

www.DavidMatherFoundation.org

It's been a long time since the last newsletter, but we are sure you will agree that a lot has happened in the last few months and forgive us for concentrating on the "doing". However now it's time to share our progress. Thanks to everyone who has made all this possible!

Fundacion David Mather Study Centre launched in Salta

A six room study centre with a dedicated computer suite and two classrooms has been officially opened for our students in Salta. The accommodation provides quiet study space, a craft room and a kitchen, with an outside terrace and walled garden for communal activities, mentor meetings and tutorials. The centre was in a poor condition when it was taken on but the students worked willingly with core team members to clean, paint and improve the premises. It is now secure and complies with all safety regulations providing a light and airy space to meet the needs of the students.



English, maths and personal development classes are run weekly and additional support is offered as required. The craft area will be used to support the young enterprise schemes that will be established this year and then goods will be sold through the street front room. We have been delighted that many of the mothers have offered to help with the handicrafts and to sell produce. The students at university are now using the facility for personal study. More photographs and study centre information on page three.

We are delighted to welcome Geoffrey Thomas as our Patron

Geoffrey Thomas was President of Kellogg College from its inception in 1990 until his retirement in December 2007, combining his College duties with the Directorship of the Oxford University Department for Continuing Education, which also has a mission to widen access to higher education and to promote opportunities for lifelong learning. He was a Council Member of the Higher Education Funding Council for Wales, and Chairman of its Reconfiguration and Collaboration Panel until 2008. He is an Honorary Fellow of Linacre College, Oxford, of Kellogg College, Oxford, of Trinity College, Carmarthen and of Swansea Metropolitan University. He is currently Vice-President and Chair of the Council of the University of Wales Trinity Saint David.

With his lifetime experience in higher education Geoffrey is able to provide the gravitas and credibility to open doors both in the UK and in Argentina and is already making useful links with key organisations. With characteristic enthusiasm and generosity, Geoffrey has already requested that his upcoming birthday be marked with donations to the Foundation.

Also in this issue:

- Student Update – Leo and Franco
- St Ursula's Convent School, Ursuline High School and Moss Side Primary School
- Kilimanjaro climb, Trans-Pennine challenge and marathons
- Adopt a student and 'The Big Give'

The Students!

Cohort 1: The first group recruited in 2010

Of the first 13 students, six are now in their first year at university. Leo and Florencia, who are now in their second year at university, have been able to offer support and encouragement to the new intake.

Bea and Emilse are studying accountancy, Romina teaching, Virginia psychology, Pamela will become a nutritionist and Franco an engineer.

Marianna is undertaking an English course to supplement her income before starting university next year. Alejandro has also delayed her admission as a psychopedagogia. Diego has joined the Army, Amelia the Police and one decided the programme was not for her.

All of the students have been supported to apply for scholarships which give basic financial support. Currently these are offered on a first come first served basis rather than in recognition of need. We have had positive indications that the Ministry of Education will award all of our students "becas" i.e. Salta Scholarships next year.

Cohort 2: Recruited 2011



The above group are students from Dr Miguel Ragone School in Autodromo, who began their orientation in January. The Fey y Alegria group came on board in March. In total there are 20 additional students.

Each student has undertaken an initial screening test to enable us to analyse progress against baseline data. This process has also helped to define the students' suitability, enthusiasm and interest in the programme.

They have very quickly settled into the routine and seem to be enjoying the lessons on offer and have even been taking the initiative to negotiate content!

Sponsor a Student

Our supporters have suggested that they might like to sponsor an individual student. Already, Leo and Franco have been 'adopted' by generous supporters, David Longman and Mair Williams, and we hope that others will follow.

In this newsletter we give you an update on Leo and Franco's progress. Next issue we will tell you more about Bea and Emilse, both of whom are studying accountancy. Also remember that each student is profiled on the website so please do take a look - <http://www.davidmatherfundation.org/students/>



Leonardo, or Leo, is in his second year at university studying computer sciences. He has also been supported to undertake a computer maintenance and repair course which he does every Saturday. This will enable him to earn money throughout his studies and he will also be the DMF computer whizz!



Franco has started his university career this year and is studying engineering. At the end of his first year he will need to specify which branch of engineering he wishes to follow therefore he is currently seeking out work experience opportunities to find the best fit for him.

It makes a massive difference to these students, knowing that their future is secure. If you would like to support an individual student please get in touch with Ceri by email - ceri@davidmatherfundation.org

Note that you can choose a student or a profession or, for even more sponsorship choices, also please visit the Big Give <http://new.thebiggive.org.uk/charity/view/7498>

The David Mather Foundation Shop

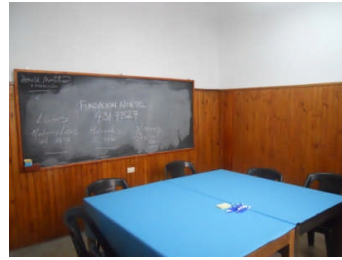
A reminder to visit the DMF shop at <http://www.davidmatherfoundation.org/shop/>

You'll find details of how you can earn money for the Foundation by using www.buyat/DMF when you shop at places like Amazon, M&S, Waterstones and Expedia. Also use www.everyclick.com to earn money for DMF every web search.

Hollie and Iain climb Kili

Hollie Saxon and Iain McKeith fly to Tanzania on 9 September and will trek for seven days, climbing up Kilimanjaro which is 20,000 feet and the third highest mountain in the world. They have been training hard to make sure they are in the best shape to take on the task! Please sponsor them for this brilliant challenge - <http://uk.virginmoneygiving.com/team/hollieandiainclimbkili>

Salta Study Centre



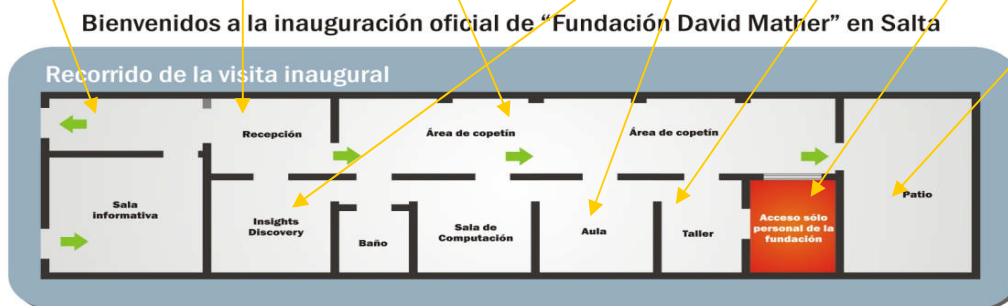
In order to maximise the use of the facility, rooms are let for English lessons and will increasingly be offered as meeting spaces during the afternoons. Many students arrive hungry and leave for school by 12.30 so they are given a hot drink and some bread before they go. They are able to use the facility during holidays and at weekends.

This has been a major investment, but has delivered what the students needed most, somewhere to study. The centre required £5,000 set up funds and costs £2,000 a month to run, including the teachers fees. We are very grateful for a large personal donation made by Mrs Mair Williams for furniture and fittings.

The centre was officially opened on Friday 4 March and was attended by local press and school representatives. It was followed by a barbeque for the students and their families, when the local priest blessed the premises. All the photos can be seen on the David Mather Foundation Facebook page.

Study Centre Plan

Street entrance area Reception Terraced courtyard Classrooms Craft room Kitchen BBQ



David Mather
FUNDACIÓN

Fundación David Mather - Buenos Aires 627 - Salta - Argentina
Tel. 0387-4317827 - email: ian@davidmatherfoundation.org

www.davidmatherfoundation.org

Please keep donating!

You can make your donations in the following ways:

- Bank Transfer to David Mather Foundation. Please email us at enquiries@davidmatherfoundation.org for bank details; or
- Cheque payable to David Mather Foundation sent to 5 Railton Avenue, Manchester, M16 8AU.

Please remember to complete, and send us by post or email, the form on the back of this newsletter or on the website so that we can keep track of donation and claim Gift Aid.

Mini Enterprise Scheme

This project is based on the UK Young Enterprise Scheme. It enables our students to learn business acumen, scoping, design, production processes, marketing, supply and demand, whilst developing products which can be sold to supplement their studies.

The project uses waste material where possible. Each of 8 groups will be given AR\$100 seed funding to get their projects underway and they will be able to utilise any profits to reinvest or support themselves. Produce will be sold in the shop. Projects include macramé, cards, moulded flowers & jewellery. If you would like to sponsor a mini enterprise team please visit <http://new.thebiggive.org.uk/charity/view/7498>

Vodafone World of Difference provide Foundation UK staff for four months

We have been very fortunate to obtain two funded placements, each for two months.

Paul Christian has been looking at additional funding streams via schools, universities and businesses. It's been a slow process but he has initiated the following:

- Newcastle University Spanish department and Newman College Birmingham, are interested in linking up with DMF and using us as a potential work placement for year abroad students starting next year.
- Global learning seems to be an aspect which many UK schools are interested in. Discussions have been initiated with The Lancashire Global Education Centre, Global Dimension and The British Council regarding Global Learning programmes. Unfortunately the British Council are currently focusing their funding on China...but hopefully South America will come round soon. Also a magazine for teachers called the Globe published an article about DMF which hopefully will spark some interest and contact from schools.
- Other fundraising events such as registering DMF for the London Marathon, cycles, and creating Garden Parties and the like.

Paul hopes to carry on working for DMF on a voluntary basis over this summer. He is also hoping to get the opportunity to spend a few weeks working directly with the young people in Salta.

Noemi Rincon brings her Spanish language skills and has been translating the website to ensure it is user friendly in Salta too. This is a major undertaking and hence the delay in us updating the website but keep an eye on it from July. Noemi has also been building up relations with schools in the Birmingham area, and two of the Trustees will be visiting those schools soon to see whether we can develop a long term relationship with them.

We are very grateful to both Paul and Naomi for all their hard work and to Vodafone for funding their work.

Three Peaks Success

James, Adam, Kalpan, Renato, Ian, Gautum, John and Carl completed the three peaks despite torrential rain and terrible vision at Scafell. James organised everything perfectly. They were supported by a fabulous crew consisting of Ceri, Ian, Jane, Paul, Rachel and Hannah. Whilst they ached for some time afterwards the boys were really proud of what they achieved and so are we! A massive well done on the challenge itself as well as the huge efforts that went into collecting a massive almost £4,000 in sponsorship!



Fundraising Update

DMF receives £350 every month in standing orders. We are hugely grateful to those who already support us in this way. Of course standing orders mean that we can count on future income and they are so very much appreciated. Please do join up if you can.

We are also still receiving generous ad-hoc donations and are continually shocked and delighted that people keep offering to put themselves through the pain of running marathons and climbing mountains for DMF - see just some of the examples scattered throughout this newsletter. We have also had some people requesting donations to the Foundation in lieu of birthday presents which is also very generous.

The **Family of Schools** continue to make a real contribution:

- **St Ursula's Convent School** in Greenwich raised a massive £5,000 over just a few weeks with a number of exciting fundraising events. Lots of photos to follow!
- **Moss Side Primary School** near Preston collected pens, pencils, notebooks etc at their harvest festival and sent them to Salta. Unfortunately they got lost for some months in a customs shed in Buenos Aires (don't ask!) but are safely on their way again now. We won't be testing the customs authorities again but this was a great idea!
- **Ursuline High School** in Wimbledon is now engaging and planning fundraising events for the summer and autumn terms.

In the current economic climate and a world devastated by natural disasters and wars, it is sometimes difficult to justify money to Argentina. However, your hard earned money is making a real difference to young people in Salta who, without your help, would be facing lives in poorly paid jobs, living in shanty town conditions. You are not only helping these young people but also their communities. Already we are seeing friends and family members aspiring to achieve more and benefitting from our students new view of the world. It is now easier to see where we need to focus our attentions and we can predict how much each student will cost us over the course of their time with us Three projects are now established on 'The Big Give' website inviting contributions large and small (which you can make on the website or in the usual ways directly to us):

1. The Study Centre in Salta - <http://new.thebiggive.org.uk/projects/view/11800?search=8e856157-9da7-4202-a584-4fc20b34e9fc>
2. Adopt a future leader - <http://new.thebiggive.org.uk/projects/view/11818?search=b520c154-aa3a-4bd2-ac96-b0c153db0c7a>
3. Mini Enterprises in Salta - <http://new.thebiggive.org.uk/projects/view/12282?search=d98d6841-f165-411b-879a-6fae4c1aaf40>

There is also a Christmas Challenge where the Big Give will match any funding pledged to identified projects for a week from 5 December. We will keep you informed of this opportunity to double your contribution.

We have also re-established links with the Anglo Argentine Society which has taken on a new lease of life so we hope to maximise links with a new group of interested parties including Anglo Argentine companies.

Card success – thanks Victor Green & Company!

Victor Green so kindly made a very generous contribution to the Foundation this Christmas. Instead of sending Christmas cards, the company sent an email message with details of the Foundation's work to all their customers. We're really grateful – not only for the donation, but for spreading the word about what we do. Thank you!

Victor Green & Company (www.victorgreen.co.uk) are a specialist patent searching company based in London.

Jody 'Runs to the Beat'

Jody Hockley is hoping to beat his last time of two hours for this London half marathon. Please sponsor him to do this at –

<http://uk.virginmoneygiving.com/jodyhockley>

Stuart and Jonathan go coast to coast

Stuart Baron and Jonathan Dixon are preparing to cycle the Trans-Pennine Trail this summer. The Trail, from coast-to-coast between Southport and Hornsea is 215 miles long. They will be starting the challenge on Tuesday 30 August, covering an average of over 50 miles per day. Please sponsor them at http://uk.virginmoneygiving.com/Stuart_Jonathan

Congratulations Mr and Mrs Blackledge

To Sian and Paul, thank you so much for remembering David on your wedding day and for making a donation on behalf of each of your guests. We were all really touched.

Also coming soon...

Richard Hill prepares to run the Lock Lomond Marathon and the Mathers plan a sponsored ride.

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.



Goodbye and thank you to:

- Alison Redshaw for being an inspirational trustee, we wish you well
- Vinay Reddy for developing relationships with the London-based schools and for further researching and planning for DMF's future strategic areas of focus
- Paul and Noemi our Vodafone placement people...short but sweet and very helpful!

Hello and welcome to:

- Dr Geoffrey Thomas our new Patron
- Liz Adamson our new Trustee

Stay in touch

Website: www.davidmatherfoundation.org

Facebook group: [David Mather Foundation](#)

Email: enquiries@davidmatherfoundation.org

Dick and Joan Williams walk the Pennine Way

Dick and Joan are setting off in just a few hours on Monday 20 June. They will be walking over 260 miles from Edale to Kirk Yetholm. Please support them by sponsoring them for this incredible challenge – see their sponsor page at <http://uk.virginmoneygiving.com/team/pennineway2011>

Donation form

I want to support young people in disadvantaged families to realise their potential, change lives and contribute to the future prosperity of their communities.

Your details

Full name _____

Address including postcode (essential for Gift Aid) _____

Email _____

Telephone _____

Please tick here if you do not want to receive updates by email or post

One-off donations

I would like to give £10 £20 £50 £100 Other _____

and I enclose a cheque made out to "David Mather Foundation" * / I have made an electronic transfer to "The David Mather Foundation" *

* Please delete as applicable

Monthly donations

I would like to make a regular donation of £5 £10 £20 Other _____

and I have instructed my bank to commence donations from _____ (date)

Gift Aid

By signing below I confirm that I would like the tax on my donation to be recovered, and that I pay an amount of income tax and/or capital gains tax equal to the tax reclaimable. I have also filled in my name and address details above as is required for Gift Aid to be claimed.

Signature _____ Date _____

Please return to The David Mather Foundation, 5 Railton Avenue, Whalley Range, Manchester, M16 8AU.