from her family and the caring community around her, it will not be easy for her to come to terms with these new losses especially since it was only a few years ago that Peggy's elder daughter Sheena also died. It is a huge testament to Peggy's spirit that amidst such tragedy she can still find the resources she needs to carry on serving her community.

Peggy is supported in her work by five teachers and three support workers - a cook, a gardener and an administrative assistant. Early years learning and play is a vitally important foundation for future learning for any child but especially in Alex, an environment where low standards in the state sector are preventing children and young people from achieving their potential. Most of the children registered at Leratong are orphaned because their parents have died from HIV/AIDS related medical conditions. Many living parents are absent from their children's lives for other reasons. In most cases children are cared for by an elderly grand-mother or older siblings. Life is extremely challenging for most Alexandra Township residents and the resource provided by Leratong offers an educational and pastoral life-line to these very vulnerable young children.

The Kadey Orphanage, linked to Leratong and also run by Peggy, (but funded by The Kadey Foundation rather than Gumboots UK), has settled into its new premises and now provides a safe and loving home for sixteen children who are looked after by three house mothers.

Leratong Pre-school Project continued



Leratong leavers' graduation ceremony

Again this past year has seen a continuation of the dedicated work of Peggy and her staff when they were joined by a new assistant teacher, Sister Pikolwethu Kwenxe, a nun from the Missionary Sisters of the Assumption. The Maryvale Catholic Church has agreed to partner with Leratong with a view to helping the children gain an understanding of moral values and life skills. Pikolwethu has a very good background in early childhood development and is assisting the four-year-old pupils. Peggy is very grateful for the additional experience and support provided by Sister Kwenxe.

Leratong aims to provide as wide a range of activities and experiences as possible and continually seeks to build productive and mutually beneficial relationships with other communities outside of the Township. One such example is Mandela Day. Each year on the 18th July 2014, South Africans can donate 67 minutes of their time to good causes in tribute to the memory of Nelson Mandela. Mandela Day this year was extremely busy at Leratong with visitors coming from all around Johannesburg; from private organisations, businesses, government institutions and SITA (the State Information Technology Agency). Huge bags were delivered full of groceries, clothing and so on. The children were treated to delicious food, while the directors and CEOs of the donating companies cleaned, painted and did all kinds of dirty work in their 67 minutes!

Sigiya Sonke Youth Project

This year Gumboots UK donated £10,411 to fund staff stipends, premises running costs, external dance tutor fees and the costs of entering dance competitions and education events - helping to support 35 to 40 children aged 8 to 18 years old.

In 1993 Jack Letsoela, a resident of Alexandra Township, identified a need for a space where young people could gather and keep off the streets. He started a dance school called "Youth Stand Together" and in the last 21 years he has had hundreds of young people cross his dance floor.

Now called Sigiya Sonke, they meet at the Dance Warehouse most days of the week to be taught diverse dance skills and to socialise, study and relax. Together with Beauty, Jack's wife, the couple have provided far more than just dance tuition. Often offering emergency accommodation in their own home, they have been friends, mentors and parents to many young people whose lives would have fallen apart but for their dedication and compassion. Gumboots UK is proud to be able to continue to partner with this truly worthwhile example of a grass-roots, home-grown local initiative.

Although there is limited budget for outings, on one of this year's warm winter days, the Dance Group and the Kadey Home kids gathered at Delta Park for games and a braai (barbecue). They played on the swings and adventure playground, as well as enjoyed football and other ball games. But the highlight of the day was the Tug-o-War - not to mention the boerewors, (a tasty sausage), rolls and toasted marshmallows!

We continued to fund the fees of Megan Erasmus, a professional dancer and tutor located in Johannesburg, to provide supplementary tutoring to the dancers.

One of Jack's great strengths is his willingness and ability to nurture and mentor new talent. Zimvo Njaju is one of the students that Gumboots supports with school fees through the Phetoho Project. He has had a difficult time at home, living in a small shack with his two siblings and finds it hard to study; however Zimvo is a huge help to Jack and is taking on the responsible role of coaching the 6-12 year old dance pupils. This provides him with a focus, fatherly support from Jack and much needed work experience.

Sigiya Sonke Youth Project continued

Some of Jack's younger pupils pose in front of photos of the more experienced dancers at The Warehouse



Sigiya Sonke Youth Project continued

This year Jack decided to use the holiday period to set up a Summer Camp. This provided coaching for the new children in the group - as well as keeping them all off the streets and away from the temptation of alcohol and drugs. He set aside two weeks where the children attended from 10am - 3pm at The Warehouse. The 9 to 11-year-old dancers were coached by himself, Jack's daughter Deli and Zimvo. Not only did they dance, but they had fun giving The Warehouse its annual deep clean and some of them were able to sleepover. The kids loved their "holiday camp", the finale of which was a performance at the Alex Old People's Home on Mandela Day. The dancers donated their 67 minutes with great enthusiasm. The elderly people were surprised and delighted that young Alex residents were using their time so productively and also carrying on the great dance traditions of their culture - another fine example of positive connections and relationships with other sectors of the community.

One of the aims of this project is to take over ownership of the whole building in which the dance warehouse is located. There has been a long-standing dispute with illegal squatters in the building but by the end of the reporting year it appeared that progress is being made at last to relocate the squatters. Gumboots SA have a great vision for the Warehouse and are eager to put it into place, hopefully with funding support from Gumboots UK!



Sigiya Sonke Summer Holiday Camp

Phetoho Education Projects

This year Gumboots UK donated £13,381 to the various Phetoho Education projects, £980 of which was specifically for the Leadership and Entrepreneurship Skills workshops.

Phetoho, meaning "change", is Gumboot's programme for helping individual children improve their educational achievements. Over the past year we have continued to do this through three distinct projects:

Funding five children to attend the United Church School

Situated in the heart of Yeoville, Johannesburg, United Church School is a non-profit, Christian-based school that provides excellent primary and high school education for children from inner city and township communities. In 2011 the School celebrated 21 years as a respected educational institution. Through the generosity of its personal and corporate donors, school fees are kept relatively low to make them affordable to families on low incomes.

For a number of years now Gumboots has been funding children from Alexandra to attend the school. At the beginning of last year five new recruits were selected. Four of them have progressed well over the year, two with the help of extra lessons. Sadly the youngest of the group, an 8 year old boy has not been coping. He comes from a difficult home background and early on his falling marks and changed behaviour signalled something was wrong. The school has carried out a full educational and psychological assessment and is now working with Gumboot's project leaders to decide what is best for him.

The children also attend Sigiya Sonke's dance workshops where Jack and Beauty Letsoela keep a close eye on them, providing support and guidance where their families are unable to do so. Jack is not only their dance tutor but also their taxi driver transporting them every day to and from school.

St Mary's Saturday School



Phetoho Education Projects continued

Funding six children to attend the St. Mary's Saturday School

St Mary's Saturday School, Johannesburg, has for the last 25 years recruited children from Alexandra schools as part of an Outreach Programme. Each year 250 children from Grades 9 to 12 spend Saturday morning at the school. Teachers and volunteers give up their time to coach the children in all subjects, but particularly Maths, Science and Accountancy. When the school term ends, they continue with holiday programmes and motivational talks by past students and business leaders.

Gumboots is now working with the school and in January this year we selected six young girls to attend. Identified through the three Gumboots projects, they all satisfied the criteria; a supportive environment at home; food and electricity for studying; a strong commitment; and a high educational standard, especially in Maths. The funding for the cost of sponsoring these children was raised through the UK Big Give Christmas challenge. The children are expected to attend during the final three years of their secondary schooling, the aim being to improve their attainment levels and better equip them to find jobs in an environment where unemployment levels are extremely high.

Young people in the Learning Centre at Ratang Bana benefit from a course in Basic Computer skills in January 2015



Phetoho Education Projects continued

Basic computer skills course

A one week Computer Basics Training course took place in the first week of January 2015 at Ratang Bana Learning Centre as part of our Phetoho Education set of initiatives. For further information see our Ratang Bana project report.

Leadership and Young Entrepreneurs Group

Taking place in 2013, a then new idea initiated by Vivien Hunt, – one of our Trustees, was a course in leadership and entrepreneurship aimed at increasing the skills and confidence of young township people. This intensive course took place over a few days at the Ratang Bana Learning Centre and proved to be both a great success and also sustainable beyond the initial concept, with the core group of learners continuing to meet during 2014/15 once a month on a Saturday. The group is facilitated and supported by Taryn Barker, a local volunteer who works for Deloittes in Johannesburg. Some of this group have shown great promise, enthusiasm and potential for learning and growth, with some going on to join the St Mary's Saturday Outreach Project. This is a great result and a fine example of how a small hand up can alter the entire course of the lives of young people.

Vivien Hunt, Gumboots UK Trustee with volunteer Eva Lotte and young people participating in the Leadership and Entrepreneurs Programme in 2013



The Caitlin Project

This year Gumboots UK supported three young women, (two of which come from Alexandra District and one from Pietermaritzburg), through their higher education with donations of £2,566 from the Caitlin Fund.

Five years since the tragic death of Caitlin Green, the fund set up in her memory by her mother Margz, continues to benefit and change the lives of three young women in South Africa. The past year has seen all three make considerable progress, with two in particular surpassing all expectations.

Zinhle Kollo, now in her third year at Tshwane University of Technology, has passed all of her subjects with above average marks. Her artwork has improved dramatically and she did a beautiful backdrop for the recent Sigiya Sonke anniversary event. Zinhle has completed a Diploma in Performing Arts Technology and is now converting it into a BA Degree.

Vuyelwa Mtolo is in her third year at Rhodes University studying journalism, linguistics and anthropology. She has one more year of study to complete her BA in journalism. She is doing well in all of her subjects despite personal

Margz Green with Kamvililhe Mkhize



The Caitlin Project continued

setbacks - her family home outside Pietermaritzburg got washed away by heavy rains this year, a not infrequent occurrence because these flimsy shacks can't withstand the impact of floodwater. As well as her academic achievements, Vuyelwa was elected as a House Committee Representative this year and still finds time for all her sporting activities.

Kamvililhe Mkhize is completing her matriculation studies but, despite excelling in all other subjects, her grades in Maths and Science have dropped considerably meaning that she is not yet at a standard where she can achieve her goal of studying at Rhodes University. Nonetheless The Caitlin Fund is paying for extra lessons next year and hopefully her grades will improve sufficiently to allow her to reapply to Rhodes in 2016.

Gumboots UK is extremely grateful to Margz and Caitlin for helping us to achieve our goal of changing young lives in South Africa through the medium of education and self-development.



Vuyelwa Mtolo

Ratang Bana Family Support Project

This year Gumboots UK donated £6,145 to Ratang Bana, helping to support 450 children and 124 households.

Ratang Bana (meaning Love the Children) was set up by social worker Ingrid Moloji several years ago to meet the social welfare and health needs of some of the most disadvantaged children and families in Alexandra Township, many of whom are affected by HIV/AIDS, orphaned or living in child-headed households or with one elderly carer, usually a grand-mother. Readers are referred to The Beat newsletter, (November 2014), on our website for the story of Elizabeth and her family, for whom this project has been a life-changer.

Amongst so many great initiatives, one of the most successful is the food garden created at Ratang Bana. Thanks to the hard work of Ingrid, the gardeners and volunteers, the food garden continues to supply vegetables to the families, (mainly grand-mother headed), and their children. Ingrid is now starting to clear a large piece of ground at the very end of the centre's land where she wants to plant produce for selling. This piece of once derelict land has, in a matter of two years become an absolute haven for Alex families!

Children make music in the lushly productive Ratang Bana food garden



Ratang Bana Family Support Project

continued

One of this year's new initiatives is Bana Blankets. Ingrid has an infinite capacity to involve and inspire others. One of our great "extended" Gumboots family members, Jane Simmonds, has started a brilliant new project. After becoming involved by running a workshop on HIV & AIDS with the Ratang Bana grand-mothers, Jane decided to start the Bana Blanket project. She provides the grand-mothers with material, sewing kits and patterns and they then make picnic blankets and baby blankets that Jane sells, with the grand-mothers benefiting from the proceeds.

Jane's son is doing his thesis on the income-generating capacity of these blankets. It turns out that the grand-mothers are spending their earned income at the Spaza shops, (small roadside shops in Alex), so Jane's son is now researching what use the Spaza owners are doing with this newly added income. This is a fine example of how great initiatives with far-reaching consequences can grow from the simplest of ideas!

Further repairs to and development of the playground area, funded and created by Kidlinks, our sister organisation in the USA, have taken place this year.

The Leadership Group continues to meet once a month on a Saturday at the Learning Centre at Ratang Bana. This is one of our enthusiastic group members helping to prepare lunch



Ratang Bana Family Support Project

continued

A one week Computer Basics Training course took place in the first week of January 2015 at Ratang Bana. This course was initiated, devised and run by Vivien Hunt, one of the Gumboots UK trustees. Vivien perceived the need for learners of all ages to be given the chance of attaining basic computer skills before they can move on to more challenging learning. The funds were provided by Gumboots SA and Kidlinks USA and Vivien then put together a course that benefitted ten adult learners participating in the morning with fourteen younger learners participating in the afternoon for five days.

Vivien herself tutored the groups over all five days when the learners gained competence and confidence in the use of Word, Excel, PowerPoint, email and the internet. By the end of the week everyone had Gmail accounts and were searching on Google. This was a major achievement for all participants several of whom had never used a computer before. The learning centre which was set up two years ago with money raised by Gumboots UK has really come into its own. So successful was this initiative that Vivien plans to run further courses later in 2015.

Well done to Vivien and the learners!

Adult learners graduate from the course in Basic Computer Skills devised and run by Gumboots UK Trustee, Vivien Hunt (far right)



Financial Report

The Gumboots Foundation UK

Receipts and Payments Account

Period from 1st March 2014 to 28th February 2015

| | Unrestricted funds £ | Restricted Funds £ | Total Funds £ |
|---------------------------------------|----------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------|
| INCOME | | | |
| Personal and Corporate Income | | | |
| Unrestricted Corporate fund | 1500 | 0 | 1500 |
| Unrestricted Personal inc Gift Aid | 11582 | 0 | 11582 |
| Restricted Leadership course | 0 | 140 | 140 |
| Restricted Caitlin inc Gift Aid | 0 | 835 | 835 |
| Restricted Corporate Leratong | 0 | 24000 | 24000 |
| Total Personal and Corporate | 13082 | 24975 | 38057 |
| Events Income | | | |
| Unrestricted Fundraising events | 6185 | 0 | 6185 |
| Restricted St Mary's School | 0 | 7035 | 7035 |
| Total Events Income | 6185 | 7035 | 13220 |
| Total Income | 19267 | 32010 | 51277 |
| EXPENDITURE | | | |
| Administration costs | -216 | 0 | -216 |
| Event Expenses | -765 | 0 | -765 |
| Total Expenditure | -981 | 0 | -981 |
| Net amount available for Distribution | 18286 | 32010 | 50296 |
| Grants distributed | -32989 | -29341 | -62330 |
| Transfers restricted to unrestricted | 14339 | -14339 | 0 |
| Net Cash Movement | -364 | -11670 | -12034 |
| Cash funds at 1st March 2014 | 33721 | 26843 | 60564 |
| Cash funds at 28/02/2015 | 33357 | 15173 | 48530 |

Financial Report cont...

Statement of assets and liabilities as at 28/02/2015

| | Unrestricted £ | Restricted £ | Total £ |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------|-----------------|--------------|
| General Fund | 20234 | | |
| Restricted Caitlin Fund | | 10913 | |
| Restricted Leratong | | 35 | |
| Restricted St Marys School | | 4,225 | |
| Fundraising reserve | 6,000 | | |
| Leadership Course | 238 | | |
| Sigiya Sonke Dance Tutor Fund | 45 | | |
| Phetoho Schooling Support | 6,840 | | |
| Total Cash Funds @ 28/2/2015 | 33357 | 15173 | 48530 |

The Gumboots UK Financial Year covers the period 1st March 2014 to 28th February 2015.

Gumboots UK was again in a strong position at the end of February 2015, well placed to cover commitments for the following year.

Receipts and Payments Account 2014/15. The Gumboots Foundation UK (Gumboots) raised £51,277 and distributed £62,330 as grants to projects. After deducting admin expenses of £216 and event expenses of £765, a deficit of £12,034 was left. The opening balance at the beginning of the year was £60,564. Adjusting the deficit to this opening balance gave a closing bank balance of £48,530 at 28th February 2015. These numbers are detailed in the Receipts and Payments Account 2014/15.

Unrestricted funds. Money received as unrestricted funds from personal giving was £11,582, from fundraising events £6,185, and from corporate receipts were £1,500, making a total to unrestricted funds of £19,267 including Gift Aid.

Receipts over the year were from a combination of voluntary receipts (60%), funds generated by fundraising activities (32%), and corporate donations (8%).

Financial Report continued

Restricted funds. £24,000 in Corporate Sponsorship was received from Brita Waters UK, to pay teachers' salaries at Leratong. Income of £835 including Gift Aid, was restricted to support individuals identified by the Caitlin Fund, while £7,035 was raised through the Big Give Christmas challenge and a Christmas Fayre and is restricted income to create a learning centre (Phetoho Education) and provide education through a Saturday school. £140 was also donated specifically for a Leadership Course.

Total Funds received were £51,277.

Distribution of surplus

At the year end total cash funds were £48,530, of which unrestricted funds totalled £33,357 and restricted funds £15,173.

The unrestricted funds are allocated in their entirety towards the General Fund, which at 28th February 2015 amounted to £33,357 of which £13,123 has been designated for specific projects. The restricted funds were already allocated towards specific projects for the amounts of £4,225 (Phetoho), £35 (Leratong), leaving £10,913 in the Caitlin Fund



Our future accountants!

UK Activities and Fundraising

In March 2014 Gumboots joined several southern African companies and organisations at The Homecoming Revolution London Expo. This was a valuable opportunity to connect with other organisations and individuals with a passion for Africa. It was inspiring to meet so many people willing to contribute their time and skills to Gumboots, whether in the UK or SA. We made a potentially useful connection with Osarge News, a pan African media organisation who donated £139 from the proceeds of their launch event.

Many thanks are due to those prepared to give their time and skills to event fundraising as follows:

We received the well-earned sum of £1,008 from employees of Old Mutual Wealth UK who had fun dressing as "nerds" for one working day!

In July 2014 four intrepid and generous fundraisers, calling themselves The South Afristans, set off from London to outer Mongolia to raise money for Gumboots Foundation. They took part in the infamous Mongol Rally, covering 15 000 kilometres in their vehicle Stan, the SouthAfrivan! Before embarking on this monumental journey, they visited some of our projects and explained what it was all about.!



J P Hunt visits Leratong before the start of the rally (above). The launch party! (right)



15 000 kilometres, 21 countries and 33 days later they completed their journey, having raised an amazing £2,837 for Gumboots UK! They kept an online blog giving a lively account of their eventful journey.

UK Activities and Fundraising

continued

We also had several other teams of crazy people willing to get hurt or dirty in a good cause! Sam Gutfreund completed a triathlon and raised £336; Nicole Reichman raised £249 from a cycling event; fifteen year old Grace Escolme raised £205 through sponsored canoeing and a team entered the Muddy Gumboots challenge and raised £692.

David and Janie Lightfoot, rather more sedately, raised £410 in celebration of their 40th Wedding Anniversary!

Arthur and Lara Dyer raised £325 from storytelling events held in Brighton and we received £114 from the sale of donated goods.

In November 2014 our two Birmingham based trustees held a Christmas Craft Fayre, having made many of the goods themselves. Stalls were also sold to other craft makers and refreshments were served in a vintage themed cafe. Angela Dyer and Karen Beard are grateful to local friends and volunteers for their help and hard work.



We again took part in the Big Give Christmas Challenge in December 2014. Thanks are due to Graham Allibone (trustee) and Janie and David Lightfoot for pledging £1,250 between them. Through a combination of The Christmas Fayre and the Big Give Challenge we raised £7035.

We thank Brita Filters UK for their invaluable support in continuing to fund the salaries of the Leratong teachers.

As ever we are very grateful for the continuing support of our many personal donors and also to the Limoges Charitable Trust, without which our work would simply not be possible.

Our Plans for 2015/16

The Trustees of Gumboots Foundation UK have agreed to provide funds amounting to a total of £56,531 for the year 2015/16 to support the following projects run by our partner organisation, Gumboots SA.

The breakdown of those funds is as follows:

Leratong Pre-School

We are planning to provide £29,886 to be spent on staff salaries; staff medical care and retirement fund; food, provisions and maintenance; school outings and internet service.

Sigiya Sonke Youth Project

We have planned to provide £8,651 to be spent on staff stipends; outings and events; premises upkeep; fees for a dance tutor and internet service.

Phetoho Education project

We have planned to provide £9,202 to fund five children to continue to attend the United Church School and six children to attend St Mary's Outreach Saturday School. We will also be funding the paramedic training course of one young woman and further Computer Skills Courses for adults and young people.

The Caitlin Fund

We have planned to provide £2,383 which will continue to help the existing three young beneficiaries to complete their higher education.

Ratang Bana Family Support Project

We have planned to provide £6,409 to be spent on staff stipends; food, provisions and clothing for families in need and funds to run the Leadership Group.

Our Plans for 2015/16 continued

The short, intensive courses in computer skills run by Vivien Hunt in January 2015 proved to be such a success that further courses in more subjects are planned for March and April 2015 as follows:

Ratang Bana - for children and volunteers

- personal leadership
- computer basics and intermediate
- Khan Academy Maths Club
- CV Writing workshop

Leratong - for teachers and staff

- personal leadership

On behalf of all the individuals who will benefit a big thank you goes to Vivien for donating her time and skills and we look forward to featuring a full report in next year's Annual Report. (In the meantime check out progress on our website).



We again plan to hold our Christmas Craft Fayre in November 2015 which has become a popular annual event in Birmingham.

We will be making an application to the Big Give to again join in with the Christmas 2015 Challenge. We have decided to again try to raise funds to pay the fees of more students to attend St Mary's Outreach Saturday School and will aim to raise about £8,000 through a combination of the Craft Fayre and the Big Give.

We continue to work to grow our regular donor base (both personal and corporate) and to encourage our supporters to take part in and organise local activities and events.