



– THE NEWS ON YOUR GIFT OF LITERACY –

help2read
improving lives. forever



Our Impact

Children helped to date:

6271

Children being helped:

1097

441 Volunteers operating in 95 Schools

Your Gift Improves lives. Forever

The current economic climate only makes your generosity stand out more obviously. Our heartfelt thanks and those of the children who get a chance that they would otherwise miss out on, to all our kind and considerate donors.

All donations are being ploughed into the establishment of the new Gauteng (Johannesburg) office. Our thanks to new partner, British Airways who have recently come aboard, agreeing to be help2read's South African Travel partner, sponsoring all travel for this expansion.

Also, our most humble thanks The Souter Charitable Trust for their award that will help, in part, with the costs associated with the update of our website.

Quote of the Month

“Loise started reading at 50 words per minute and I was amazed at how her reading improved to 120 words in no time at all.

Her confidence is shining though and she's become a very bubbly little girl. It makes me feel so proud.”

– Sheila Alexander, Volunteer

help2read Superheroes Lead the way

A dull and vacant classroom in Bishop Lavis Primary School has been transformed into a bright, warm and colourful reading room thanks to the determination of help2read volunteer, Rhoda Amos. The importance of libraries within schools sparked Rhoda's tremendously inspirational idea to dedicate her time to a goal which will reap many rewards in the future and change the lives of many underprivileged children. With the help of a

few volunteers, learners and Mrs Brown - Coordinating Teacher at the school, Rhoda was able to create a stunning new reading room for Bishop Lavis.

We hope Rhoda's successes will pioneer the way forward and set an example for more creative and inspiring projects in the future. Thank you to Rhoda and all who contributed to the creation of this wonderful space which so many children will benefit from.

Onwards and Upwards

By Paul Newman, help2read (Int) CEO

It is fantastic to see help2read expanding so successfully in South Africa and strong progress is also being made internationally.

Five countries have now been identified as target expansion sites for help2read – Namibia, Zambia, Swaziland, Botswana and Kenya. Priority is being given to SADC countries and the board expect legal establishment to start this year, in 2011. Our most recent draft accounts show that income received by the international organisation in 2010 was five times the income received in 2009 and fundraising to sustain the expansion programme through 2011 is already underway.

I particularly want to say how delighted and honoured I am that Susan Belgrave MBE, the founder of the UK organisation Volunteer Reading Help, has agreed to be a Patron of our charity.

We landed on January 3rd...

...and hit the road running, signing the lease on new premises to house the 13 staff now servicing the planned expansion: 700 active volunteers by the end of the year, doubling the number of children who will be given the gift of literacy in 2011.

With BA's commitment on all South African internal flights, planning a national network of offices throughout South Africa could commence. So, our next stop was Johannesburg to raise the money for our new office there.

As ever, we visited many of the schools embracing the help2read programme and received terrific feedback. In particular, principals thanked us time and again for the improvement in their scores in January's national literacy assessments.

While all this was going on, Fiona Arenhold, a recruitment specialist, was working hard to find us a CEO for South Africa. On our last week in Cape Town I reached agreement with Allan Taylor, a former special advisor to Nelson Mandela's Education Minister, to take on this role on a part time basis. We're all very excited about the potential progress ahead.

– Alex Moss (Chairman)