

# Student News

At the moment BET has sponsored 46 students

School / College	Number of Students
St Rose CC	8
Loik	12
TSL	12
Bedco LR	7
Lesedi Dressmaking	1
Mahaliso	5
Leratholi Polytechnic	1
	46



**42 Ridley Avenue, Ealing, London W13 9XW**

Charity Number: 285451

[www.basotho-educational-trust.org.uk](http://www.basotho-educational-trust.org.uk)

# 2010 Newsletter

Advent and Christmas greetings!

As the year 2010 rolls to an end, we can report that the trust is in a stable state albeit at the cost of reducing the total student sponsorship from 46 to 38 as students finish their courses.

In February 2011 Sister Monica and myself will be visiting Lesotho courtesy of CHN to meet with Motselisi and the local committee and to visit the schools and our students. We hope to bring back lots of news and pictures to share with you on the website and in future communications. Please pray for our trip and the different places we shall visit illustrated on the back page.

Meanwhile Christmas is a good time to do a little fundraising and we hope you will remember BET. Trustee Rebecca Chandler-Wilde writes in this newsletter with some easy ideas that you could try.

With many thanks for all your support and prayers throughout 2010.

Philippa Bird TSSF  
Chair of Trustees

Basotho Educational Trust

# Fund Raising

Well it's that time of year again, season of over-indulgence, over-consumption and over-excited children. It seems that the weather will oblige and provide the all important snow to go with yet another showing on TV of Bing Crosby and Danny Kaye warbling along to 'I'm Dreaming of a White Christmas'. My husband and myself spent last Christmas morning tobogganing - the children saying they were 'tired of it!'.

- But Christmas is also a special time, the season of goodwill and a perfect time to raise funds for good causes. Next year the Basotho Educational Trust will have to scale back the number of students it supports due to rising tuition costs at the schools we support, so everything you raise will help. Could you do any of the following?
- Ask your church to adopt the BET as one of their charities?
- Have a coffee morning with proceeds to BET?
- An auction of promises at school or church such as car washing, baby sitting, use of a holiday cottage, baking a birthday or Christmas cake etc?
- Take a collection for BET at the Carol Service
- Sell some beautiful Lesotho crafts, supplied by BET, to raise money?
- Agree a 'no present' rule with a friend and give a donation instead?
- Send Christmas e-mail cards to friends and family instead of card ones and donate the money saved?
- Hold a raffle with donated prizes?
- Have a church quiz evening with a fish and chip supper and give the proceeds to BET?
- A car-washing morning?

Good luck!

# Facts about Lesotho

Population	1,880,000	(2009 est.)
Maseru	173,700	
Leribe	35,000	
Mafeteng	32,900	
Teyateyaneng	22,800	
Mohale's Hoek	18,400	

Work force 704,000

Annual population growth rate: 0.116%

About 23.2% population has HIV/AIDS. This is the 3rd highest rate in the world and the United Nations estimates that this will rise to 36% in the next 15 years.

Infant mortality rate 77.4 / 1000

Life expectancy 40.4 years

Literacy 85%

90% Christian

GDP £800m (2009)

Per capita GDP £1000

Annual growth rate 1.1%

Average inflation rate 10.8%

Agriculture: 4.7% of GDP. Arable land = 11%

*Products:* corn, wheat, sorghum, barley, peas, beans, asparagus, wool, mohair, livestock.

Industry: 46.7% of GDP

*Types:* apparel, food, beverages, handicrafts, construction, tourism

Main export partners: Hong Kong 43%. China 23.4%, India 5.5%, South Korea 5.1%, Germany 4.4% (2004)

Main import partners: USA 97%, Canada 2.1%, UK 0.3% (2004)