

SPREADING HEALTH NEWS Bulletin: January 2017

HAPPY NEW YEAR AND BEST WISHES FOR 2017

Thanks to you all for your continuing support of SPREADING HEALTH.

We remain a very small charity and yet this year we topped over 50 nurses in training, or who have qualified and returned to their rural communities to work. Donations are really making a difference to lives in poor rural parts of Cameroon so THANK YOU!

The biggest section of our income comes from monthly standing orders (about £5700) and this year we had a few good fund raisers which you can read about on the website, by following a link. These brought the total for the year to £11,790. We have yet to bag another grant. The only success so far has been £10,000 received from 'Care for Kids' in 2013. The total raised from the start of SH in 2008 equals £108,920.

SHUMAS have told us that there is a shortage of midwives in Cameroon so the 2017 entry will be a mix of midwives and nurse students.

When we ran the CPD course in 2015 we were joined by Eric, a palliative care nurse prescriber, running palliative services around the Kumbo area. He is a very professional and compassionate senior nurse and he has agreed to offer professional support to SH nurses in the field and at the Alumni meetings. He will be a great addition to the team.

We met up in UK recently with Stephen, the founder and director of SHUMAS and his wife Billian. They were over here as the guests of a donor to another charity that SHUMAS are involved with. It gave us an opportunity to talk about how the scheme is working and the need to ensure that nurses are paid in accordance with their qualifications, when they return to their villages.

In February we have been invited by some Canadian friends, to visit a small project they are involved with in India, where they hope to roll out a similar scheme if it's appropriate. They have all their own funding etc so would not be looking for financial support, however it is gratifying that our project is working well enough for people to think it might work elsewhere.

We heard in November that Bamenda, largest city in the Anglophone area of Cameroon, has been the centre of protests against the imposition of French language in the law and in schools. There is a general feeling in this region that Anglophones are discriminated against. You can read more about whats happening on the BBC news

Website at www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-africa-38254050. Protests were ongoing as of 8 December but we have not heard if anyone we know has been affected. We hope this situation will settle down soon.

So, thank you again for your kind support. If you are reading this and don't get the newsletter, [please email Geoff and Lene](#).

If anyone of our donors has good ideas, knowledge, experience or skills that they could offer, please let us know.

Best wishes for 2017

Peter and Glyn
(Founders)

Peter Kammerling and Tony Rodger
(Trustees)

Geoff and Lene Gurney
(Admin Support)