



BOAT

Bicton Overseas Agricultural Trust
Charity No: 1017527
www.boatagtrust.co.uk

Friends of BOAT Spring '13

Honorary Patron; Richard McDonald, CBE, former NFU Director General

Chairman's Letter

Sometimes it is difficult to explain the benefits of our training to those who don't know us well. Dr Jerome Bahemu from Tanzania who attended a BOAT Workshop in Tanzania and the six-week Bicton-based course in 2008, sent us an email recently. She left Government service and set up her own Livestock Training Centre. Having started with 33 students in 2010 on a two year course, she recruited 78 in 2012 and plans to expand further. Her work is appreciated by the local community and the Government has agreed to provide employment for the students. Jerome said that "the course I attended in 2008 changed my life". It is this and other positive feedback which make the work of BOAT so worthwhile and valued.

So, we are encouraged to keep raising funds and providing training to fulfil our vision of Improving Agriculture Through Training. I am grateful to all our Trustees, Sponsors and Friends who help us in so many ways to achieve this.

Fred Harper, Chairman of BOAT



Jerome Bahemu as Principal of LITI Mpwapwa, Tanzania.



"Kufbert" the 2013 tractor fund raiser

Penny Mear seeing 'Kufbert' off at the start of its journey.

KUF 608 hence the name 'Kufbert' is a 1950 Ferguson TE A-20 narrow version of this iconic tractor and will be restored at this year's Devon County Show by the Bicton College team.

The tractor belonged to the late Steve Mear from the Honiton area who had bought the tractor with a view to restoring it in his retirement and using it to raise funds for charity. Sadly he was not to achieve this and his wife Penny looked around for ideas how to make good use of 'Kufbert' and has donated the tractor which will be restored and raffled to raise funds in memory of Steve. She said "If BOAT combines diverse people, education and training, recycling and development, with a dash of Africa and some fun tinkering about for hours, that embodies Steve too!"

Tickets are available at the shows or by sending a cheque made out to BOAT together with your telephone number and postcode and post to Bill Vellacott, Middle Woodbeer Farm, Plymtree, Devon. EX15 2LN. Please enclose a sae so that your tickets can be forwarded to you. Tickets are; £1 per ticket or £5 for a book with every £ from the Draw going to the work of BOAT thanks to our generous sponsors.

More information on www.boatagtrust.co.uk

2013 BOAT Institutional Management Course

Six mature students joined us on the 10th of April to start the six week accredited course. Three are from Tanzania and three are from Malawi. The Opening Ceremony was held on Monday 15th April at Bicton College.

The Presentation Evening will be held at Fursdon, Cadbury on the 23rd of May by kind permission of David and Catriona Fursdon. Friends of BOAT are welcome at this event. Please let our Secretary, Catriona Paton (secretary@boatagtrust.co.uk), know if you are planning to attend.

From Tanzania

William Moshi. Farm Manager. Livestock Training Agency. Tengeru Campus. This is 8.5 miles to the East of Arusha.

Janeth Bendera. Tutor, Livestock Training Agency, Buhuri Campus, Tanga.

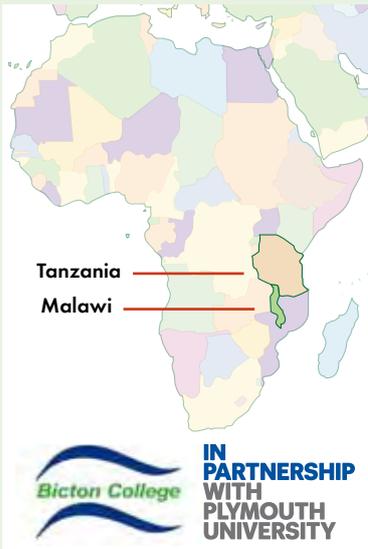
Darlington Nkenya. Acting Campus Director. Livestock Training Agency, Madaba near Songea.

From Malawi

Mark Phiri. Acting Programme Manager/Agriculture and Irrigation Specialist. Wellness and Agriculture for Life Advancement Programme. Total Land Care. Lilongwe.

Smorden Tomoka. Project Manager. Water, Sanitation & Hygiene (WASH) Projects, Concern Universal. Dedza.

Blessings Kambombo. Project Manager Concern Universal Msamala Sustainable Energy Project, Balaka.



Have you any old machinery which is no longer of any use? If so, you may be able to donate it to 'Give A Car', who will sell it and give the proceeds to BOAT.

An easy way to get rid of those old implements tractors and cars which are just taking up space, and benefit BOAT at the same time.

Go to www.giveacar.co.uk or contact Richard Coley, the BOAT Treasurer, on: 01404 813163 or e-mail: richard.coley@mypostoffice.co.uk, for full details.



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"



Nigel Picks Up His Prize
from the left Nick Dicks of Vapomatic, Les Arnold Of Farm Machinery Haulage, winner Nigel Hantschar, Keith Sherrell Of Oakham Treasures, Tom Gerring of Bridgestone Firestone, Martin Oldaker of Tractor and Machinery Magazine and Chris Jaworski from Bicton College.

Nigel Hantschar from Hereford bought a ticket for the BOAT raffle at Tractor World last year. He was confident he wouldn't win; his last raffle success having been 20 years ago at a Young Farmers Club where he walked away with a hamper. But in January he travelled to the fascinating museum, Oakham Treasures near Bristol, to pick up BOAT's top prize, a Ford 3000 nicely restored by Chris Jaworski and colleagues from the Bicton college engineering faculty and students during last year's Devon County show.

Second prize for £250 went to Mr. Brian McGrath of Kneeton of Notts. Third prize winner of £100 was Mrs. Framlingham of Dereham in Norfolk.

Despite the challenging year of cancelled shows and often low attendance a total of 13,905 tickets were sold including 1707 to Tractor and Machinery magazine readers who sent for tickets after reading Chris's restoration articles in the magazine. Once again thanks to our generous sponsors every pound for a ticket goes to the work of Boat. Thank you also to the many ticket sellers and supporters which has meant that the 10 tractors which have been restored and raffled for Boat have raised over £155,000 to support its 'Improving Agriculture Through Training' courses.

Friends of BOAT Visit to the Gambia

In December 2012 eleven Friends of BOAT made a one week private visit to The Gambia to learn more about the country, its people, and its agriculture, as well as to make contact with former trainees who had attended the 6 week BOAT course at Bicton College. We also wanted to get some sun! We were greatly helped with planning and transport by Burang Danjo and Paul Joof of Concern Universal (CU), Gambia (2011 BOAT course).

Crossing the Gambia River to the North Bank we visited a number of small irrigated gardens on our way to our main objective, the National Agricultural Training Centre (NATC) at Njawara established with his own funds in 1990 by Badarra Jobe (1995 BOAT course) to help his village and to change the Gambian mindset of "Farming = Failure" and to reverse urban drift. The students are residential and spend six months at the institute interspersed with three months practical training in their own villages. The broad based course includes soil fertility management, horticultural and small animal husbandry, beekeeping and basic accounting. The training has been credited with changing dry season vegetable production from "womens' work" to serious agriculture undertaken by men and women. The NATC is acknowledged as a leading farmer training institution in The Gambia with more than 1,500 students from over 300 villages completing the course.

We also visited Juffureh Village, reputed ancestral home of Kunta Kinte of Alex Haley's "Roots" book, as well as the Slave Museum at Albreda and concluded with a visit to the Dumbutu Village Project, a communal garden for 135 mainly women established with the support of the Woodbury Salterton - Dumbutu Link.



Top: The Friends of BOAT group with Concern Universal colleagues at their HQ in Banjul. Bottom left: Badarra Jobe holding his 1995 BOAT Bicton course Certificate. Bottom right: A smallholder farmer trained at Njawara NATC.

Supper and Speaker Evening

On Friday the 27th of September we will be hosting our Second Annual Super and Speaker Evening. This year's event will be held at Fingle Glen Country Club and focus on BOAT's visit to The Gambia last December. Speakers will be David Wendover and Mike Pash.

For further information about the evening, please contact Catriona Paton, BOAT Secretary (*secretary@boatagtrust.co.uk*), or visit: www.boatagtrust.co.uk



Become a Friend of BOAT Charity No:1017527 Company Reg No: 684612

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 _____

Please forward to the Treasurer of BOAT:
RWB Coley
14 Homefield Close
Ottery St Mary
Devon
EX11 1HS
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 2013 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.