



Oral health for everyone

ATS News

Afrikaada TeethSavers

ATS News nr 1 - april 2010

The joy of a job well done

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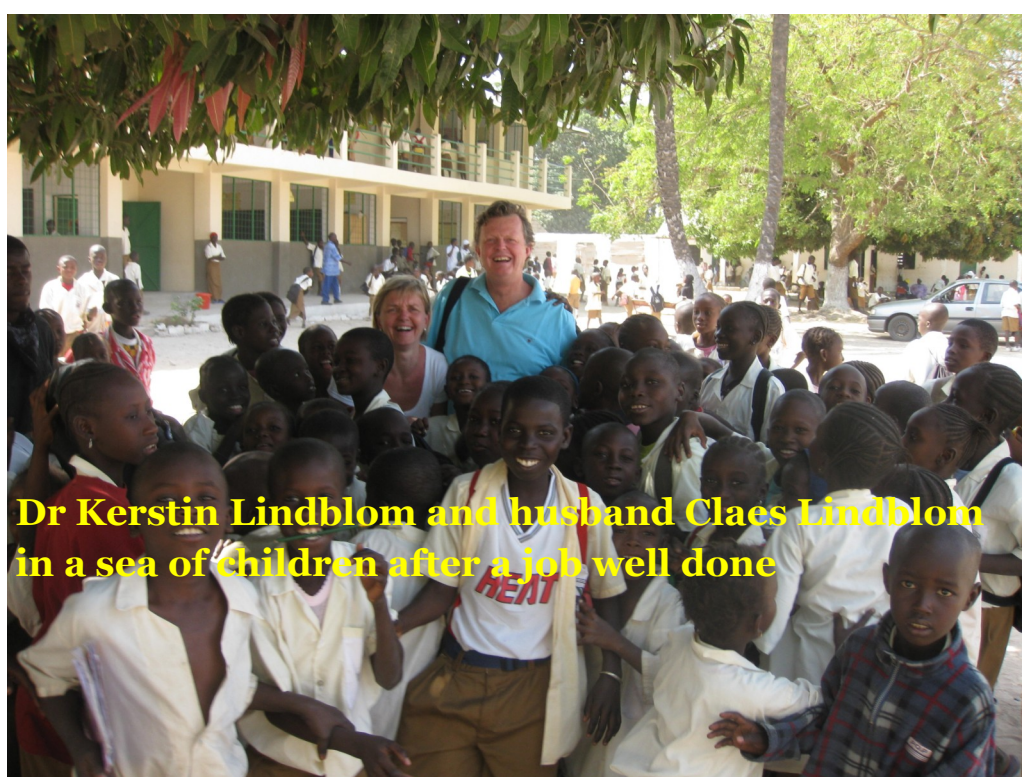
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Dr Kerstin Lindblom and husband Claes Lindblom in a sea of children after a job well done



At the ATS annual meeting in march 2010 **Rebecca Rutzell**, DDS, was elected new treasurer for a period of 2 years. During 2009 Rebecca spend about 1/2 the year in Gambia working

A lifetime working experience

During 2 weeks in January of 2010 dentist Kerstin Lindblom and her husband Claes traveled with ATS as volunteers. You can guess what kind of work Kerstin did being a dentist, but what did the businessman Claes do while the wife was extracting away? Besides from taking very nice pictures around the sites where Kerstin worked, he also did an amazing job with the students making sure they were involved. He also developed into a very good assistant, cleaning and handing out whatever

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This made Claes react and NOPALE came into existence

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the once treating the patients needed. But the real great thing that Claes did was to observe and act. So on his initiative Afrikaada Gambia and Afrikaada Senegal laid the foundation for **NOPALE** (no pollution and littered environment). One of the direct consequences is that whenever ATS and Afrikaada visits a school, we have to make the school children help clean their own school yard and help them to understand the importance of a clean environment.

Dr Kerstin had her days cut out visiting schools, treating school children and at the same time teach the Afrikaada students about practical dentistry. We thank her greatly for doing an excellent job.

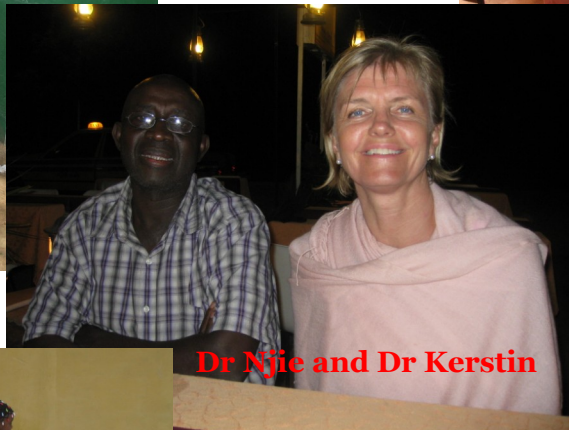
This trip was Kerstin and Claes' first trip to Senegal but their second to The Gambia. Since they came into the challenge with a complete open mind they had a wonderful experience. They tried new food, new costumes, made lots of new friends, got a understanding of some of the struggles that people in Gambia and Senegal meet on a daily basis. They meet everyone with a smile. Kerstin danced at a street party in Kaolack and had time to meet with Dr Njie, head of the Gambian dentists but also Kerstin's old classmate from dental school in Stockholm.

Thank you

*If you want to
volunteer
contact us
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First day in the field for Jainaba Bah and Dr Kerstin



Dr Njie and Dr Kerstin



Coffee break with The Lindbolms

A word from the Afrikaada students in The Gambia

Afrikaada Gambia has since the summer of 2008 conducted introductions courses to dentistry. The idea was originally to fill our own needs of field worker. We are now working on establishing a more qualified education.

During the ATS visit in January and February of this year, these students worked with the dentists in the field. They assisted dentists, cleaned instruments, contacted schools, translated and much more. We couldn't have done our job without them.

We let some of these students tell us a bit about themselves. Here is some of what they wrote.

-I'm **Alpha o. Sey**, am 20 yrs of age. I'm studying because I want to be a dentist as my country is lacking dentist. I want to help my country in development of oral health.

- My name is **Jainaba Bah** I am 20 years old. I was a commerce student and I joined Afrikaada three month back, and am further my education. I want to serve the people of my country and others.

-My name is **Malick Jatta** I'm 21 year old. After high school I went on studying IT for 4 months. I have not completed my studies because of the principal ran away with our money and he also have loans from the banks of The Gambia then the banks close the institution that's how I stop my studies. Then I sat down for 9 months doing nothing, which was very sad and bad for me. A neighbor told me about Afrikaada course on dentistry. He called Mr. Sowe, who is a very good man, and told about me and we agreed on me coming to join Afrikaada, that's how I started. I want to be good at dentistry because in The Gambia there are not many dentists, which is not good for a developing country, like The Gambia, that's why Mr. Sowe tell us to learn and to know many things in life so that we can develop our country. We are the youth we should try to develop our country so that when the next generation come they can take over what we have started to develop.

- I am **Fatou Jagne** I'm 20 years old. I'm the vice president of Afrikaada international program.

- My name is **Modou Lamin Janko**, I am 20 years old. I have the ambition to pursue a career in dentistry. I enjoyed my trips with Jette and Kerstin during our visits to the project schools for treatment.

- My name is **Alfusainey Ann**. I'm a 23 year old Gambian. Health has always been my future career, because I always love the attitude of helping and recurring peoples life. I was introduced to this institution by my own brother who was working with a German organization. I was very much impressed to heard the news from my brother that Afrikaada will be conducting and organizing a dental class in The Gambia which really motivates me to pressure my career as dental nurse. I have always been dreaming to work in the health in the Gambia, which Afrikaada has help and aided me to do

- My name is **Awa Sowe** I'm 23 years old. When I completed grad nine I went in for voluntary at Mansakonko Health Center. Has worked as a teacher and gone back to school. At Afrikaada School am responsible for the sports program.



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your name, e-mail and cell phone number
so we can contact you

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Rapport from a suitcase

During March and April Lars Göran Wörn, DDS, spent 3 weeks in Gambia mainly to organize matters at his private clinic in Koto but he also managed to work with ATS matters. Rashid one of his dentists is organizing a visit with a Spanish team that has promised, to amongst other materials leave a mobile unit behind. - Old friend English dentist Victoria Polland also spend some quality ATS time. Both Dr Polland and Dr Wörn took a day of and worked at the largest school in Serre Kunda extracting a number of badly damaged teeth. They also had a first hand view of the building site at Afrikaada Center in Pipeline, where classroom and clinic are on the way. Together with Afrikaada coordinator Sammba Sowe LGW meet with FIOH to hopefully organize travelling and treatment. LGW had a "new" unit installed in his private clinic. The unit is a gift from a FTV clinic in Region Skåne. At the same time 5 units were donated to ATS from the same clinic. Two of this are at the Mame Astou Janha Basic School in Kaolack in Senegal awaiting installment at the schools health center. The other 3 are to be installed in The Gambia. We are grateful to have received this gifts, they will make our job so much easier in the future - **thank you so much.**



Pictures showing the new constructions at Afrikaada Center, where classrooms and clinic will be housed. Also showing Dr Polland working at one of our project schools and meeting with Afrikaada coordinator in Gambia Sammba Sowe.

Check it out!

www.afrikaadats.com

Check out our new website. The website has been on it's way for a long time, but just before our annual meeting in march it "came to life". Just as the ATS logo the website is created by Joacim Gamme and Victor Smide. Both are students at The Linnéuniversity in Kalmar.
Thank you - great job both of you