**AN ACCOUNT OF THE DAY’S EVENTS …**

**YES, WE DID IT...BY GOD, WE DID IT!!!**
Quintessential - Unique - Fabulous - Ladies

It is an understatement to say, I am beaming, bursting almost to point of combustion with pride......

after all the '**manyanga**', I am fully recovered, rejuvenated and energized again!  Yes, **WE** did it!

Never before in the UK, have we witnessed an assemblage of **90 Sakerettes** in one location!!

It was a joyous sight to behold!

Please indulge me, as I provide an account of the day.....from my perspective:::

**CATERING**

It was an early start for the Catering Ladies ensuring that the Chew-ables were delectable and sensitive palates catered

for**(you see....we had internal Quality Control - Lady K and Mrs Hand - Domestic Science ability to contend**

**with)**! By all accounts - the Ladies delivered and the food was QC stamped with an**A\*** rating on Taste, Texture,

Presentation and excellent utilization of the right condiments!

**DECORATION**

Decoration team transformed the Church hall into a room befitting of an English Dinner Celebration albeit on tight budget.

It was top notch, QC approved and lauded by all! The table names (commemorating all past principals, houses including

our cooks Mr Ojong and Mr Francis), the confetti's, the colourful Balloons, Gold Napkins, Table setting

(white table cloth with Turquoise runners) and the little 'cadeaux' so thoughtfully placed on the table for our guests were

all little 'touches' which gave it the Elegance and Grandeur that can only be delivered by Sakerettes...it was a class act!!

**TEA**

The Tea Ladies served the 'Cuppa', Cakes and Chin Chin with such grace, I was instantly tele-ported to an English

Tea Party in Buckingham Palace....in the royal gardens, enjoying a refreshing drink (thoughtfully

catering for the Herbal appetites with Sweeteners and Honey), in the warm English sunshine (guaranteed by my

phone call placed earlier in the week to BBC Coventry & Warwickshire)! Such class beautifully served in Historic

Coventry - the City of Peace & Reconciliation!

**COMPOSURE**

No! I was not disappointed...exit the 'stiff British upper lip', buttoned up emotions and conservative restrain...and usher in Saker DNA!
I heard the squeals, I saw the hugs, witness the laughter and genuine joy in the re-establishment of lost relationships - even
Pastor Neville had a hard time ushering us back in for the second session. It was wonderful and I don't think the pictures did
it justice to portray the Love that exuded from all Sisters in attendance - Long live Love, Unity and Sisterhood!

**APPEARANCE**

There was no 'Salamanda' or 'lean on me' in sight *(Jimmy Choo eat your heart out!)* because the pointininis were visible in all colours!!
The co-ordination (to-match) from the Jewelry, Nail art work, matching cardigans - would have moved Fashionistas to declare -

Fabulousity was en-vogue in spiffing form! The designs and patterns - creativity at its best...from ready-made in Cameroon,

to UK produced and even personal creations...and there I was thinking Turquoise was a difficult colour to work with!

The Coiffure....the 'gele'...plus 'Mami Wata' hair....ah - Chantal Biya's hair dresser
had been busy! For my sisters who 'leb' with no uniform - the improvisation was 'helele'...seeing Sis Celine 'wrap' the fabric around
her 'designer outfit', to the knotting around waist and even the casual draping of the material over the shoulder -
ensured we painted Coventry Gold! Such Elegance....!!

**CHURCH**

The Organ led singing was angelic...it ensured I was 'Stepping in the Light' as 'My Anchor firmly hold' and continue to 'Sing the Wondrous Love of Jesus'! Sis Irene's delivery of the history of Saker was such fun, elaborate.....even reminiscing about that dreaded Saker bell ring! With quaking knees -
Milly got through the second reading and Sis Mary's deliverance of Psalms 67 - sent me right back to Religious Studies class with Pa Haddison!
And for those who were not privy to be sitting behind Mr Hand (I was) and witness the - hand pumping in the air ....on the line...**'Physics are subjects we enjoy'**during the Alumni Song....what a paparazzi moment! The message from Rev Neville still resonates with me: We are a family...
lovingly put together by God...and should not wait too long to meet again, especially to sing the wonderful harmonies and melodies!

**MR HAND's PRESENTATION**

Seeing the beautiful presentation lovingly put together by **Monsieur le main**....reinforced the legacy and principles Saker has bestowed on
each and every one of us....a marvelous gift! To imagine, this gentleman kept records of his books, pictures and shared memories of his
time in Saker reiterates the importance of why we should cherish Saker even more! Yes 'Saker went through' You...as well as the Tutors too!

**SOUVENIR**

Did you get one? I know you saved enough....so you shouldn't 'have empty handed go'? The stand was dutifully manned
with diligent and exquisite customer service! We still have loads! The gift tokens of key rings and Fridge Magnets
was a sure hit!! Yesterday, I presented Mugs, T-shirt and Pens to Rev Keith, John Pither (the Organist), Graham Carpmail
(Church Manager) and Colin (the Church Warden) who were absolutely delighted with the gifts...and thanked you all!!

**BUFFET DINNER**

Yes 'Father Abraham' was awoken from his slumber.......flaring hands, stampede on the stage...and I felt

'His Banner over me' and my dismal attempt at 'One way to Peace to the Power of the Cross' only goes to echo Father Neville's

appeal that we **should not leave it too long...to sing again...and shoot the devil with the gospel gun!** The ringing of the
Saker bell (yes we got the replica)...even though we omitted to inform the Bell Prefect in attendance - was a hit and to wrap it all
the 'Happy Birthday' sung Saker Style - was the crowning glory! Not forgetting - the roll call and gold bands...with precision 'policing' gave
British 'Mbeles' a run for their money!

**CAKE**

The Cake and its colouring...simple (not overly exorbitant) and well presented was splendid indeed. Who would have thought a

rendition of 'The Frogs at School' rhyme could be utilised for a cake ceremony - only a Sakerette (and a Victoria Gal)...could pull

that off! Inviting the 'Dinosaurs' and Mrs Hand to preside over the cake cutting with its firework candles was certainly a stroke of genius! ......89 Frogies grew up fast....not one lesson they forgot!
So...to Mr & Mrs Hand for such a fabulous presentation; to the various organising Teams; Sis Celine - for flying
all the way from Naija land to attend this event - demonstrating your endearing and loving commitment to the Association; Our
international jet-setters from France, Germany and Italy; to all those who travelled from North, South, East and West
to converge in Coventry - a profound and heartfelt thank you to One and ALL for making the day a pleasant, joyous and
memorable one....not forgetting our MC for the night! It was an Amazing day!

**WHAT NEXT.....**

So to the North & South Regions...Midland has thrown down the gauntlet....did I hear whispers of a BBQ in June to **'back it back'**?

EXSSA UK has set the Standard, its amazing what can be achieved with minimal contribution.......It seemed insurmountable and daunting but
with the British 'bull dog spirit' we soldiered on with determination ......a task only Saker girls could have delivered .....! Yes we did it....!

Roll on **September**....no flash, no fanfare......just archetypal English Elegance, Panache...by Quintessential Sakerettes!

My sisters....I salute you all!! Well done, One and All! Infectious enthusiasm is certainly a 'disease' to be added to the medical books
with the antidote of 'Owele'....still looking for that English equivalent!!

See you all soon and watch out for our next bulletin!

Take care and God bless you all...

Sincerely

Dialle Mofa Takang
EXSSA UK - Midlands