



## Friends of BOAT Spring 2024

Launch at Kulika of the BOAT/SKERN ILM Course

### Chairman's Message

As I write these notes on April 11th, our vice-chairman Peter Reed is in Uganda overseeing BOAT's first online ILM course. With 10 participants as "pathfinders", it should prove an invaluable pilot, and we look forward to working closely with Alex Coyle and his team at SKERN STS (Debs Beuzeval in particular) over the next nine months. Viv Horton and Peter have put in a good deal of time in setting-up the course, and our thanks also to Avril Bellinger for her input as a Friend of BOAT.

Another first, is our funding of a significant amount of IT equipment to enable Lutisi to host the course. Following the quiescence resulting from Covid, we are pleased to be fulfilling our charitable role once more, and must thank all those who have made this possible.

Thank you all for continuing to support BOAT.

*John Harris* (Chairman)

### Garden Teachers' Training Visit to Kulika Training Centre, at Lutisi

Agriculture is on the Ugandan primary school curriculum, but usually it is taught by rote in the classroom with little practical activity. For schools belonging to the Food For Thought School Linking programme, two agricultural teachers are given practical training in sustainable organic growing – making organic fertilisers and pesticides; digging contour ditches to trap soil and rainwater run-off; propagating seeds and plants.

The Covid 19 pandemic closed Ugandan schools for 83 weeks. After that we felt a refresher visit to Kulika's Training Centre and where BOAT's current on-line ILM course in Leadership & Management is based, would provide new ideas and inspire renewed enthusiasm – and so it proved. Two training visits have now been held and both have had a significant impact on the 26 teachers from 26 schools who took part each time. Teachers were very appreciative of the guidance provided by the Kulika trainers, many of whom have been through the BOAT training programme and proof if proof is needed of how useful that training has been.



Norah, at Makonzi School, immediately created a veranda garden outside the classrooms, several tyre gardens and a banana propagator from old polythene.

BOAT trustees would like thank Food For Thought School Gardens Partnership Project which is run by Devon Development Education. [www.globalcentredevon.org.uk](http://www.globalcentredevon.org.uk) for their input to this newsletter.

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



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We are delighted to be running our first programme for over seven years to a group of ten students at Kulika, Uganda. With the change in visa circumstances, since COVID, BOAT had to reconsider how it meets its charitable aims, with its training programme, and it was decided to move the programme online. We researched a range of training providers best suited to deliver a bespoke programme and we are delighted to be working with STS (Skern Training and Skills) as our programme provider, who are delivering four units from the Level 5 Institute of Leadership Management.

Trustee and Vice Chairman of BOAT Peter Reed, BOAT Trustee Viv Horton and Friend of Kulika Avril Bellinger travelled to Kulika, in October, as a consultation period to discuss the training needs Kulika, and its team, would most benefit from. Not only did we select the

four units - Understanding Organisational Culture and Ethics, - Developing a Culture to Support Innovation and Improvement, - Managing Projects in the Organisation and Developing a Culture to Support Innovation and Improvement. We also looked at the logistics of delivering the course online, such as Wi-Fi and IT equipment. BOAT were delighted to support the purchase of IT equipment, to not only support the programme delivery, but also the wider facilities the training centre can offer to external bookings and generate more income for itself.

Thursday 11th April 2024 saw the programme launched to 10 students, which BOAT are fully funding. It was a successful day and the atmosphere was buzzing with excitement of what is to come, how it is going to enhance the individuals' development, Kulika's future and the wider communities of Uganda.



ILM course participants, doing their induction course. IT equipment supported by BOAT.

## How a Chicken Farmer is Coping with Lean Times

This headline recently appeared on the front page of the national Kenya publication SMART HARVEST and featured a visit to Jastus Suchi in Emakale village, Kakamega, W Kenya. Jastus attended the 6 week BOAT 2016 Institutional Management and Business Planning course held at Bicton College. As part of the training he was required to produce an outline strategic plan of a project including Rationale and Objectives, Components, SWOT, Implementation Milestones and Timelines that he would like to implement when returning home, and to present it in PowerPoint to his fellow students for discussion. Jastus selected a Poultry Project.

Jastus is now Managing Director of Reach the Children, a Community Based Organisation in W Kenya where, along with his overall duties, he is responsible for the poultry component. His primary focus is the production and sale of XBred chicks and POL pullets based on Kenbro, Rainbow and indigenous breeds resulting in hardy, disease resistant and highly productive chickens. He also supplies geese, ducks, guinea fowl and poultry manure, and manufactures his own feed from local materials. He has designed and manufactures low cost manual and automatic incubators which are easy to maintain and run on solar or kerosene, as well as brooders which are popular with upcoming poultry farmers in the rural areas. He found the BOAT training helpful in this work.

Jastus has also been recently elected as Assistant Chairman of BOAT Kenya.

## Grand Draw

**£1000**  
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Draw tickets are now on sale, available by sending a your details, name, tel no and postcode along with a cheque payable to Bicton Overseas Agricultural Trust, no abbreviations please, to 8 Slade Close, Ottery St Mary EX11 1SX, in multiples of £5, include a sae if you want the tickets returned to you.

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Thank you for supporting BOAT and its training.

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