

**Committee Members and Posts 2019/2020**

Rob Isdale	Trustee	Chairman and Projects Manager
Alhaji Camara	Trustee	Deputy Chairman
Jeff Phillips	Trustee	Secretary and Sponsorship Secretary
Jackie Massey	Trustee	Treasurer
Gillian Hill	Trustee	
Lynda and Mike Redfern		Drumbeat publication
Emily Cardinal		Website and Facebook

**USEFUL INFORMATION:**

Friends of the Gambia Association CIO  
 Charity No. 1171620  
 NGO in The Gambia No. A92  
 Website: [www.fotga.org.uk](http://www.fotga.org.uk)

**HOW TO CONTACT US:**

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[sponsorship@fotga.org.uk](mailto:sponsorship@fotga.org.uk)

Telephone 08454 968078



If you change your address it would be really helpful if you notify us in writing, or by phone on 08454 968078 or email :

[sponsorship@fotga.org.uk](mailto:sponsorship@fotga.org.uk)

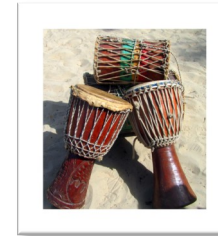
**DRUMBEAT**



When you have finished with your copy of Drumbeat, why not pass it on to friends or family who may be looking to sponsor a child?

**FOTGA**

**DRUMBEAT**



The Newsletter of The Friends of the Gambia Association CIO



**Proverb**

If you are planning for a year, sow rice; if you are planning for a decade, plant trees; if you are planning for a lifetime, educate people.

## Chairman's Message



Dear Friends,

At the time of writing we are in a strange situation with the global pandemic affecting us in the UK and our friends in The Gambia. We are in the first stages of coming out of the lockdown from the coronavirus but we have a long way to go and I just pray that we will be able to travel to The Gambia again before too long.

Many in the Gambia have had their livelihoods curtailed with no chance of the furloughing support which some of us enjoy. I am sure that I am speaking on behalf of everyone when I voice my thanks to our Gambia team, Modou, Sulayman and Jarri for the difficult work which they are undertaking on our behalf under the local safety rules.

Whilst children are not attending schools and universities during the crisis as part of the Gambia protection strategy, FoTGA will continue to pay the school fees direct to families in order to support them through this period.

Margaret and I visited The Gambia in March and returned two days before the UK lockdown. Whilst we were there we visited the Bakindik Health Centre and were pleased to see that a full time nurse has been employed and is living on site with his family. We also attended the annual PTA meeting; an afternoon of prizegiving, speeches, music and food. (Extracts from our diary will be found in later pages)

The Friends of the Gambia CIO Annual General Meeting has been delayed for a future date to be fixed. We will advise everyone once the national situation is clear.

Thank you to all our sponsors, members, and donors, for your continued support.

In the meantime, keep safe.

Rob Isdale

Chairman



## FUNDRAISING A simple way for you and your family to help us!

FoTGA CIO has signed as a Charity with Amazon via: [www.smile.amazon.co.uk](http://www.smile.amazon.co.uk)

FoTGA CIO will receive .5% of the net purchases made by **anyone who signs up.**

Next time you go to Amazon to buy something, simply go to [www.smile.amazon.co.uk](http://www.smile.amazon.co.uk)

Just type in **Friends of the Gambia Association CIO**

**Please remember to add CIO to your choice, or FoTga will not receive the additional donation.**



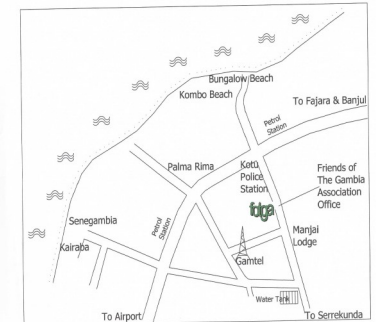
After that every time you shop by going to Amazon.co.uk a pop up (see above) will appear to remind you to go through [www.smile.amazon.co.uk](http://www.smile.amazon.co.uk) The screen and everything else is the same!.

## FoTGA's Annual General Meeting

Due to the current Coronavirus situation we will postpone the AGM until it is safe to arrange a date and venue.

You are welcome to visit our office in The Gambia. If you ask a taxi driver to take you to Manjai Lodge you will see the office on the opposite side of the road. You may wish to telephone before on +(220)129469.

Location of the office in The Gambia for anyone wishing to drop in during their stay. Office telephone no. +(220)7129469



## THE GAMBIA OFFICE in KOTU

The Office Manager, Momodou Camara sent the following report of a few of the activities which have taken place during the past year.

A visit was made to the regional Director of Health in Essau in the North Bank region, to discuss the need for a nurse at the Bakindik Health Centre. A fruitful discussion took place, attended by the Deputy Director and the members of Bakindik Village Development Committee. It was agreed that they will send one of the nurses from another Health Centre and with the support of some people from the village, this was done, and the Centre is now fully operational. During Rob's visit we also visited there and a tour was conducted when the villagers expressed their happiness with the support FoTGA has given them.

Earlier on we received books from Rob for onward delivery to one of the Churches and they were very glad to receive them. On Jeff's visit too, we received some baby clothes and toys from him which we distributed to nursery schools and a few families.

We also did some office maintenance work, especially on the door, and had the office painted again as the old painting was fading.

I also attended a training programme for NGO's which was organized by the department of NGO affairs in the provinces and the training was attended by all NGO and CBOs. It was very effective as it dealt with several areas including the code of conduct, duty waivers, as well as knowing their constitution and what are expected of them regarding the registrations and submitting of annual reports, including audited account to the NGO affairs.

During Rob's visit we organized a very successful Pride of FoTGA awards ceremony which was well attended by students and parents. After the meeting we were invited by Rob to attend a dinner with our families, which was well appreciated by the team and our families.

As we are moving forward, the emergence of the Coronavirus brought everything to a halt. Due to its severity the office was temporarily closed but before that we paid the third term fees to the students. It was done with care as we called only a few people to come and collect on different days, and before making payments we made sure that they use hand sanitizers.

During this Covid 19 period too we gave 10 bags of rice to the organizers of the Brufut Marathon to be distributed to their community, and also we distributed some bags of rice and oil to some students which were donated to them by their sponsors.

June 2020

## CORONAVIRUS

This year Drumbeat is being published at a sad time. The Gambia is now starting to relax many of the lockdown restrictions, but for developing nations like The Gambia, already suffering from lack of resources, the impact will be felt for many years to come.

- We are continuing to pay grants to our students and have waived the need for a report, which will not be available for the time being.
- We are continuing to pay our staff, who are available to help and distribute aid and gifts, although our office is currently closed.
- We are continuing to pay grants to schools and clinics to help with salaries and fixed costs.
- We have supplied and delivered one sack of rice to all our student families.
- We will continue to distribute gifts of rice and oil and donations made by our sponsors to the students they support and their families.
- We will continue to monitor the situation and provide additional aid if we are able.

**Now, more than ever, they will need our support.**

## Hello from a New Trustee



Dear all,

My name is Gillian Hill. I live in Crawley, West Sussex, and am a sister of the long serving Trustee and Committee Member Jeffrey Phillips.

My working life was spent with computers, but now I am retired and loving it!

My daughter and I first found the pre-cursor of FoTGA CIO nearly 30 years ago. Sandra chose it as the charity to find out about and support as part of the challenges for her Queen's Guide badge. She remains a sponsor to this day.

I was appointed as a Trustee at the AGM in July 2019, to help any or all of the other Trustees as needed. Mostly so far this has been research, paperwork and the like.

Gillian

## SPONSORSHIP

The FoTGA sponsorship scheme has been a great success thanks to you all. Many students have gone on to get good jobs and some have gone on to University with great results. Your support is invaluable and gives many Gambian students opportunities they could only have dreamed of becoming a reality.

We are always looking for more sponsors so that we can take on more students.

A number of students will complete grade 12 this year and will be hoping to go on to further education and maybe even on to University. It would be wonderful if their sponsors are able to help them reach their goal.

Also, if your student is leaving education at grade 12, we would be grateful if you are able to take on another student at any level.

## THANK YOU FOR SPONSORING

Grades and numbers At the end of 2019 there were 120 students:

School	Grades	Age	Number
Nursery	1-3	4-6	11
Lower Basic (Primary)	1-6	7-12	30
Upper Basic (Middle School)	7-9	13-15	36
Senior Secondary (High School)	10-12	16-18	43

The Sponsorship Scheme is intended to support students in state schools up to Grade 12 by providing money to the student's family for school fees, uniforms, a satchel and stationery, and lunches. Some sponsors continue to support their students if they go on to further education.

There is a wealth of information on education and all aspects of Gambian life on the following website [www.accessgambia.com](http://www.accessgambia.com)



### Nursery Education

FoTGA gives grants to Nursery School teachers, whose salaries and training are not funded by the government.

### Education for Children with Disabilities

FoTGA provides grants for students' transport and food aid to the Govi (Gambian organisation for the visually impaired) school for the blind.

### School Facilities

FoTGA carries out small building projects to provide additional facilities such as classrooms and toilets.

**We are currently supporting thirty students who do not have a sponsor and many more are waiting.**

**If you would like to sponsor a child or make a donation please visit our website [www.fotga.org.uk](http://www.fotga.org.uk) or contact the Sponsorship Secretary on**

**[sponsorship@fotga.org.uk](mailto:sponsorship@fotga.org.uk)**

### To become a member:

Go to the FoTGA website <http://www.fotga.org.uk> Click on Support Us. Scroll down to Members Page and 'Become a Member' where you will find a Membership Form to complete

### For donations:

Cheques should be made payable to Friends of the Gambia Association CIO and sent to: Mr. J. Phillips, 8 Essex Close, Morden, Surrey, SM4 4NP

### To donate via internet banking:

Use sort code **20-57-76** account number **30745340**, but also send us your information to [info@fotga.org.uk](mailto:info@fotga.org.uk) so that we can contact you.

If you are in a position to complete the **GIFT AID** declaration you are ensuring that 25% is added to each donation.

### To Sponsor a Child:

Go to the Fotga website, [www.fotga.org.uk](http://www.fotga.org.uk) Click on 'Support Us' Scroll down to 'Sponsorship' Click on any 'Sponsor Me' and you will find all you need to know about our sponsorship scheme.





## EDUCATION IN THE GAMBIA - Jackie Massey

Since taking over as Treasurer in July last year, I have spent some time researching education in The Gambia. How is it organised? How is it financed? What problems do children encounter in receiving education? In what ways does FoTGA help?

- The Human Development Index (HDI) ranks The Gambia 174 out of 189 countries. (UNDP 2019), The UK was 15<sup>th</sup>.
- The literacy rate for 15 to 24 year-olds stands at about 64.5% (Unesco 2015).
- Measures introduced by the government have increased enrolment rates and gender parity.
- Tuition fees have been abolished in state schools for grades 1-9.
- There are insufficient resources to support a growing education sector, lacking facilities, learning materials and qualified teachers.
- Low performance and exclusion due to disability, access and social norms present a challenge, particularly in rural areas.
- Children officially start school at the age of 7 (grade 1) with a leaving age of 16.
- To move up a grade, children must achieve a satisfactory standard.
- Only 77% of children complete their primary education (Unesco 2015).
- It is not free to go to school. Costs include; transport; lunch; uniforms; shoes; satchel; additional learning materials, additional tuition and exam fees.
- Pre-school nurseries are being developed, but not all have access to such facilities due to availability and cost.
- Senior Secondary School, Skills Centres and Universities are expensive and families often have difficulty supporting a student once they have reached working age.

Whilst there have been many improvements, considerable challenges remain.

**Many children are unable to achieve their potential; to be able to make the best life choices; to get a good job.**

FoTGA's objects are 'to relieve poverty, alleviate pain and suffering and advance the education of the people of The Gambia'.

### The Sponsorship Scheme

FoTGA sponsors individual children from nursery school to grade 12 (age 18). On occasions we are able to sponsor students to attend skills centres and university. Students receive a grant at the start of each term, on production of their report for the previous term.



Donations of rice to the organisers of the cancelled Brufut Run for distribution, and also to students and their families.



**TREASURER'S REPORT – One year on!**

Well, what a year this has been! Who would ever have imagined that in 2020 we would be engulfed by a global pandemic? The whole world in turmoil!

I took over as Treasurer in July last year and in the UK have been busy with the administration following the change to a CIO (Charitable Incorporated Organisation), which has proven to be more difficult and time consuming than imagined. In particular, the transfer of Sponsorship and Membership subscription standing orders to the new bank account. There are still a handful of sponsors who have yet to complete the change. We can't continue to operate two charities indefinitely and plan to close the old FoTGA after the AGM, at which point the old bank account will close and we will lose your sponsorship. I am now working on Gift Aid, for which we must have new signed declarations from all our donors to make a claim. So far, only about one quarter of our members have returned the form. For those who have not yet done so, please could I ask you to complete these transactions as soon as possible. If you have not received the information or have any problem dealing with the request, please contact us, either myself or the Secretary, Jeff Phillips.

In May last year I went to The Gambia to set up a new book-keeping software package, give the staff some training and review finance procedures. It has been working well and we have continued to improve systems throughout the year. We now have up to date comprehensive reports, keeping us better informed and helping us to make the right decisions.

Then, at the end of March, The Gambia declared a state of emergency. All schools and non-essential businesses, including hotels and restaurants were asked to close until further notice. This will have a serious impact on the students we support and their families. FoTGA has been considering ways in which we can help.

We have closed our office for safety reasons, but before doing so, we paid all third term grants to our students to minimise contact and to reduce further hardship. This was completed with remarkable efficiency by our staff and within a couple of weeks all students had been contacted and their grants paid up to the end of this school year.

The annual Brufut Marathon was cancelled. The charity which runs the event is continuing to collect donations for the distribution of food to the needy. We donated our usual ten sacks of rice.

We are currently distributing rice and oil to our beneficiaries. If you would like to make similar gift to your student's family, please send £30 by cheque to 8 Essex Close, Morden, SM4 4NP or bank transfer to Barclays account no. 30745340, sort code 20-57-76, quoting 'rice' and your student number.

We have no idea how long this will last or what the lasting impact will be. But I am sure, if we all pull together, we will get through this. My planned trip this year is on hold but I am looking forward to 2021 and spending some time with the staff in the office and discovering more of The Gambia and its wildlife.



Distributing gifts at Mandinari School



Fula Cultural Group



Signed football presentation



Balanta Team



Handing over gifts



**VISIT OF KING'S HIGH SCHOOL FEBRUARY 2020** By Modou Camara

The collaboration between King's High School and FoTGA came through our twinning programme co-ordinator Mr Alhaji Camara. Following a series of correspondence the school finally arrived in The Gambia on the 24th February and, as scheduled prior to their visit, they wanted to visit two schools on different dates. Forty students arrived, and four teachers.

Before the date I visited both schools and they were very excited to receive them. We discussed some of the programmes including a football match, cultural dancing etc.

26th February—Visit to Tallinding Upper Basic School (Grades 7—9 ages 13—15)

I visited Senegambia Beach Hotel to collect the group and was met at the hotel gate by Rob, one of the teachers, and after brief introductions the entire group came out, we boarded two vehicles, and headed for the school which is located in the Serekunda district. We were met on arrival by the head of the school, Mr. Demba Keita.

Mr Keita informed the group that there are 1500 students in his school and there are two shifts, one coming in the morning and the other in the afternoon. He told them that he was excited to receive them at his school and believed that the activities they wanted to do, combined with those of the King's School, would be achieved before they leave.

The group was divided into two groups, each led by a teacher to go round from one class to another, and for the students to see and interact with the pupils. In each class students asked each other questions and at break time there was more interaction and the taking of selfies! A football match followed with Tallinding winning 5—1.

At the end of the day the students were very happy and they distributed many materials in the form of books, pens, reading books, rulers, pencils, dolls etc. A final presentation was done in the staff room where the Head was given a football with the signatures of all the students in the group. They day ended with the Tallinding students performing songs.

28th February—Visit to Mandinari Lower Basic School (Grades 1—6 Ages 7—12)

Mandinari school is located not far from the airport. This school also has morning and afternoon shifts and has a total of around 600 students. We were received on arrival by the Head of the school, Mrs. Sigga Saine, who gave a brief history of the school. As planned the students were divided into two groups to visit all the classrooms. All the students then went into the hall for a cultural display and dancing. Once again gifts were distributed to the school and the head was given a football with the signatures of the entire group and teachers. The Head expressed her happiness for the visit.

*giftaid it*

**The Gift Aid Scheme**

The UK Government will give 25p for every £1 donated to FoTGA CIO by UK tax payers. To make the claim we must have your authorisation. All you have to do is sign the declaration stating that you are a UK tax payer and return it to FoTGA. We will do the rest. The money will come directly to FoTGA and it costs you nothing.

As it was necessary to re-register FoTGA as a CIO with HM Revenue and Customs, all previous declarations are now invalid. We need a new, signed declaration to be able to make a claim.

We recently sent all sponsors and members a new declaration to complete. Please could you sign and return it to us in the stamped addressed envelope. If you have not received it, please contact us. Even if you are no longer a UK tax payer, it would help us if you could return the signed declaration.

*Gift Aid enables us to operate the office in The Gambia, supporting our students and beneficiaries. It helps us to widen our activities by providing further assistance to schools, clinics, villages and other needy children for whom we have not been able to obtain sponsors.*

*For a monthly donation of £15 per month FoTGA will receive an extra £45 a year from the UK Government. It is a generous scheme and worth our while. This year, we received over £9000 in Gift Aid on donations received in 2018. Our next claim will date back to 1st January 2019. Even if you are no longer a sponsor, please sign and return a new declaration so that FoTGA can receive gift aid on your past donations.*

*Donations include all voluntary payments made to us, such as; sponsorship, membership subscriptions, gifts, general donations.*

*Jackie Massey, Treasurer*

*If you are uncertain of your situation, please contact our treasurer Jackie Massey in strict confidence by emailing [jackiemassey.fotga@gmail.com](mailto:jackiemassey.fotga@gmail.com).*



## EXTRACTS FROM ROB & MARGARET'S DIARY

THE GAMBIA 2<sup>ND</sup> to 16<sup>TH</sup> MARCH 2020



Margaret and I arrived at Manchester Airport at about 3.30am for our flight which was due to take off at 8.00am. We flew with a Polish airline booked through Gambia Experience due to the demise of Thomas Cook last year. It was a fairly uncomfortable flight as I don't think the airline was geared up for long haul, the flight was late leaving and we arrived to a very hot Gambia at about 3.30pm

### Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> March

We used our favourite driver, Lamin, today. We spent some time in the FoTGA office discussing arrangements with the staff after which, accompanied by Modou, we went to Serrekunda market and purchased a new industrial sewing machine for Mariama Jallow, our ex sponsored student who has finished her training course on tailoring, and very proficient she is. She was so pleased to receive it and we are looking forward to seeing the results. The traffic was horrendous in Serrekunda and the emissions from hundreds of beat up rusting and rattling vehicles would cause the young teenage Swedish climate activist, Greta Thunberg, to an early grave.

### Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> March

We crossed the river by the old Banjul Barra ferry which, like the cars are pretty well unfit for service, but it got us across and back. We were accompanied by Modou and visited the Bakindik clinic. We met the village committee and the full-time nurse, Mr Ceesay. Clinics were operating but much of the work was carried out by him alone as there were no other health workers. He was assisted by two volunteers from the village. He had a well-stocked pharmacy in the centre which was supplied by Essau and had established good routines. The water system was not operating very efficiently and it would appear that the original pipe-work is not of sufficiently large bore, supplying only a trickle. The solar pump is only supplying a trickle to the tanks. Mr Ceesay is trying his best with what he has and I am impressed by what he is doing, and encouraging village involvement. Mr Ceesay showed me his staff quarter which had been built by the village. He lives there with his wife and young son. A further storage building had been supplied by the village. I have asked Mr Ceesay to supply Modou with a list of his requirements and I would, without making any promises, see what I can do.

## SCHOOL TWINNING PROGRAMME



FoTGA's twinning initiative aims to create school-based projects to develop and extend learning opportunities by building partnerships between UK schools and the communities in which they operate, with ones in The Gambia. This would benefit a generation of young people by:

Communicating at a global level to create a better understanding between cultures, religion, art and technology.

To begin the process the UK school contacts FoTGA's twinning co-ordinator, Alhaji Camara, to request twinning with a school in The Gambia. Alhaji will then send a short list of schools that match the request and tests the viability of the process in conjunction with each of the schools and the FoTGA's Gambian staff. A formal declaration is signed by both schools and the twinning proceeds with Alhaji supporting both sides.

If you, or you know of anyone who may be interested in this worthwhile exercise please contact Alhaji by email [alcamara@live.co.uk](mailto:alcamara@live.co.uk) or telephone him on **07412223085**



There are many fruit sellers on the beaches. Each one has an annual health check before being issued with a Certificate as authorisation to sell their delicious fruit.







Many visitors (including Chris Packham) go to The Gambia to enjoy the abundant species of birds. Many can be seen in the vicinity of the hotels, and tour operators offer 'bird safaris' for the keen bird watchers.



**Friday 6<sup>th</sup> March**

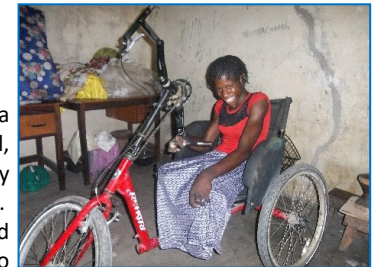
We carried out a few domestic chores in the morning and spent all afternoon on Kotu beach relaxing. We braved a visit to Aunty Wainrights shop on Fajara market just to say hello and came away with Gambian style backpack and four pencil cases.

We met Ibriham Joof, father of our sponsored high school student, Seedy Joof. We have had excellent school reports from Seedy. Ibriham is wheelchair bound and earns a living by begging around Kotu market. He is a wonderful old boy; he does not ask for anything and accepts his condition without complaint. Of course there is no benefit system in The Gambia for the disabled who have to rely on charity. The sad thing is that his wife is also wheelchair bound. He also has daughters and the family live in Ibriham's brothers house in the Lamin area of outer Serrekunda.

We had our evening meal in the hotel.

**Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> March**

We had a latish breakfast before setting off for Brikama to see the twins Fatou and Satang Camara and the Karita family including our sponsored girl, Fatou. We stopped at the FoTGA office on the way to sign certificates for the PTA ceremony tomorrow.



We called in at Satang and Fatou's compound and gave them the money which Pearl had given us to pass onto them. Mariama, their mum was not at home. When we entered the compound gate, we were greeted by a smiling Satang running towards us using her hands. She has no use of her legs which are withered and folded up under her body. Satang's specially adapted trike which was donated by the Oasis churches about three years ago was having problems with the chain and brakes. Lamin, our driver took it to the local bike shop to be repaired which cost 500 dalasi, about £8. If WE had taken it the cost would have been inflated to Toubab (tourist) price.

We visited the Korita compound but Fatou was not at home, however we were pleased to find out that she had a full time job at a hotel on the catering side. Fatou was chosen by Kim a couple of months before she died, from a list of potential children looking for sponsors at a FoTGA AGM. Fotou did not do too well at school but she stuck at it and we sponsored her through catering college. Kim would be proud.

We decided, in Kim's memory that we will continue to sponsor the education of a child in the family and have taken on her younger brother Ebrima Korita who is in Grade 6 at Jeddah Lower Basic School.

Margaret bought a big bag of boiled sweets to give out to the kids at Jeddah. After the children have a suck of the sweets, take them out of their mouths, swop flavours with their friends, play in the sandy ground then all want to hold your hand and be your best friend you come away feeling decidedly sticky and sweaty, but to see the pleasure that the children get from it is worthwhile.



Continued.....



**Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> March**

Modou and I had a meeting at the FoTGA office with two prominent Gambians with a view to them joining the Gambian committee of FoTGA as independent members. One has experience of education and the other project work so should be an asset to the charity. I will take it to my fellow trustees for a final decision.

We attended a naming ceremony in the afternoon for the baby of Peter Mendy who is known to some members. Margaret was happy as she had a chance to hold the baby. It was a Christian ceremony and the official naming was done by Pastor Wook-jin a South Korean missionary who has planted a church in Serrekunda. We were well fed at Peter's house so we were not very hungry in the evening.

When we returned we had a look at the new Fajara Waterfront apartments for future consideration but aside from the expense, inside of the compound was all concrete which reflected the hot sun. I think I shall stay with the Palm Beach or Badala Park and risk running the gauntlet of bumsters and sellers. Back to the hotel; forty winks and a game of Scrabble and an evening meal at the Kunta Kinteh. How the other half live.

**Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> March**

We visited the Govi school in Kanifing, the only school in The Gambia catering for the blind and visually impaired. The school has a good success rate and we noted that in the past ten years one student has graduated in law and a further five were at college doing teacher training. FoTGA supplies rice to the school and had rebuilt damaged walls and tried to introduce a small banana plantation, but the latter was not very successful.



We went to Kotu beach for about three hours and on the way back we picked up Ibrahim, the disabled father of Seedy whom we sponsor, from his spot at Kotu, and went to his home the back of beyond behind Lamin village to see his family. Seedy was there and we are so happy with his attitude to his education and impressed by the way that he and his sisters look after their parents, both of whom are wheelchair bound following childhood polio. When we left we battled the traffic of Serrekunda back to the hotel. Mariama joined us for dinner. She delivered a pile of bags and pencil cases which she had made on her new sewing machine. for us to sell at home for FoTGA funds. Late evening Scrabble was won by Rob.

We had a wonderful afternoon and it is so touching that a family who have practically nothing is prepared to share what they have.

**Monday 16<sup>th</sup> March**

We had a wonderful holiday, quite busy at times, but very rewarding.

**Rob and Margaret**

**Images of The Gambia**

