



# Christmas Newsletter 2010

## Craig O'Mara swims for The Clabile Trust



Having attended [The Clabile Trust's](#) hugely popular pub quiz in Putney last year, I was really impressed by the passion and commitment of the team and the Trust. It was clear they have been making a real and important difference to the lives of African children, improving their education and life opportunities and having a lot of fun doing it! It was such an entertaining and brilliant evening, I was keen to help further.

So I set about thinking of a sporting challenge that could do just that. I wanted to compete in an international event in a sport I'm not particularly good at and also take part in something rather different to catch people's attention and help raise money and awareness for the Trust. I chose the Annual Bosphorus swim in Istanbul which

covers 6.5km from Asia to Europe, swimming down one of the world's busiest shipping lanes. The event is gaining in popularity every year and 800 competitor s now take part from all around the world.

To prepare for the swim I spent several months down at the Serpentine lido in Hyde Park, avoiding Geese, swans and other local wildlife to build my stamina and get used to swimming longer distances in conditions as far removed for the local swimming pool as possible!

The swim itself was a nerve racking experience, with the vastness of the Bosphorus, the many jellyfish and paradoxically the speed of the current. Initial fears of a Finding Nemo experience thankfully didn't come to pass and the jelly fish didn't pack the sting of their Mediterranean neighbours. However, nearing the finish a

number of us realised to our surprise that the current was far stronger than normal and the recommended turning point to get to the finishing jetty was too late for us. So the jetty came and went and after using all my reserves I managed to drag myself back to the finish. I completed the swim in 1 hour and 12 minutes, a real challenge on many levels, a brilliant experience and I'm really happy to have helped raise £500 for [The Clabile Trust](#). Many thanks to those who donated and supported me and the Trust.



[The Clabile Trust](#) says, "Craig, you're a complete nutter but also thank you so much for doing this - £500 goes a long way to build brighter futures for children"

## Another six take on the London 10K run

The Clabile Trust was delighted again this year when another six people agreed to run the London 10K to raise money for The Clabile Trust. Jon Kirkham, Dan Fitzgerald, Sarah Hudson, Adrian Plaw, Jordan

Kelly and Wendy Headington all got up bright and early on Sunday 11th July and ran part of the amazing marathon route taking in the Embankment, Westminster Bridge, Nelson's Column and Big Ben. We are so proud of

them and extremely grateful for them all raising at least £200 in sponsorship to help us continue to help children escape poverty through education.

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## Winners during the World Cup!

Spain weren't the only winners at the World Cup in South Africa this summer - when one of our friends from Cape Town asked us to help fund a holiday club for children from the Manenberg slums during the tournament, we were delighted to support it.

Whilst the 'carnival of football' was in full swing, over 100 children had a 'carnival' themselves on a four week holiday club, supported by your generous donations to The Clabile

Trust. Thanks to you, we were able to contribute stationery, decorations and money to enable the programme to go ahead. The children had a great time - playing, learning and partying as the tournament unfolded.

Organiser Wim Lindeque said, "We would like to thank all who contributed to giving these children an unforgettable holiday without the worry of what they would eat or where they would go."



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## Beat the Blues

The Clabile Trust is holding a 'black-tie' party in the lovely Tithe Barn, Burford Bridge Hotel in Dorking on Saturday 29 January 2011. Champagne reception, three-course dinner with coffee and petit fours, stunning decor and

entertainment, a range of wonderful prizes, including a KUONI 7-day holiday, A JEHAN Bespoke Handmade Evening Dress and a DORMITORY 5' hand-painted iron bed and dancing into the early hours.

Tickets only £60 each ... nearly sold out!!

For more information or to book tickets, contact Gillie Fitzpatrick - [gilliefitz@btinternet.com](mailto:gilliefitz@btinternet.com)  
Tel: 01306 731781

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## How to give ...

Donations are always gratefully received to help us continue building brighter futures for children. Cheques (made payable to 'The Clabile Trust') can be sent to: Beech Tree Cottage, Sutton Place, Abinger Hammer, Surrey RH5 6RL.

You can also donate online by visiting our Just Giving site:  
<http://www.justgiving.com/clabiletrust/donate>