



Reducing Poverty Through Practical ICT Solutions

Autumn 2009 e-newsletter

[Computer Aid has a new website!](#)

This week we launched our new website, which we are hoping will be easier to navigate. We plan to keep it more up to date with our work overseas.

Please have a look at it here www.computeraid.org

We welcome your thoughts and suggestions. Please email philip@computeraid.org with any comments you may have.



[BBC visits a Computer Aid beneficiary school in Kenya](#)

The BBC's Rory Cellan-Jones' Internet Journey, involved a visit to one of our beneficiary schools in Kenya. The Charles Lwanga Secondary has received 20 refurbished PCs from Computer Aid all donated by British organisations.

Rory set out on his journey to get some new insights into how technology is shaping Africa, you can watch live footage of his visit to the school [here](#).



School children in Kenya using PCs kindly donated by British organisations to Computer Aid International.

Ask the Question

More and more companies are looking to support Computer Aid's work and in many cases we have either been nominated for support by staff, or are benefiting from staff fundraising initiatives.

Therefore Computer Aid is asking all supporters to ask these important questions at work; "can staff members nominate a charity for you to support?" or "do you match funds raised by staff for specific charities?"

A yes to either question could bring in much needed funds to help our projects across the world. We can work with your company to find a project that matches your interests, budget, and that helps differentiate your brand.

Click here to read [more](#)

Every public library in Eritrea receives PCs provided by Computer Aid International

Initiated and managed by the British Council Eritrea this project has equipped every public library in Eritrea. The project team wrote and developed bespoke software to catalog the books and administer the lending at every library nationwide.

A Computer Aid training centre was established at the British Council HQ in the capital city of Asmara. Staff from every public library in the country came to the centre for training in: Basic Computer Literacy; ICT use in library provision; and digital record keeping using the bespoke library database package. For further information about the project go [here](#).

To donate your PCs and laptops to projects such as these please click [here](#).

We all have the power to change lives

Last month we saw two examples of how individuals really can make a difference to our work.

Tracy Henderson a primary school teacher at Copper Perry School in Staffordshire embarked on a remarkable personal cycling challenge. Unable to support us through the traditional route of a cycle challenge participant, Tracy set up her own challenge and decided to cycle over 234 miles in 5 days. Tracy achieved her miles over local roads and on an 18 year old push bike!

Click here to read [more](#).



These South African school children have benefited from previous fundraising efforts of Computer Aid supporters.



The Computer Aid training centre for Eritrean librarians



Computer Aid's donated PCs are used in The Medical Institute at Macha (MIAM) in Zambia for research into malaria.

Rural connectivity in Zambia

Computer Aid International has been providing Wi-Fi routers along with computers donated by UK organizations to LinkNet Zambia so that LinkNet can further extend its mesh network. This currently provides Internet connectivity to a hospital, a malaria research institute, a nurses' training centre, schools and homes.

LinkNet is a cooperative organisation headquartered in Macha, rural Zambia, over 300km from the capital Lusaka, and 70km from the closest tarmac road. LinkNet supports holistic rural development initiatives, with a focus on the empowerment of special interest groups such as health and education institutions.

Read [more](#)



An internet café in Macha, Zambia, created inside one of the containers Computer Aid shipped its PCs

Upcoming Events and broadcasts that might be of interest



Environment Agency Annual Conference

Environment 09: creating the climate for change, Monday 9th - Tuesday 10th November 2009 | QEII Conference Centre, London SW1.

An event for anyone involved in adapting their business or organisation to address climate change, or those who want to learn about the new technologies that could help mitigate its impact. From water quality to waste, flood risk to factory emissions, presentations will focus on providing clear advice and practical solutions.

Speakers include: Newly appointed chief scientific advisor to DECC, Professor David MacKay; Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs Rt Hon Hilary Benn MP and business leaders Richard Brown CBE, Chief Executive, Eurostar and Jeremy Darroch, BskyB.

To view the full programme and to book your place visit the website www.environment09.com or email Nikki Insley on nikki.insley@neilstewartassociates.co.uk

Please come and visit Computer Aid on our stand in the exhibition area!



Green IT Expo

Green IT Expo 2009: 10-11 November, The Barbican, London.

Now in its second year, this is the independent forum for ICT decision-makers to discuss the hard facts about sustainable computing and the latest developments in this business-critical area. It will deliver a world-class programme of complimentary case studies and keynotes from industry thought-leaders helping delegates to:

- Understand the key challenges ahead for IT departments formulate greener IT strategies which improve efficiency, reduce carbon emissions and increase profitability
- Ensure compliance with the latest legislation and government directives
- Review a wide range of environmentally-friendly IT products and services

To view the full programme and reserve your FREE place visit the website www.greenitexpo.com

Be sure to come and visit Computer Aid International at our stand there!

Charity IT Conference 2009: Wednesday 11th November, QEII Conference Centre, Westminster.

The fourth annual Charity IT Conference returns to uncover the exciting developments in technology and its use across a wide range of charitable organisations.

From fundraising to awareness-raising, service delivery to financial management, human resources to governance, the expert speaker panel will highlight innovations, examine new ideas, and share best practice to show you how the effective use of technology can further your organisation's aims.

All Computer Aid supporters who wish to attend will receive a £50 discount!

To receive a £50 discount register online at www.itconference.co.uk and enter the discount code "CAI" on the final page of registration.

Visit www.itconference.co.uk to view the full conference programme.

Radio 4 Charity Appeal

Popular children's science and technology presenter Johnny Ball recently completed the recording of a Radio 4 Charity Appeal for Computer Aid International. Johnny is personally very committed to digital inclusion and was delighted to help.



The appeal will be broadcast on Sunday 29th November at 7.55am and repeated at 3:27pm the following Thursday. The appeal will also run on BBC iPlayer all week at www.bbc.co.uk/iplayer/Radio_4_Appeal

Follow Computer Aid on  for regular updates of our work

Please help us spread the word about the importance and potential of Information Technology to poverty alleviation and development. If you have found this newsletter interesting please forward it to a friend.

Best wishes,

The Computer Aid International Team

Computer Aid International - Reducing Poverty Through Practical ICT Solutions

Computer Aid is the world's largest and most experienced non-profit provider of high quality professionally refurbished PCs to non-profit organisations in the developing world. We have provided over 150,000 PCs to over 100 countries since 1998.

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