



News from the UK

A Message from the Chairman of Trustees

Welcome to the first newsletter from Alive & Kicking UK for over a year. It has been a challenging time for us since almost twelve months ago, on 27th September 2007, Alive & Kicking's inspirational founder, Jim Cogan, died on a flight back from Nairobi.

Determined to carry on the great work he started our first priority was to raise money to steady the ship, and thanks to an immediate and generous response from many of Jim's ex students, over £40,000 was promptly raised. Then three Trusts, which had long supported Jim's ventures, the Tudor, Amberstone and Garfield Weston, provided enough money for the salary of a new director for the next two years. More recently, money from the Jim Cogan Memorial Fund, to which many of Jim's friends and colleagues, SPW volunteers and Old Westminster students have contributed has given us added strength in the UK and in Africa.

In Africa there has been plenty of action. Alive & Kicking South Africa was set up last October and the almost entirely female work force started stitching in April and are already completing their first orders with balls of excellent quality. In Zambia most of our stitchers are now making close to 3 balls a day and have topped the self-sustaining 2000 balls a month mark. Kenya finished its massive contract for 81,000 balls for UEFA on time in March – a truly magnificent achievement - but the political troubles at the start of the year dramatically cut most ball orders from Kenyan sources, though happily their production is climbing back to a much more satisfactory level now.



James Flecker & Tom Cadogan

Currently we are working on several initiatives in the UK to help our African operations: negotiating a new large contract with UEFA, exploring the possibility of bringing synthetic balls, stitched in Africa, to the UK, developing a fundraising and publicity partnership with Everton Football Club, and launching a campaign to get people in the UK to donate 100,000 of our balls to Africa by the World Cup in 2010.

On 15th September Dr Tom Cadogan will become the new Director, fresh from his position of Interim Country Director in Tanzania for Students Partnership Worldwide – Jim's first charity. Jim knew Tom well and he comes imbued with the values, vision, and energy of our Founder. Our prospects now are exciting and there's plenty for him to get his teeth into. I wish him every success and really look forward to seeing where he takes the charity in the years to come.

James Flecker



Balls into Africa 2010

Alive & Kicking UK has launched a campaign to get UK individuals and organisations to donate 100,000 African balls to African children in time for the 2010 World Cup. We want to provide a real legacy to the games and you can help us by going online and donating a ball. As ever, you can decide exactly where you would like us to deliver it.

Find out more online www.aliveandkicking.org.uk.



Sport and Dev website

We have been featured on the *International Platform on Sport and Development* website developed by The Swiss Academy for Development as a successful example of how sport can be used to promote economic development. You can check out the article at: www.sportanddev.org.



Synthetic Footballs

We are looking to generate even more employment in Africa by stitching synthetic leather balls suitable for use in the UK. At the same time as providing fantastic, ethically made balls for the UK market, this will help to spread the word about Alive & Kicking and we hope that the health messages will be a talking point for youngsters in the UK as much as they are for kids in Africa.



UK Education Programme

The website www.extra-time.org.uk is now live and offers school resources aimed at key stage 3 of the curriculum!



The resources are centred on sport and teach children about the lives of their peers in Africa, highlighting issues that affect all young people, encouraging them to become active global citizens.



Kenya

Ball Orders

On July 16th our balls started retailing in *Nakumatt* - Kenya's largest supermarket chain. 50 balls were made for AMREF for the visit of their new goodwill ambassador—Robert Green, the West Ham and England keeper. Kenya is also making 1,000 synthetic leather balls for UEFA's Development Division, which are more appropriate for use in wet European conditions than the leather we use for African pitches.

Martin Barnard and guests at the Nakumatt launch



HIV Awareness

Alive & Kicking's HIV Awareness Posters, featuring Kenyan sports stars are now on their way to all 4,000 public secondary schools in Kenya following a media launch hosted by *Safaricom* (mobile phone company). The *Red Cross* and *Safaricom* contributed to the funding. This September the next HIV Awareness Roadshow, also funded by *Safaricom*, will visit 32 schools in the Machakos District, using sport and drama as a platform to promote HIV awareness to thousands of young people as well as hosting football and volleyball tournaments.



Latest Kenyan Newsletter: [Alive & Kicking Kenya Newsletter - July 2008](#)



Zambia

Health Awareness

Right to Play (check out www.righttoplay.com) has trained 3 of our stitchers as HIV peer educators to raise health awareness at schools, clubs and sports tournaments around Lusaka. These 3 stitchers are also running a workplace health programme for all staff at Alive & Kicking in Zambia over the next 6 months. As part of the programme, stitchers will design 6 health awareness balls, focusing on different aspects of HIV such as awareness, stigma and prevention. They will be a focus for discussion sessions in-house and useful for schools and companies.



Balls, Balls, Balls

The Great Football Giveaway from the UK is on course to donate 2,000 Alive & Kicking balls to Zambian children in October 2008 (see article on page 4). A new contract has been signed with the Ministry of Sport for 2000 footballs and 1000 netballs by the end of October. Further orders have been received from UNICEF for more than 1,100 footballs and from Rapids for over 2,000.

Chris Roe drumming up ball sales



Latest Zambian Newsletter: [Alive & Kicking Zambia Newsletter - July 2008](#)



South Africa

A discussion session on HIV led by Rukia Cornelius

The Grand Launch

After finally scraping all the marshmallow off the walls of A&K's new home in the old Mossops-Western tannery, kindly donated for free, Alive & Kicking South Africa was officially launched on



15th April 2008. The event was attended by over 80 special guests, including Desiree Ellis – ex captain of the SA women's soccer team and a 2010 FIFA World Cup Ambassador, Dr Laurine Platzy - World Cup Co-ordinator, and Brent Walters - the 2010 Economic Legacy Coordinator for the Office of the Western Cape Premier. The mostly female stitchers, initially trained by Francis Kithuka from Kenya, are improving fast and are well on their way to making 1.5 balls each per day. Early significant ball orders have come from The Marcia Brady Tucker Foundation and the Tughan Trust.

Latest South African newsletter: [Alive & Kicking South Africa Newsletter - July 2008](#)



Health Programme

South Africa is developing a health and wellness programme for its entire staff. They are all benefiting from a series of health training sessions which include advice on how to get tested for HIV and look at the stigma and discrimination attached to HIV.

Spirit of Football

The Olympics have 'The Torch', now, thanks to [Spirit of Football](#), the World Cup has 'The Ball'. Every four years 'The Ball' makes an epic journey from Battersea Park, where the very first FA-rules football match was played, to the Opening Ceremony of the World Cup.



'The Ball' will be made by Alive & Kicking in South Africa for the 2010 World Cup. Starting in January 2010, it will journey 10,000 miles from Battersea to Johannesburg, South Africa, in time for the opening ceremony. Along the way it will celebrate football and its impact on people's lives by visiting festivals of football, music and dance. You can become part of the adventure by

donating Alive & Kicking balls for this project at www.justgiving.com/spiritoffootball. These balls will be delivered to local African organisations at every stop. For more information about this project and on how to support it download the [Spirit of Football leaflet](#).

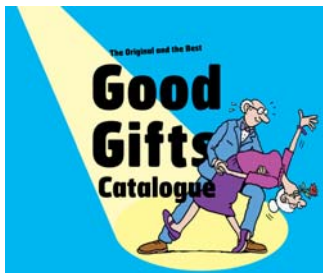
UEFA

The UEFA order for 81,000 balls in 21 months has been successfully completed in Kenya and we are currently in negotiation for a follow-up contract for 120,000 more to be made in Kenya, Zambia and South Africa over the next 4 years for distribution to schools in every country in Africa.



Good Gifts

Through the *Good Gifts catalogue*, www.goodgifts.org, many generous people in the UK have donated over 10,000 balls in Kenya and Zambia since 2005 as well as £5,000 to invest in our newest stitching centres. The following message of thanks recently came from the Mwambashi Community School in Zambia: 'The school is so happy with the aid from Good Gifts and Alive & Kicking. This gesture will really help in developing sports and in availing health education to our pupils and there is now not a dull boy or girl in the playground.'



The Great Football Giveaway

In October 2008 three volunteers are heading to Zambia to run a joint project between Alive & Kicking and The Great Football Giveaway, which raises money in the UK to donate footballs in Africa.



The challenge is to raise funds for the 2000 footballs and to distribute them all over Zambia. To donate to this project visit [The Great Football Giveaway's site](#) or [donate a ball online](#). These balls will be added to those donated by The Great Football Giveaway.



A Fantastic Birthday Gift

Per Ravn Omdal, a Vice President of UEFA, very generously asked to forego birthday presents last year for his 60th birthday, asking instead to be given money to donate Alive & Kicking balls to projects including SOS Children's Villages in Kenya, Zambia and South Africa. A very generous donation of CHF 47,000 means that 3,000 balls are starting to be distributed! On his recent visit to Kenya, the Chairman of Trustees' of Alive & Kicking UK handed over the first balls to the SOS Village in Nairobi.



2 Weddings and a Hydraulic Press

Ian Howard and Ingrid Marson found out about Alive & Kicking through the Good Gifts catalogue, and liked the charity so much that they asked guests at their wedding not to bring gifts but to donate to Alive & Kicking instead. They raised over £3,000 for A&K South Africa which has paid for the hydraulic press necessary to cut leather panels, and for over 200 balls to be donated to community projects.



Their generosity sparked the interest of another soon to be wed couple, Keith Stephan and Peggy Ann Kelly, who marked their special day by donating 50 US Dollars for every guest at their wedding, not a small feat as over 100 people celebrated with them!



Scoring Goals for Alive & Kicking!

On June 20th Holman Fenwick Willan Charity 5-a-side Football Tournament, organised by Dinesh Nathan (solicitor) and Menelaus Kouzoupis (trainee solicitor) and involving teams from various companies, raised £1,950 for Alive & Kicking.

Support Us and Do Your Christmas Shopping at the Same Time!

No idea what to give someone for Christmas? Why not donate a ball to Africa on their behalf instead? It's very easy to do – just go to our website: www.aliveandkicking.org.uk.



A Tribute to Jim One Year On

James Atcheson Cogan, schoolmaster and charity worker: born Liverpool 15 May 1937; staff, Westminster School 1964-99; Founder and Director, Students Partnership Worldwide 1985-2003; OBE 2003; Founder and Director Alive & Kicking 2004-2007; Founder Good Earth Trust 2007; died London 27 September 2007 .

That's the bare bones of Jim, but the flesh is in the detail. He was not just a schoolmaster, he was an inspirational teacher of English Literature, whose lessons were also challengingly relevant to the future lives of those lucky enough to have been taught by him. He felt passionately that young westerners would benefit hugely by living among people with little material worth, but a great deal, often, of human generosity.

These convictions lay behind the founding of his first charity, Students' Partnership Worldwide (SPW), in 1985, which gave 18 and 21 year olds the opportunity to help tackle the problems assailing young people in sub-Saharan Africa and the Sub Continent. This work is now mainly done by unemployed graduate volunteers from the host countries themselves.



Jim at the helm

On his visits to Africa with SPW, Jim, noticing the lack of sports equipment saw that children in Africa are deprived of one of the most basic joys of childhood: a ball to play with. That led to the foundation in 2004 of his second charity, Alive & Kicking.



Jim at the Suba HIV Roadshow, Kenya

His third, founded at the beginning of the year he died, the Good Earth Trust, uses compressed earth, with small infusions of cement, to make ingenious bricks (which require no fire, and therefore no consumption of valuable wood), cleverly interlocked to take the place of bricks for buildings and to make domestic and larger-scale water tanks for conserving rainwater.

What a man! Since leaving five years ago, SPW has gone, as Jim predicted, from strength to strength. Less than a year after his death his two fledgling charities, Alive & Kicking and Good Earth Trust are thriving too. There are not many people – let alone schoolmasters - of Jim's calibre in any generation. Those who found one charity are rare enough, but three! Small wonder that so many who owed so much to him have given generously to his two young charities and to the trust fund set up in his memory.



Concert in Memory of Jim

On November 30th *The City of London Choir, Westminster Under School Boys Choir* and the *Royal Philharmonic Orchestra* will be performing works by Finzi and Vaughan Williams at the Barbican in a concert dedicated to the memory of Jim and in support of Alive & Kicking and the Good Earth Trust. For more information on tickets, priced at £25, £20 and £16, and to book, please download a booking form from the Alive & Kicking website: www.aliveandkicking.org.uk. Alternatively, or if you have any queries, please contact Jane Adams on jcmf.tickets@gmail.com.

A Good Earth Trust soil block press



The Jim Cogan Memorial Fund

The Jim Cogan Memorial Fund (JCMF) has been set up to give those whose lives Jim touched the opportunity to support his last 2 African charities, Alive & Kicking and the Good Earth Trust, so that their future will be secure. The initial aim was to raise enough money to finance the appointment of two directors for 3 years. Now that this has been largely achieved, the JCMF is turning to other UK expenses and projects in Africa for both charities. Already more than £75,000 has been raised for the Fund and our aim is to reach £100,000. For more information and/or a gift aid form, go to our website www.aliveandkicking.org.uk, call 020 7630 7333, or email jimcoganmemorialfund@gmail.com.

Happy recipients of A&K balls

