



Friends of BOAT Autumn'12

Honorary Patron; Richard McDonald, CBE, NFU Director General

Chairman's Letter

It has been a very busy time for BOAT and we appreciate all the help and support of our friends, helpers and sponsors in raising funds and delivering our training programmes. We have financed three major activities this spring and summer.

Firstly we recruited six good African students to study on a seven week programme based largely at and delivered jointly with Bicton College. Secondly we delivered a Workshop in Malawi for 29 people on Managing Sustainable Agriculture which was well supported and received. This was jointly arranged and funded by the Natural Resources College near the capital Lilongwe. Thirdly BOAT part-funded a visit by our new Trustee and Principal of Bicton College, David Henley, to Tanzania to rebuild our links there and agree a new Memorandum of Understanding with the Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries Development. All these activities are reported in more detail elsewhere in this Newsletter.

We are looking forward to recruiting six to eight good students this autumn for our next residential course in 2013.



This years successful participants of the new Institutional Management and Business Planning (International) Course, accredited by Plymouth University.



Elijah Kyamuwendo
30/9/66 - 7/8/12

It is with great sadness that we report the untimely death of our BOAT Associate Elijah Kyamuwendo who was Chief Executive of Kulika Uganda. BOAT has provided training for five of his practical field staff and our links were developing well. BOAT Chairman, Fred Harper, attended a Service of Thanksgiving for his life at the Mint Method Church in Exeter in late September. An address was given by Prof. John Wibberley, former Trustee now an Associate of BOAT.

BOAT Tractor Raffle

The three days of Devon County show saw Chris Jaworski and his Bicton College engineering team with the first-year students transform a very ugly duckling of a Ford 3000 into a swan.

Despite the loss of several shows this summer and the muddy conditions at others ticket sales have held up well with the 9000 mark reached with just six weeks left before the draw at the Newark Vintage Show on November 11. Once again thanks to our generous sponsors every £ for a ticket will be spent on the work of the charity and they are available by sending a cheque made out to BOAT. Please include your telephone number and a sae so that your tickets can be forwarded to you. Tickets are £1 or £5 per book. Post to Bill Vellacott, Middle Woodbeer Farm, Plymtree, Cullompton. Devon EX15 2LN.

BOAT will be attending the 62nd British National Ploughing Championships, Whittington, near Lichfield, Staffordshire, WS14 9JN on the 13th & 14th October 2012 (Our thanks to The Society of Ploughmen and Firestone) and the Western Counties Horse Society Annual Ploughing Match, Marley Farm, South Brent, TQ10 9JX on the 28th of October 2012.



Pictures right to left clockwise. Peter Brennan, Vapormatic's Managing Director, starts the rebuild at the Devon County Show. Chris Jaworski, Head of Engineering at Bicton College oversees the final stages of the restoration with Kevin Ireland, Vapormatic's Product Development Manager. The finished tractor heading to the vintage tractor parade in the main show ring. David Henley, Trustee and Principal of Bicton College, talks to Adam Henson, farmer and a BBC Countryfile presenter, whilst Trustee John Russell writes out the raffle ticket details for him.

Accredited Course - A Success

Since the last Newsletter, all six participants on the new course on Institutional Management and Business Planning (International), accredited by Plymouth University, successfully completed their studies and have returned home. All of them did very well on what proved to be a very demanding course.

The Closing Ceremony was held at Sidbury Manor by kind permission of Sir John and Lady Cave. It was a very pleasant evening and well supported by many Friends of BOAT.

The morning after the Ceremony the group posed for a final photo outside Bicton House (see photo in Chairman's Letter) before setting off for London to see the sights and visit the Houses of Parliament. The feedback from the students has been excellent and we shall shortly be planning the detail of the next course taking their comments into account.



Tony Atah from Nigeria receiving his Certificate of Attendance and Pitman Certificates from Sir John Cave. Maurice Barasa from Kenya presenting a BOAT umbrella to Sir John as a token of our appreciation.



BOAT would like to thank it's sponsors for their generous help.



"Improving agriculture and livelihoods in the developing world by teaching trainers to train more effectively, and training institutes and organisations to deliver better quality training through improved management."

Boat Mission Statement

Chairman: Prof. Fred Harper *chairman@boatagtrust.co.uk*
Vice Chair: Bill Vellacott MBE *bv@woodbeer.eclipse.co.uk*
Secretary: Catriona Paton *secretary@boatagtrust.co.uk*
Treasurer: Richard Coley *treasurer@boatagtrust.co.uk*
Friends of BOAT *friendsofboat@boatagtrust.co.uk*

Trustees:

Peter Reed • John Carter • David Henley
Peter Dunning MBE • Malcolm Florey
Ruth Strange • John Russell
David Wendover • Mick Merritt
Mike Pash • Dr Alan Cooper

The Bicton Overseas Agricultural Trust was formed as a charity in 1991 by Devon Farmers. To date over 100 trainers working in the Developing World have completed Boat courses.

"Give a man a fish, feed him for a day"
"Teach a man to fish, feed him for a lifetime"

Joint BOAT/NRC Malawi Workshop on Managing Sustainable Development

A Workshop entitled 'Managing Sustainable Development: improving agricultural management by training and extension' was conducted at the Natural Resources College, Lilongwe, Malawi from July 30th to August 3rd. The Workshop was facilitated by BOAT Associate, Professor John Wibberley and BOAT Trustee, David Wendover. There were 29 participants - 8 ladies and 21 men - with an average age around 40 from a wide variety of backgrounds within the natural resources sector.



Topics covered included current agricultural management challenges facing Africa; sustainable agricultural intensification; agronomic, soil and livestock management practices for food security; farm household development; and project planning, management, monitoring and evaluation.

A comprehensive manual was prepared containing welcome letters from both NRC and BOAT, plus notes of the topics covered during the 5 days. As well as illustrated presentations with comments, inputs from delegates' particular experiences, questions and discussion, there was a field visit around the NRC Farm and Training ground, buzz groups for discussion, a participatory 'Development Game' which became very lively, and ample time for interaction during lunchtimes and breaks.

The beautiful NRC campus was established on the former Colby College site by Canadian Aid in 1986, and privatised in 1991. They have 1,500 students following various Diploma courses and are keen to strengthen linkages with BOAT to Tanzania to rebuild our links there and agree a new Memorandum of Understanding with the Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries. All these activities are reported in more detail elsewhere in this Newsletter.



Top right. The Natural Resources College, Lilongwe, Malawi.



Bottom right. The delegates attending the workshop.

Bicton College Principal's Visit to Tengeru Livestock Training Institute, Tanzania

David Henley, Bicton College Principal was invited by BOAT to take a trip to Tanzania for the purposes of refreshing the Memorandum of Understanding between Bicton College, BOAT and Tengeru Livestock Training Institute. David Wendover, BOAT Trustee, ably acted as trip advisor, itinerary planner, guide and local expert.

On arrival at the training institute, David was met by Frank Moshi, a senior member of teaching staff from Tengeru. There followed six days based at Tengeru, with a variety of fascinating activity including a guided tour of the Institute, a visit to two local 'model' farmers, a call to the local Commissioner, a day trip to Nanni, Nanni, the Farmers Day of the northern area annual agriculture show (complete with flying visit by the Prime Minister), and a presentation to the teaching staff. Some time was spent at the institute investigating the Papa Pump installed in 2008 by Devon Young Farmers, which had sadly recently broken down. The offending component was returned to England in the hope that a replacement could be sent out. The Institute's presence at the Arusha Show was a major commitment and logistics effort (more so than Bicton at the Devon County Show) and David was impressed with the 18 separate 'pavilions' demonstrating varied and different aspects of crop and animal husbandry, conservation agriculture methods, leather curing to name but a few.



A highlight for David was the opportunity to see two model farmers (including an old friend of BOAT, Mr Mremu) developing a powerful approach to enterprising integrated farming and food production with dairy cattle feeding biogas for cooking and lighting, Talapia producing fry for onward sale to fish farmers, honey, charcoal substitute, plants, sugar cane, a wide variety of fruit and vegetable crops, rice paddies, goats for dairy and meat, pigs, chickens, rabbits and ducks. All in one small-holding. David found it a, "A great example of what can be achieved with good training and careful thought".

David's lasting memories of his visit to Tanzania will include getting close to some real poverty, being inspired by the efforts of innovating small farmers and seeing the Prime Minister visit the Institute's pavilions at the Arusha Show.



Become a Friend of BOAT

The Bicton Overseas Agricultural Trust was formed in 1991 by Devon Farmers to enable men and women from developing countries to study practical agricultural husbandry and food processing techniques or other relevant skills.

Minimum annual membership: Single membership £10, Joint membership £12
I enclose my cheque as a gift to the Bicton Overseas Agricultural Trust

Please Circle £10 / £12 / other £

Name _____

Address _____

Postcode _____

Charity No:1017527 Company Reg No: 684612

Please forward to the Treasurer of BOAT:

RWB Coley
33 Ridgeway
Ottery St Mary
Devon
EX11 1DX

Tel. 01404 813163

Gift aid declaration; I am a UK taxpayer and would like BOAT to reclaim tax on all my donations from 6th April 2012 until further notice.

Signed _____

In order for the gift aid scheme to apply you must pay an amount of income or capital gains tax at least equal to the amount BOAT claims on your gift in the tax year; this is currently 28p for every pound you give.

Thank you for your donation, as a **Friend of BOAT** you will receive the newsletter, updating you with the activities of the Trust.

Your annual subscription as a **Friend of BOAT** can be made by Standing Order. Please tick this box to receive further information.