

# TASTE NEWS

September 2003

*In brief ... We have been greatly blessed during the past 12 months but have had to endure a number of frustrations. Our plans for the next year are limited purely by financial restrictions and we encourage you to pray that the Lord will open the hearts of our supporters and funders to help His work go forward in Nigeria.*

TASTE was formed in September 1999 to encourage the spread of appropriate and sustainable technology in Nigeria.

This encouragement could take the form of sending suitably qualified Christian professionals to work alongside local people or offering a placement to young Nigerian professionals.

TASTE has identified Achi as the first community with which it will work and has appointed Mark Lipdo as Project Manager to take the work forward. Mark is a qualified engineer resident in Jos and he will oversee the Achi project and recommend future TASTE activi-



## Another year ... what's been achieved?

**TASTE completed its financial year in June and, although an Annual Report will be produced once accounts have been audited, we thought that we should share the broad details with our supporters as soon as possible.**

### So, what are the encouragements from the year?

- ü We have acquired a tanker, 'Fudge', overhauled it, serviced it and shipped it to Nigeria, where it sits waiting for the end of the rainy season when it will start work taking water to those in need.
- ü We have agreed to purchase 'Rocky', a drilling rig, as soon as funds permit. (See back page for further details)
- ü We have been able to set-up an office in Jos and employ a secretary as well as recruiting a part-time staff member to handle hiring and maintenance of our geological equipment.
- ü Our geological equipment, sent to Nigeria in July last year, is being used to aid communities in their search for water and the hire charges we make are funding salaries for our local office staff.
- ü We sponsored an Art Conference in Jos for local teachers, focussing on how to use low-cost, sustainable materials in their teaching.
- ü Support for TASTE has increased during the year - there are increasing numbers of supporters in UK who pray regularly for the work. Their prayers and requests for regular updates is such an encouragement to the Trustees.
- ü The FunRun attracted a record entry and raised close to £7000.

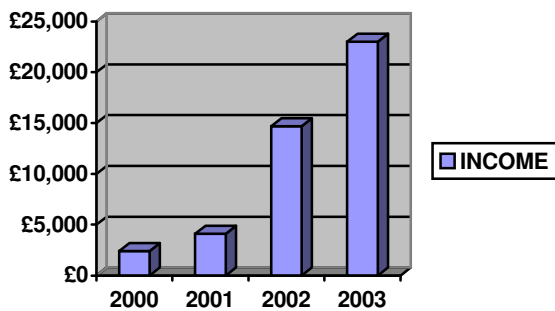
### But, what are the discouragements from the year?

Shipping Fudge cost us £2000 more than planned, due entirely to freight handling and import/customs charges in Nigeria. We are anxious that this may also apply to the Rig

A total lack of response to our applications to Trusts means our funds are now severely limited.

The religious fighting earlier in the year, hampered us. It allowed our field worker, Mark Lipdo, to help the displaced families but it stopped us from moving TASTE forward as we would have wished.

## What's the position financially?



Well, as you can see, income has increased dramatically again this year. We thank God for our supporters who have donated faithfully to the work.

One Sunday School has promised £20 per month from their collection throughout 2003.

One primary school has adopted TASTE as their regular charity and has so far raised over £1000 for us.

Our supporters have organised coffee mornings and cake sales as far apart as Cornwall and North Yorkshire.

Yet, during 2002/3, our expenditure exceeded income by about £1800.

Each month, we receive standing orders worth £275.

But each month, we spend £650 in salaries for our field worker and our UK Operations Officer.

Our present balance is around £4000.

Purchase of the Rig will cost £3500; shipment to Nigeria £2000; customs and freight handling in Nigeria will cost up to £2000; purchase of new drilling rods to drill to a depth of 200m could cost up to £6000.

Once the Achi borehole has been completed, a programme of pipe work construction will

be needed to distribute the clean water to all sections of the community. This could cost around £20,000.

As soon as Achi is fully completed, we have been asked to build a water purification plant at Langtang in the north of the country so that we can supply the communities around ...this will cost in the region of £7000.

And each month our running costs exceed our regular income by around £400!

Humanly speaking, the future looks bleak. But, throughout the short life of TASTE we have seen God encourage us time after time. As the old hymn-writer put it, "His love in time past forbids me to think, He'll leave me at last in trouble to sink ...". We have a God who can move mountains and we are trusting Him to lead us forward during the next twelve months.

## Please Pray...

- ⌞ **Thanking God for all his goodness to TASTE; and ask Him to guide the Trustees in their planning**
- ⌞ **That God will move the hearts of our supporters and grant-making organisations to meet our financial needs during the next 12 months.**
- ⌞ **That the Trustees and workers will not become discouraged when things don't go smoothly.**
- ⌞ **That, as we work in Achi, we will have opportunities to share the gospel and promote biblical principles of working.**
- ⌞ **That our work in Nigeria will bring glory to God and that men and women will come to know Jesus as Saviour.**

## What do you call a drilling rig?

We asked that question at the start of the year and offered a small prize for the best suggestion.

We had a number of entries but it seemed to take forever to come to a decision. Don't ask why, there is no good reason, it just did!

But, at last, we can announce that 8 year-old Samuel from Braintree suggested Rock and the Trustees took the liberty to add a "y". So Rocky was christened and will be joining Fudge as soon as we can arrange it.

Thank you Samuel!

If you receive this newsletter, it is because you have requested it or some-one thought that you might be interested in our work. If you do not wish to be on our mailing list, contact us at the address below and we will remove you from the list.

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