

www.DavidMatherFoundation.org

Welcome to another new look newsletter!

We keep on learning so please bear with us as we continue to improve the way we do things. Read on to find out what has been happening since we were [last in touch](#). Thank you so much to everyone who has put their time, money and hearts into what we've been doing in David's name so far.

The David Mather Foundation in action

Ian and Ceri have just returned from ten days in Argentina where its been all go. Read on to find out more...

1. Locality Manager Appointed

We are fortunate to have appointed Raul Casanova (we know!) as our Locality Manager in Salta. He is a young man of 24, who has excellent interpersonal skills, is a self-starter and speaks fluent English. He previously worked for Gareth (David's brother)'s travel company and knew David. He is firmly committed to the Foundation.



He has a detailed work plan and has already made significant headway on a number of fronts. We will give you more detail about Raul in the next newsletter.

Picture: Raul, centre, with Silvia Farfin, the Director, and Lidia Arian, the Deputy Director, of 'Colegio Doctor Miguel Ragone', one of the schools who have signed up to work with the Foundation.

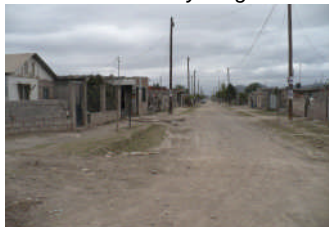
2. Schools Sign Up

During their visit, Ian & Ceri visited two schools and were overwhelmed by their interest and support for the Foundation's proposed projects.

The first school, Fe y Alegria, is in the barrio 'Solidaridad' a ghetto of 20,000 people living in very difficult conditions. The Director, Hector Morales, said that the school has 1,500 students of all ages and have never had a student get into university and then complete the whole course. They were very keen to work with the Foundation and introduced Ian and Ceri to a ...**continued on page 2**

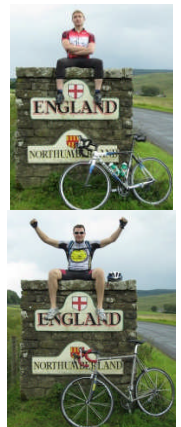


Above and below: Area outside the school fence at Fe y Alegria



Edinburgh to Brighton by bike

Chris Redfern and John Goodchild took on the incredible task of cycling from Edinburgh to Brighton in August to raise money in David's name. They cycled for 5 days, and covered over 600 miles.



A massive thank you to the boys for the time they gave, their fundraising work, and their impressive determination – well done!



Charity status in 6 months!

The David Mather Foundation is now registered with the [Charity Commission](#) in England and Wales, number 1131333. The overall objective, captured in the Trust Deed, is to promote the benefit of young people in Argentina through:

- the advancement of education and training;
- the relief of poverty; and
- the relief of financial hardship

Did you know...

60% of the population in Salta live in poverty and that many young people work for up to 40 hours a week whilst they are still in school?

Please keep donating!

You can make your donations in the following ways:

- Cheque payable to David Mather Foundation sent to 5 Railton Avenue, Manchester, M16 8AU; or
- Internet Transfer to David Mather Foundation, sort code 20-82-18, account number 63645797.

Please remember to complete, and send us by post or email, the form [linked here](#) so that we can keep track of your payments and claim Gift Aid.

Boutique Adventures Holiday

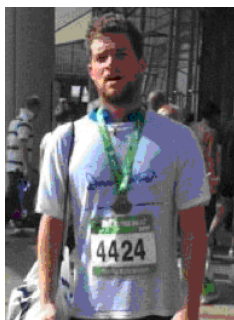
[Astrid Harrison](#) and [Kirsty Noble](#), both professional photographers, are hosting a specialist photographic holiday in Argentina in October 2010. Those on the trip will be given the opportunity to photograph the beautiful scenery and wildlife of Northern Argentina as well as experiencing life on a real gaucho ranch. Astrid and Kirsty have generously offered to include a donation to the Foundation as part of the fee, and hope to buy some photography equipment for the schools with it. They are keen to show their clients where their money has gone so plan on creating an exhibition of the young people's work.

This is an excellent idea and it shows how, whatever the nature of your own work, there's almost certainly a way to use it to complement the work of the Foundation. We'll keep you posted with the results.

To see their stunning brochure and find out more about this exciting trip, please contact [Astrid](#).

Glorious marathons

Not only have people been biking around remembering David but in September seven people ran exhausting half marathons to raise money - Tim McMahon, James Hardy, Jody Hockley, Nikesh Patel, Adam Twiss and James Venus completed



the 'Run to the Beat' marathon in London on 27 September, and Katie Wright also ran her first half marathon in the New Forest on the same day. Photos of Katie and Adam to follow next time.

A massive well done and thank you to them all!



Top: Tim, and from the left: Nikesh, Jody, James V and James H. All still looking fab!



The David Mather Foundation in action continued from page 1

...British nun lives in the barrio and whose order works with the school. She gave a sobering view of the difficulties for all the families but welcomed the Foundation's support.

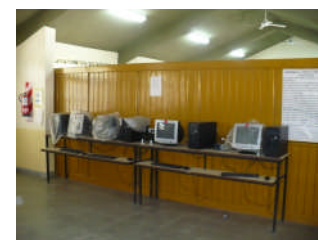
The school buildings are ten years old and in quite good condition, but they have no heating, a tiny library and poorly maintained equipment.

Pictures showing the library for 1,500 students and the reading room where books are read - they cannot be taken home.



The second school, Colegio Doctor Miguel Ragone, has over 500 students aged from 5 to 18 and though newly built in 2006, has no library and just one room of twenty computers, none of

which have been used yet. They cannot be connected to the internet as there is no telephone line! (see right). The Director explained that in her 35 years of working in these neighbourhoods less than 2% of students had gone on to university.



The school is already collating information on the students they believe meet the criteria of the programme.

3. Other developments

- Raul has met with contacts at the University of Salta. They have expressed great interest in the programme and have committed their students to the mentoring role.
- Raul also introduced Ian and Ceri to two teachers, qualified in the psychology of learning, who have volunteered to provide workshops for our students in critical thinking, self-esteem, body language etc
- We have met with another Foundation called PAPIS which is working to support families and vulnerable young people in Salta and we have agreed to look at how we could support each other in achieving our objectives



- The jeep, which Gareth and Irma have donated to the Foundation, is being repaired and re-painted. It will show the Foundation logo and Raul will use it to carry out his work across the city – a great advert, you can't miss it!

The recent trip to Salta has been a great success and we are at last getting underway. We will soon have identified our first cohort of young people and will be meeting with their families to get the programme going at the start of the new school year in February. We will then be able to show all our donors how their money is making a difference.

Rocking in Ruislip

Jim Spicer and his wife Judy held a charity rock gig on Friday 4 September at The Tropic in Ruislip. The performers, the lighting, sound, and helpers on the night were all free of charge. It was a great evening and we hope it will become an annual event. It kicked off with pieces by the Fighting Camels (in which Jim plays). This was followed by a nice acoustic set from Dave and Michael Coe with Gez Neacy, and finished with a full on set from Release the Peach with Judy on Vocals. There was also a raffle which raised extra funds.



Three Year Development Plan

We have drawn from the ideas of those who attended the planning meeting in the summer and have now produced the draft [Three Year Development Plan](#). The Plan starts with an explanation of the Foundation's set-up, roles and responsibilities and then gives our aims and objectives, detailing the actions we believe need to be taken to realise them.

We need your help though. Please take the time to have a look through and get a feel for what we're planning. We would welcome any comments, ideas on the ways to do things and, of course, offers of your time and expertise to get them done. The actions already have names against them but we need help and support for them all – there's just so much to do and everyone who has agreed to lead on a task could use an extra head or pair of hands.

Got some spare time? We need you!

We've been amazed by the volume of support people have given to the Foundation. Already more than 40 people have taken part in some kind of fundraising event and of course many more have donated money and time. This is so heart-warming so another thank you to everyone.

We're hoping that you and others will continue to support the work of the Foundation with such vigour next year, so get your thinking caps on for events you might like to do and [let us know](#) so that we can tell everyone.

Everyone who does a challenge gets a free Foundation T-shirt, as well as sponsor forms and a page on an electronic sponsorship website (coming next year). We'll also try our very very hardest to come and cheer you along/ eat your food/ kick your football/ shake your tambourine or whatever it is you are doing. Thank you for being brilliant.

Food fest

In August Alastair and Carrie Simson hosted a massive feast for some of David's uni friends.

There was nachos and chilli and cup cakes galore and everyone left fully stuffed and with bags of food to take home with them!

It was a great weekend – thank you both for arranging it and thank you everyone who came and donated money in return for their supper (and breakfast and more...!)



From 1,000 down to only 16

Lydia achieved great success in getting to the final 16 from over 1,000 applicants in a charity-funding competition run by Vodafone's own charitable foundation. The competition investigated the skills and qualities of the applicant as well as the nature of the charity involved.

That the competition was only open to charities already registered with the Charity Commission and they allowed Lydia to progress through, when at the time the Foundation was pending a response from the Commission, demonstrates how impressed they were.

This was a great accolade for Lydia and showed that the aims and objectives of the Foundation are already seen as viable and worthwhile by much larger and more experienced charitable organisations.

Not got the time but got the cash? We need your help!

We now have 12 people making monthly standing orders which come to £200 per month. This is brilliant and we're super grateful to them all. Standing orders are income that we can always be sure of receiving so it means we can better budget and plan ahead.

If just thirteen taxpayers set up an order for £5 a month, that would be a whopping extra £1000 for the Foundation every year! And as an example - £10 would buy the delivery of a workshop on self esteem for the young people, or two hours of extra English lessons. Please print the form [here](#) to sign up.

The wheels keep on rolling...

Well done to the Preston girls who, on Sunday 9 August, rode 25 miles on a virgin route in the Preston area (yes they got a bit lost at times!). They all looked gorgeous too in their outfits and attracted rather a lot of attention from passers-by! Thank you to Lucy McHale, Larisa Brown, Kate Smith, Rachael Hughes and Rachel Cadwallader *(left to right in the picture below)*.



21 Again?!

A very good friend of Ian and Ceri is reaching a special birthday and will be hosting an awesome party and asking that anyone feeling they wish to make a gift gives to the Foundation. Thank you so much - you know who you are but we couldn't possibly give your age away!

Thank you again!

Though we mentioned the following in our last news, we wanted to say it again: thanks to Bill Millar who ran the London Marathon for the Foundation, Stuart Baron and Paul Blackledge who ran the Manchester 10k, and Richard Williams who cycled the 82 mile South Downs Way in just one day. Well done all!



Stay in touch

Website: www.davidmatherfoundation.org

Facebook group: [David Mather Foundation](#)

Email: enquiries@davidmatherfoundation.org

The 'fun' rides!

Whilst Chris and John powered on for the long haul from Edinburgh to Brighton, they were joined by others who kept them company, raised lots more money and also slowed them down!

On Sunday 30 August they were joined by Anna Bracewell, Lydia Brown, Marie Hamilton, James Pearce, Andy White and Nick Wilson, who rode the 25 miles from York to Leeds with them, and on Saturday 4 September, Marcus Harry joined them for the 50 miles from London to Brighton.

Thank you to them all dusting off their bikes and giving their all!



Kilimanjaro Climb

Jane and Vin Board (of a similar vintage to Ian and Ceri!) are climbing Mount Kilimanjaro in October and they are looking for sponsorship to be shared between a Cancer Charity and the Foundation. We are just blown away by their determination and generosity. Good luck! Please [email us](#) if you would like to sponsor them.

Foundation Logo – Brilliant James!

A massive thank you to James Dawson of [Big-Dog Designs](#) who created the Foundation's logo for free and has been providing us with ongoing help and advice on things like the T-shirts and Spanish logo.

In memory of David



The Foundation was created in 2009 by the family and friends of David Mather who was killed in December 2008, aged 28, in Salta, a region of Argentina where his brother lives and works. David had an amazing love of life, always aware of his own advantages in a largely disadvantaged world.

David had been moved by the situations he saw when he travelled and talked of how he would like to do something that would really give young people and communities the opportunity to achieve, succeed and raise themselves out of poverty.