

**Dear Supporters**

To begin with we wish you all A VERY HAPPY, PEACEFUL NEW YEAR.

**EXAM RESULTS**

The end of year exam results sat in October 2019 produced another set of very pleasing results. The students achieved 2 As, 3 Bs with the remaining students achieving Cs with 1 exception. The students and staff are all to be congratulated. We also feel it is important to not sugarcoat our news so we feel it is very important to acknowledge that the one student who failed her exam had not long before suffered a serious sexual assault. The fact she sat it at all is a testament to her courage and determination. She is to be congratulated too! And we are sure she will succeed next year when she resits her exam.

**HIGH DEMAND FOR PLACES**

Given the very good exam results not only this year but also in previous years it is hardly surprising that the school enjoys a high reputation. Nearly 60 students are already due to be registered to sit their exams towards the end of 2020. As a consequence demand for places continues to grow. Following our recruitment for places next year we still have a waiting list of 150 students! Catherine herself describes the situation as 'heartbreaking'. They all had the primary results to qualify for secondary education but cannot pay. All are either orphans or from destitute families. If we had a magic wand that could magic up the money we could take perhaps another 40 but the other 110 even with a shoehorn could not be accommodated until we can increase the physical school size. This is something we are currently applying to do. Actually being able to do this will require funds be available to allow further building to go ahead. Recent changes in the legislation will now require all funds to be readily available before any work can start. Catherine will indeed have an almost impossible task on deciding who to admit.

For your information - it costs only £25 per month to cover the costs of an additional student at Operation Imprezza. If you do not already please join our many supporters who give regularly. You can set up a Standing Order (see below) and if you gift aid your donation the value of your donation increases in value by 25% at no cost to you! Pictured right are two girls who still live in mud huts but were rescued by Catherine and now attend Imprezza and are in Form 1.



## ARRIVAL OF MASSAI STUDENTS.

After a long 15 hour journey from Aitong in Narok which is in the Massai Mara, a group of massai adults and 4 students (2 boys and 2 girls) arrived at Imprezza Academy. They want the girls to be saved from FGM so asked for them to remain at Imprezza for the next 4 years so they can also be educated. All four of the students have completed their primary education. The 2 boys will return during the holidays but will need to be collected as they will not know where the families are as they are nomadic. None of the accompanying adults group speak any English. They heard about Imprezza Academy on the radio and how they sponsored needy students. One of the men who accompanied the group has offered to stay and work at the school in return for board and lodgings. Apparently the families sold two cows to fund their trip with a little left over towards their keep. That is a huge sacrifice for them as Massai wealth is judged on the number of cattle they have. It shows how keen the parents are for Imprezza to look after their children. Apparently they were amazed at the permanent buildings and it was the first time in their lives they had not slept in a temporary hut which is normally put up and taken down as they move around.

We sent our congratulations to Catherine for taking the decision to protect the girls. They will be very welcome at Imprezza where they will be loved, cared for and educated.

Catherine our founder outside the school gate with our new arrivals.



## CATHERINE FOUNDER OF IMPREZZA ACADEMY

Whenever Catherine has the opportunity to speak she takes it. Whether in a tv studio as you see here or on radio or to live audiences. She has also spoken at various functions including at the American Embassy and the topics include equal opportunities, progress in development, health, education and living standards. In the photo Catherine is engaged in a discussion on peace. Clearly word is spreading about Imprezza as the story above illustrates. The number of students now and previously in Imprezza have come from far and wide and from different tribal backgrounds and in Imprezza they learn and live together in peace and harmony.



## FORTHCOMING EVENTS IN 2020

VALENTINE'S BALL - Saturday 15th February at TEIGNMOUTH GOLF CLUB (See poster above) We are still looking for sponsors for each of the ten tables. So far 4 companies have agreed to sponsor this event)

MOONSTONES PRESENT - MURDER AT MARCO'S!! - Thursday 12th March in Budleigh Salterton at Marco's Italian restaurant. Tickets £25 to include Italian meal.

MOONSTONES TO PRESENT ANOTHER MURDER MYSTERY - THE VILLAGE FAYRE MURDER!- Friday 20th March in TRADEWINDS, TEIGNMOUTH. Tickets £27.50 to include a 2 course meal with tea and coffee.

NOW FOR SOMETHING COMPLETELY DIFFERENT - FIREWALKING! - 24th April at DAINTON PARK GOLF CLUB. Go to [www.rotarynewtonabbot.uk](http://www.rotarynewtonabbot.uk) for more information or contact [martrcna@outlook.com](mailto:martrcna@outlook.com) There is also more information on our website [www.operation-imprezza.org](http://www.operation-imprezza.org) If you want to take part contact Martin asap and register your interest and state you are raising funds for Operation Imprezza. £25 registration fee. Must be able to obtain sponsorship of at least £75. Please have a go if you dare! PS If you do sign up to support us please let us know as numbers per charity are limited to 8 people. Currently we know of at least 3 people who will be taking part.

QUIZ NIGHT at the ROYAL TORQUAY YACHT CLUB. A new venue for us on THURSDAY 11TH JUNE. To include food. More details to follow.

OTHER EVENTS to include MAKING YOUR OWN GIN. This will be in the Spring at THE WINEBOX, Torquay. This fun experience will cost £50 per head. If interested please contact us. This event is limited to 16 and we already have a number of people interested but happy to run another if demand is there.

IF ANYONE HAS OTHER IDEAS FOR EVENTS OR OTHER VENUES PLEASE DO LET US KNOW.

For more details please visit our website, see our facebook page or reply to this email.  
<http://www.operation-imprezza.org/events.html>

If you would like to receive this newsletter as a printable PDF, please reply to this email. Alternatively, our email archive (including this edition) is available to download at <http://www.operation-imprezza.org/newsletter-archive.html>

Our Mission is to enable students, both boys and girls, who would not otherwise have any access to secondary education to succeed.

----- How You Can Help -----

Did you know you can help raise money for Imprezza when you shop online? Or when you want to get rid of your car? To read more about these easy ways to support Imprezza, please visit <http://www.operation-imprezza.org/donate.html> and scroll down to 'Other ways to donate'

For those of you who use Amazon (and I do A LOT!) please register through your existing account and sign up for [smile.amazon.co.uk](http://smile.amazon.co.uk) and nominate Operation Imprezza We will receive 0.5% on every purchase made at no extra cost to you! PLEASE GIVE IT A TRY. IF YOU DO LET US KNOW.

- Online: We have several ways to donate online, including Virgin Giving (<https://virginmoneygiving.com>) and PayPal. Visit our website at [www.operation-imprezza.org](http://www.operation-imprezza.org) and click on the 'donate' button for more information.

- Cash Donation: Make a cash donation to one of the Trustees or Operation Imprezza collection boxes around South Devon. Please do not send any cash in the post. If you know an establishment that would be willing to have a collection box on display, please get in touch.

- Standing Order: To set up a standing order please contact [info@operation-imprezza.org](mailto:info@operation-imprezza.org)

- Cheque: Send a cheque payable to Operation Imprezza to 14 Elm Grove, Teignmouth, Devon TQ14 8SA

- Legacy: If you would like to leave a gift in your will, please visit our website and click on 'donate' to read more about your options, or get in touch via email or post.

We are also open to any fundraising idea or event, please visit our website at [www.operation-imprezza.org](http://www.operation-imprezza.org) and click on the 'donate' button for more information, or contact [info@operation-imprezza.org](mailto:info@operation-imprezza.org).

Thank you!