



This years group. Left - right, front row: Maxwell Mbweza (Malawi); Patricia Wangui (Kenya), David Wendover, Catherine Mwangi (Kenya); Alfred Chonya (Tanzania); Michael Njiru (Kenya). Back row: Kennedy Adhola (Kenya), Jastus Obadiah (Kenya); Mike Pash; Imani Sichalwe (Tanzania)

1991



2016

Improving Agriculture Through Training

## Chairman's Message

As we welcome our East Africans attending the 2016 BOAT/Bicton course in our 25th Anniversary year I would like to share the following comments received recently from Heather Campbell, Country Director, Concern Universal, Malawi. Since 2011, eight CU staff from various African countries have attended our 6 week residential Institutional Management & Business Planning course at Bicton College.

"The BOAT course has been very useful for our attendees in a number of ways:

- It builds their confidence in their abilities and provides new tools. Everyone we sent was already a strong manager, but their attendance at BOAT really helped solidify communication and management techniques that allowed them to manage their projects more efficiently. Without fail everyone who has attended from CU Malawi took on additional programs and responsibilities after they attended and did so extremely well and with confidence.
- A great way to exchange ideas with other practitioners – all of our attendees came back with exciting new ideas and a new energy that had a huge positive impact on our programs, Country Team and beneficiaries."

Thank you to all our hard working and enthusiastic Trustees, Volunteers, Friends of BOAT and You for your contribution to make our training possible. It really does make a difference.

Congratulations to Viv Horton for her epic cycle ride from Anchorage to Mexico City which she did mid to late 2015 to help raise funds for BOAT. I look forward to hearing about her journey when she gives her talk in October for Friends of BOAT. Further details will be on the website. Well done Viv!!!

David Wendover (Chairman)

## 2016 BOAT Institutional Management & Business Management Course

Eight mature students joined us for the six week accredited course which started on the 20th of April. Five are from Kenya, two from Tanzania and one from Malawi.

### From Kenya:

- Catherine Mwangi, Executive Director, Anglican Development Services of Mt Kenya East
- Michael Njagi, Project Manager, Livelihood Project, Anglican Church of Kenya, Siakago, Embu
- Patricia Wangui, Project Manager, Biodiversity, Community, Carbon & Livelihoods Project, Zeitz Foundation, Nairobi
- Jastus Obadiah, Programmes Manager, Rafiki wa Maendeleo Trust, Nairobi
- Kennedy Adhola, Human Resources & Administration Officer. Rafiki wa Maendeleo Trust, Nairobi

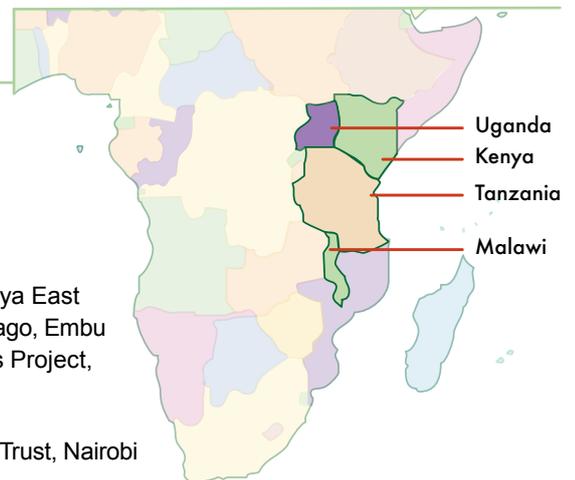
### From Tanzania:

- Imani Sichalwe, Acting Head of Animal Production Department. Livestock Training Agency, Tengeru, Arusha
- Alfred Chonya, Veterinary Tutor. Livestock Training Agency, Madaba, Songea

### From Malawi:

- Maxwell Mbweza, College Registrar, Natural Resources College, University of Agriculture & Natural Resources, Lilongwe

We very much look forward to working with these students. They are all well-qualified, hold important and relevant posts and are highly committed. We wish them success in their studies and an enjoyable stay. We extend a warm welcome to them.



The Trustees would like to thank Vapormatic for producing this newsletter and to thank all it's sponsors for their generous help.



Contact  
**BOAT**

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## BOAT Celebrates its 25th Anniversary

The Trust was formed in 1991 after a group of Devon farmers collaborated with the then Principal to fund a Thai student who was working on a Devon farm to attend a course in dairying at Bicton College. The student returned to Thailand to lecture at his own college and pass on his knowledge. Since that time nearly 100 mature students have attended BOAT training courses at Bicton.

Since 2006 our training has concentrated on enhancing the Management and Business Skills of hands-on managers working in agricultural training colleges (Certificate and Diploma-level practical education) or in rural community development projects in East Africa. Since 2012 this course has been accredited by Plymouth University. Further in-country support has been provided to those organisations whose staff we have trained with a primary objective to help them develop sustainable field service delivery. BOAT has come a long way since 1991.

### I Am The Egg Man

John Steven Onyango who attend the 2015 course was able to purchase a small incubator whilst here in Devon, which had then to be carried to Heathrow where it had special care on the plane for his flight home to Uganda. Earlier this year he reported "the incubator has created great opportunities and joy in my life. I started incubating fertilised eggs from the few parent stock of Kuroiler hens in July last year and so far I have incubated 5 times. The results in hatching for each is a range of twenty – thirty chicks and all together I have been able to raise 131 Kuroilers so far. I have been selling two months old chicks at 9,000 Uganda shillings each, and the number of poultry farmers is on a rise as well as demand for Kuroiler chicks and eggs. The farmers who purchased from my farm are happy because I offer them free extension services with hope that they will train others".

"The main challenge I meet is the demand for Kuroiler chicks and eggs are on a rise, so it opened up my mind to think of an incubator of high capacity and restocking more parent stock of Kuroiler hens". See 'photos of his incubator and chickens. He went on to say, "I appreciate the great knowledge and skills I acquired while there. It has brought impact in my life, indeed it was worth attending the course, many thanks to everybody who contributed towards the success of this unique course".



Steven attending to three days old chicks

## 1957 International B250 - The 2016 Raffle Tractor

Here we go once more. Thanks to Chris Jaworski and his engineering students at Bicton College the restoration and raffle of the 14th tractor is underway. The previous 13 have helped to raise over £175K thanks to the generosity and support of Vapomatic and Firestone together with Tractor and Machinery magazine who are all once again giving their full support.

Known as 'The Little Red Giant' this International Harvester B250 has been kindly donated by West Somerset agricultural contractor Mr Paul Sawatzki and the rebuild will take place during the Devon County Show. Tickets will be available during the show and at various events around the county during the summer. Details will also be on our website [www.boatagtrust.co.uk](http://www.boatagtrust.co.uk)

Tickets are also available by sending a sae and cheque made out to BOAT (multiples of £5) to: BOAT c/o 8 Slade Close, Ottery St Mary, EX11 1SX



## Recent Fundraising Events

### Tamar Valley Male Voice Choir Sings for BOAT'S 25th

St Peters Church at Budleigh Salterton was the venue in March for a very enjoyable Friends of Boat evening which raised over £800 in support of our 'Training the Trainer' courses.

### The Grizzly Run

Thanks to our Friends of Boat members who acted as marshals at this fantastic event. BOAT has received a donation of £450.

### Also

Our thanks to Paul Champion of Bicton College whose talks to gardening clubs have raised over £200.

## BOAT Social Event

### Cycling the Americas

Following Viv Horton's successful cycle ride from Anchorage to Mexico in Nov 15, she will be giving a talk about this epic journey in Oct, both venue and date tbc, but details once known will be on the BOAT website. [www.boatagtrust.co.uk](http://www.boatagtrust.co.uk)

Thank you to all those who have supported these events to raise funds for BOAT. If you would like to help by holding an event such as a coffee morning, cream tea or any other event either in your home or village Hall please contact our secretary at the address in the newsletter and we can provide information and a speaker if required.

## Become a Friend of BOAT

For an annual donation of £25 per household, payable by standing order. Apply to [secretary@boatagtrust.co.uk](mailto:secretary@boatagtrust.co.uk) for further details, or donate via the website [www.boatagtrust.co.uk](http://www.boatagtrust.co.uk) to continue to support the work of BOAT and receive the BOAT newsletters.