

AwF Newsletter dated 14 June 2005

The following news items have been extracted from our website:

14 June 2005

AwF CHANGING ITS WEBSITE SERVER

AwF is just starting the process of moving our website to the WAS (World Aquaculture Society) server.

It is hoped that this will make it easier for us to add new pages, fresh news items, and photographs, as well as to update donor's lists, etc. ourselves.

We are extremely grateful to our old friends at NACA for managing the website for us up till now and apologize for all the demands that we have made on their personal time. Their work during our first year of operations has been invaluable.

We hope that our readers will bear with us during this transitional phase and we apologize in advance for any difficulties that you may have experienced in gaining access to our website.

14 June 2005

AwF TEAM REACHES THE FINAL IN THE MARLOW DRAGON BOAT RACES

Sophie & Michael Varley, daughter and son-in-law of the AwF Chairman Michael New, raised money for AwF by getting sponsorship for entries in the dragon boat races during the family day of the Marlow Regatta in England on 12 June 2005.

One crew was entirely composed of AwF team members; two others contained mixed crews. All our supporters wore T-shirts with AwF marked on them. Our crew members came from local footballers (who also play under the AwF name) and British Airways staff members from Heathrow, London. The AwF secretary, Lorrae Hayes, was also a crew member.

In all, 32 teams competed. The main AwF crew was very successful, reaching the final and achieving the second-best course time of the day (1 min 35.33 secs over 250 metres).

We do not yet know how much money was raised for AwF by this initiative but it was

considerable (we will update this news item later). It has certainly raised the profile of aquaculture in our local area! Later we will post some photographs of this event.

AwF is very grateful for this initiative and hopes that this news item will give others ideas about how they could raise money locally for our activities.

30 May 2005

AwF STARTS ITS THIRD PROJECT IN ACEH

Through the generosity of YSI and the WAS Tsunami Relief Fund, AwF has been able to commence a third project in Aceh, Indonesia, with a budget of approximately US\$ 15,000. The grant has been disbursed by WAS and is being monitored by AwF.

This project will enable the rehabilitation of two small-scale shrimp hatcheries in Pasi lhok Village, Kembang Tanjung Sub-district, Pidie District and Rheum Baroh Village, Simpang Mamplam Sub-district, Bireun District. Each will have an estimated production of 5 million shrimp postlarvae with 6 cycles/yr.

Many hatcheries were totally destroyed in the tsunami and the AwF assistance will help to provide some small-scale farmers with the juvenile shrimp to stock their renovated grow-out ponds.

28 May 2005

SALE OF PAINTING RAISES MONEY FOR AwF

A painting given to the AwF Chairman (Michael New) by a satisfied aquaculture client during his free-lance consultancy days has been sold by him to raise funds for AwF.

This painting of an aboriginal Australian was by Hugh Sawrey and was entered in a Bonhams sale in Sydney, where it exceeded its reserve price. After auctioneers' charges, the net sum raised was £1,841 (approx. US\$ 3,350).

This substantial donation will be entered in the AwF donors list as being from the late Philip Sandyland (Australia).

24 May 2005

KEVIN FITZSIMMONS BECOMES THE FIRST AwF VOLUNTEER IN THE FIELD

Dallas Alston was the first AwF volunteer to provide technical advice under the AwF banner. This went to Professionals International, who are operating in the tsunami-devastated areas of Aceh, Indonesia and approached AwF for help after accessing this website.

Now Kevin Fitzsimmons (immediate Past-President of WAS) has become the first AwF volunteer to provide on-site help, not only to this project but also to the two other AwF initiatives in the same area that were funded by YSI through the WAS Tsunami Relief Fund. Kevin is now working to develop further assistance projects for this area, in which AwF hopes to participate.

Kevin will be writing some articles on these topics shortly.

AwF is very grateful to these practical pioneers!

20 May 2005

ASIA-PACIFIC CHAPTER OF WAS SUPPORTS AwF

At a recent board meeting of the Asia-Pacific Chapter of the World Aquaculture Society, it was decided to make a grant to AwF of US\$ 1,000.

AwF is deeply grateful for this new donation.