

## Welcome!

Welcome to the autumn edition of the Jump4Timbuktu newsletter! Although it has been a while since we last updated you on our news, it is not due to our inactivity. In fact, it is exactly the opposite!

There has been a huge amount of progress this year, both in the UK and in Timbuktu, and each month, our partnerships with people in and around Timbuktu strengthen. In this newsletter, we'll be reporting on some of the highlights....



## Flourishing Food Security

Barely a day goes by when issues around climate change and its affects on African countries are not in the news. This issue is no truer than for the people in Timbuktu, where drought and erratic and unpredictable rainfall is devastating the lives of people living in and around Timbuktu. Each time we hear about the latest 'climate disaster', it only makes us work harder for Jump4Timbuktu, and believe more than ever before in the work we are doing.

Having two market gardens already begun in the communities of N'Dala and Togha, we are in the process of taking stock and planning next steps.



Fundraising is, of course, at the heart of any proposed activity. We have offers of funding in 2011, *conditional* on finding other funding partners to match these. If successful, this will enable us to dig an additional well in each community, with a solar pump, enabling us to extend the existing vegetable garden in each case.

The cost for such activity works out at approximately £25,000 per community. We will be seeking match funding for these endeavours, so if anyone reading this knows any individual or funding organisation who may be interested in supporting us, please get in contact with Steve Felgate via [www.Jump4Timbuktu.org](http://www.Jump4Timbuktu.org). We are hoping to begin construction of the second wells in the spring of 2011.



This work is urgent. Just the other day, we learnt that because of the diverse demands on the existing well at N'Dala, and despite unseasonably heavy rains this year, there was scarcely enough water for the irrigation of the vegetables, which was causing great concern to the community there. The news underlined how crucial it is to have a reliable source of sufficient water for these Sahel communities which are struggling to survive.

## *Training and IT Centre soon to open its doors!*

Last year, we were delighted when we received funding from the Waterloo Foundation to establish a training and IT Centre in Timbuktu, with an aim to enable artisans to strengthen their capability to trade in local and international markets.

When we visited Timbuktu last February, a suitable building had already been identified by Mohammed Lamine, the President of the Artisan Associations. It is on the edge of the city, ideally situated in the artisan quarter- an essential requirement if we are to attract the artisan community to use the centre on a regular basis. There was some work still to complete on the building, but we were all excited with both its location, its layout and the possibilities of expansion. By the time we left, we had worked out detailed costings, a project plan, and a timescale for opening in the early summer.



This timescale was shot to pieces by unprecedented torrential rain that fell over the area in June, right at the beginning of the rainy season. These floods were disastrous for many people in and around Timbuktu, since the traditional method of building houses with mud bricks could not withstand the huge amount of rain that fell over the course of several days. Our building stood, but the toilet block collapsed: a good excuse to make sure we had thought through sewerage disposal built into the new estimate for repair!

And now (early November) the building is complete and we are ready to open, except for the fact that we are in a queue for electricity supply. We have been in this queue since the spring, and are finally near the top of the queue, aided by Mohammed Lamine periodically going and jumping up and down outside the (private) electricity company office! We are now scheduled to open by Christmas. Once we have electricity, AMSS will buy on our behalf the computers that will go into the centre, and employ the coordinator/trainer who will be in charge. Our fingers are firmly crossed that the centre will be open for business by December. And when we go in February, we hope it will be to see the centre in operation, and to discuss any fine tuning that may be necessary.

## *Jump4Timbuktu celebrates UN recognition in the fight against poverty*

In March this year, Jump4Timbuktu celebrated recognition for its work in improving livelihoods both in Hay-on-Wye and in Timbuktu. A UN Gold Star Communities Award recognised the wealth of links and partnerships that have been created within and between the two communities, and the power of such human activity to build peace, prosperity and understanding across such different cultures. A beautiful plaque has been presented for display in the Butter Market in Hay-on-Wye. We also hope one will be available for presentation to the Mayor of Timbuktu when we visit in the New Year.

During our February 2010 visit to Timbuktu, and were invited into artisan leaders' homes to exchange ideas. Over cups of Tuareg tea, we discussed the challenges they face, and planned how we can support them to change their situation and trade their way out of poverty.



Through increasing trade opportunities, Jump4Timbuktu is contributing to the Millennium Development goals and the global effort to make poverty history. Through our work together, the lives and livelihoods of Tuareg families are changing for the better, and recognition from the UN has given us a terrific motivational boost to continue our work.

## Roll up, roll up! New stock for Christmas! Unique gifts for friends and loved ones

We've just had a shipment of new stock arrive from Timbuktu, with a fantastic range of new and out-of-stock jewellery. When making your list of people to buy for, please do think of us; we have an extensive set of stunning jewellery options for both men and women, at a range of value-for-money prices.

You can purchase jewellery through our website, [www.Jump4Timbuktu.org](http://www.Jump4Timbuktu.org), or at shops and galleries around the UK which are:

The Haymakers in Hay, [www.haymakers.co.uk](http://www.haymakers.co.uk)  
The Blue Ginger in Cradley, [www.blue-ginger.com](http://www.blue-ginger.com)  
The Pitt Rivers Museum in Oxford, [www.prm.or.ac.uk](http://www.prm.or.ac.uk)  
The Horniman Museum in London, [www.horniman.ac.uk](http://www.horniman.ac.uk)



You could also visit one of the trade fairs we're visiting this Christmas:

On Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> December there is the *Fair Trade Fair* in the Butter Market Hay-on-Wye, with a wide selection of wonderful fair trade gifts for Christmas, and warming mince pies! We hope to see you at one or more of these locations!

Do remember that with each purchase, not only are you buying your friend or loved one a unique gift, you are also supporting a fair trade initiative that is enabling families in Timbuktu to trade their way out of poverty.



## Easyfundraising - A new way to support Jump4Timbuktu without it costing you a penny!

We have registered Jump4Timbuktu with the website [www.easyfundraising.org](http://www.easyfundraising.org) which helps charities raise funds through internet purchases.

If you use the Internet to shop online, a percentage of the purchase price (up to 15% but usually 1 to 5%) is donated by the retailer to your selected charity without you paying anything extra.

All you have to do is go to the *easyfundraising* website, register as a user and specify Jump4Timbuktu as your chosen charity. Then, whenever you want to buy anything online, go to this website first and select the retailer you want – most of the big names like Amazon and Marks and Spencer are now participating. And, the site is regularly updated with special offers, so it could help you save money too! If all our supporters signed up to *easyfundraising*, it would make a wonderful contribution to Jump4Timbuktu, costing you nothing but an extra click!



*Thank you for your continued interest in and support for Jump4Timbuktu*

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