



Welcome News

from South Africa

May 2017

SUE'S RECENT VISIT TO GRAHAMSTOWN

I travelled to South Africa to arrive in time for the Easter celebrations, which are rather special at the Convent. Of course the 5 children really enjoy being involved – particularly finding Easter Eggs and sitting down with all the guests for Easter Day lunch. The table was laid for 24 people as the Sisters make a point of inviting people who they know will be on their own.

The Easter Sunday Service, which is held in the Convent chapel, took on a rather dramatic appearance this year as the 5 children came in the fancy dress clothes which I had brought from England (gifts from a generous friend and me). So here you may see; Cinderella, Princess Sophia, Pretty Princess, Racing Driver and Magician. Much joy and happiness!

Another recent visitor to Grahamstown was Winifred Alford – fellow Trustee. It was she who first introduced me to Mother Zelma. She had visited the Convent many years ago but this was her first meeting with the children. She was very happy to see how well they are thriving and enjoyed their company.



It was very good to be able to read the End of Term school reports for each child. This is what I discovered;

PHELISA – (now 10) has settled very well into the school she started at in January. It is a school for children with special learning needs and seems to suit her much better than the previous schools she attended. She is excited by what she is learning and doing – particularly the practical work. I was thrilled to watch her learning to knit.

EMMY – (now 7) who also started a new school in January, has also settled in very happily. On merit, she gained a place at a very prestigious state girl's school and, understandably, Mother Zelma worried about whether she would cope in so much bigger an establishment. Well, she has and is clearly thriving. Already, her teachers have observed that she has exceptional musical skills.

PHELO – (now 6) also started a new school at the beginning of the year. He has entered the Reception Class at Good Shepherd School – where I used to teach. His report made me laugh...it was said that that he is making good progress but must learn to focus more in class. I thought "typical boy"!

ONELANI – (almost 4) and INAM (now 3) both attend the same lovely pre-school. Onelani is sometimes reluctant to go but not so Inam who waits by the front door with her bag ready for the off. They are happy, lively and very chatty – I mean VERY chatty!



SECOND YEAR FOR FUTURE BRIGHT TRUST

By the time you receive this communication we will have submitted the second set of End of Year Accounts to the Charity Commission.

What they show is that we raised £8,950 and spent £7,950 on the costs of educating the 5 children.

Our sources of money were primarily personal donations, proceeds from the Afternoon Tea in August 2016 and the sale of the Christmas cards designed by the children.

Expenditure included costs of school uniform, books, stationery, school outings, swimming and music lessons, extra classroom support for Phelisa and transport costs.

It is clear that we must keep the money coming in so that we can build a healthy account that will be able to keep pace with increasing costs as the children get older.

FUTURE FUNDRAISING



We do hope that you have this date already in your diary as we are planning for this is to be a truly lovely evening. South Africa is coming to Piddlehinton!! Mother Zelma is too and is so looking forward to meeting up with everyone again.

Your invitation will be winging its way to you at the beginning of next month.

THE FORTS DO LEJOG

Future Bright Trustee Andrew Fort and his wife Chris are cycling from Land's End to John O' Groats to raise funds for our charity. What a magnificent and truly special effort. They leave on 28 July and will arrive on 8 August after 878 miles of turning those wheels round and around.



Would you please help them to help our 5 African children? YES... well, it is easy. **Either** log on to <https://my.give.net/fortlejog> and find their fundraising page to donate on line **or** post a cheque made payable to Future Bright Trust to Paddock House, Rectory Road, Piddlehinton, Dorset DT2 7TE. Please mark the envelope LEJOG.

Andrew and Chris we wish you well and you will be in our thoughts every day.

SHELLEY DOES BOURNEMOUTH MARATHON

Yet another dear friend and supporter of Future Bright Trust is training hard for the Bournemouth Marathon on 8 October 2017 as she wants to help educate the children. She too is registered on <https://my.give.net/runshelleyrun> . If you look at her fundraising page, she will see what a wonderful thing she is doing because Shelley has MS and so this is a seriously big challenge for her. Please help her to help our 5 African children. You can do this on line or by post – as you prefer.

Shelley – we are so grateful and hoping that the training is going well.

SUCH GOOD FRIENDS....

This newsletter is sent by email, post or hand delivered to everyone who has, or is, supporting Future Bright Trust. My hope is that it keeps you in touch with how the money you have given is being put to good use and is making such a difference to 5 young lives that started so badly.

I am fortunate, using my own financial resources, to go and see them regularly. All of you rely upon my news and accounts of what is happening. I truly value your faith in the value of what we are doing and thank you most sincerely.

Your gifts arrive here with many different reasons to explain them. Recently two friends in my village celebrated their 85th birthdays - Fay and Terry are twins. Instead of presents they requested donations to Future Bright Trust. A very generous thought which resulted in £410. Such is the goodwill that Future Bright Trust generates.

It is a big task seeing 5 children through their education but we are well on the way.

Registered charity no:1159539 For more information see our website www.futurebrighttrust.co.uk or ring Sue Hennessy on 07770 738170 To donate on line www.give.net/20180380