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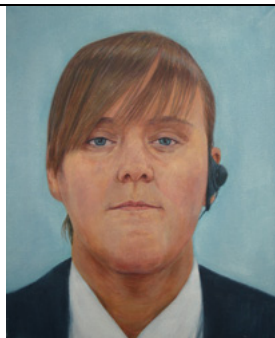
November 2011

School Update

The school building project has now been registered as a NGO called NACONDA. The work on site has been progressing slowly and has been held back by unexpected early rains that ruined many of the bricks drying outside prior to being fired. It has been decided meanwhile to replace the tiled roofs with iron sheets until the new stronger tiles are ready in sufficient quantity. The school has also been required as part of the registration process to create covered walkways between the classrooms and the toilet block. Ntimba is sourcing wood to use for the uprights for these and we plan to re-use the old tiles for the roof cover.

One of the classroom blocks has already been roofed with iron sheets and this will be used as a dormitory when the new students start in January 2012. While the rented accommodation is only a ten-minute walk it is necessary to bus the children to and from school to keep them dry when the rains are heavy and this is an additional cost. It will be much better to have the dormitories in the school grounds.

The Auction: A few of the works sold at the Auction



Maggie: Pat Bray



Inner Haven: Marian Leven



Tilted Pot: Lara Scobie

The last couple of months have been a busy time as we contacted our artist friends and asked them to donate work for the auction. We were amazed and delighted at their generosity and by the end we had 123 items for sale. These ranged from a large landscape painting by James Morrison to individual pieces of silver jewellery.

Ken Anderson of One Solution found sponsors to help create an illustrated colour catalogue of all the works on show. The resulting catalogue was impressive and well worth the time and effort that went into its design. We had a great team to hang the show and the painter Norman Kirkham was there to advise on the hanging. The staff at One Solution worked extremely hard before and during the event to make it such a wonderful success and we appreciate all their efforts.

As with the last auction the guests were served with champagne, delicious canapés and cup cakes decorated with the One Solution logo. The Marco Cafolo Trio played in the green room where there was a cocktail bar and seating.



View of the Board Room

The auction was in three parts with two ten-minute breaks to allow guests to relax and also collect any work. This year the wrapping area was particularly efficient and the process was very smooth. Alistair Logan was the auctioneer for the evening and there was a great deal of excitement in the Auction room and the guests were very vocal. It was great to see such enthusiasm for contemporary art and support for the project. There was quite a bit of competition between colleagues from One Solution over some of the lots and all but 23 items sold on the night. We have raised an amazing £30,000 from this event which will help to keep the construction project going through next year.

Future Events

We plan to sell the goods we brought back from Tanzania before Christmas and may combine this with an exhibition of the postcard-sized work donated by students and professional artists. This will take place sometime in December at Duncan of Jordanstone College of Art and Design. It is tempting to rest on our laurels but the reality is that we still need to raise a lot more money to guarantee that the school can be completed. The economic climate has affected the cost of raw materials and fuel in Tanzania as it has everywhere else in the world and we have a lot of classrooms and dormitories still to build and equip.

We shall be organising another exclusive pre-Christmas raffle where a very limited number of tickets are sold at a higher cost (£10 each) than usual but the prizes are three original works of art. We will only sell as many tickets as we need (100 max.) in order to cover the reserve price of these works. This gives participants much better odds than usual of winning a prize and the works of art that can be won are shown below:



Anyone wishing to buy a raffle ticket should contact Louise at the email address below: rudatanzania@hotmail.com If last year is anything to go by these will sell very quickly. Santa Claus picked the winning ticket last year and this year we are going to see if a celebrity can be persuaded to pick the winning tickets this year.

Sponsorship

We now have 29 children from ten villages being sponsored to attend the school and we have begun to compile a register of new people who would like to sponsor a child. Information about the sponsorship package can be found on the rudatanzania website. At the end of this school year, early in December, the children currently attending the Namanditi school will be assessed and those who are ready, will move on to the equivalent of primary one in January. The rest of the children will stay at nursery level for a further year. In January 2012, 31 children whose families can afford to pay the school fees will join them, bringing the school role to 60

Committee

We are still looking for a new treasurer and would ask if anyone would like to take on this role or can recommend someone else to contact Louise Johnstone or Gill Thomson.