

BIRMINGHAM 2012

From: EDITH FIELDING <Edithfielding@hotmail.com>

To: exssauk@yahogroups.com; "mizboh@yahoo.com" <mizboh@yahoo.com>; "patfielding@aol.com" <patfielding@aol.com>

Sent: Monday, 1 October 2012, 21:38

Subject: RE: [EXSSAUK] Thank you for choosing EXSSA UK! We glittered!

Dialle, I hear you! Birmingham was Love, unity and sisterhood personified! Boy did we step out! "Mea culpa" for taking this long, chiming in. I was taking my time descending from Seventh Heaven and lingered along the way in search of the right words. Yes indeed, the event was a come and see "British wonder" In fact I am at loss of where to begin.

....there are so many stories to tell....too many lives are intertwined with Saker Baptist College;Yes, Saker has not only shaped destinies but this very institution is consumed by multitudes of lives....lives jostling and shoving inside her...and out of these multitudes so many lives stood out, and without even trying, showcased their story.

The Convention team was phenomenal. Hats off to Dialle, our Organizer-in-Chief and her Committee of dedicated members who worked tirelessly to showcase a flurry of events and epitomized what Saker stands for- hospitality at its finest!

She not only knocked us dead as Multi-tasker-in-chief but challenged each of us to put our best foot forward in this endeavour....radiating her signature charisma, she worked her magic and mobilized all for a good cause.....To you and your convention team...Well done Indeed!

The guests were not only entertained but feasted until they all had to show up for confession the next day- Okay so I too committed the cardinal sin - gluttony, but who could blame us?

The tables groaned under the weight of the display of fine English cuisine. Mouth-watering, salads laughed disdainfully at roast beef as they all competed for our attention. The *poulet braise* looked so plump and content even in death that you would imagine these birds offered themselves up for sacrifice proudly....Did I say we had died and gone to heaven? Yes indeed, we were in culinary paradise...!

Who could forget that competitive team spirit which has fuelled us all to become the best of our better selves, manifested during hilarious games of three-legged races, handball, and relays? Pure, mindless fun! We simply re-defined the word "fun."

Inter-House completion anyone?...

Martine, ashia for the accident oh! Just so you know, I have enrolled at the *Ecole de Footballeurs* to polish my goal keeping skills.. *La prochaine fois*, Midland girls, Doreen watch out !! No level of Roger Miller or Eto'o skills will get that ball past my goal post.

Cecil, Njie, Yoti, Playne, Hilda, Vivian, Jane, and all the young generation Sakerettes, thank you from the core!

Sis Janet could not contain her pride at such fanfare. Her kind words were reminder of the values instilled in Saker which were in full display, laced of course, with just the right amount of show-show....

And the Gala ...ooh the gala... infused with wise words from women who have made our tutors proud. Sis Mary's opening prayer put God right back in the centre of the evening's activities...

And the sartorial statements! Gorgeous ladies sporting the latest fashions and designers of all shades and hue....Simply breathtaking! The sparkling champagne reception, interspersed with an array of foot-tapping, finger-clicking music teased the fancy footwork out of even the most shy amongst us- dancing to our hearts' content boogeying, zenge-ing, ndombolo-ing, the night was filled with awe-inspiring, gasp-inducing, non-stop cocktail of activities and key note addresses.

Sister Kofo, in her speech challenged us to inspire, embrace, and appreciate. What do oh so well in... Love, Unity and Sisterhood! No trailer, ngongoro or even Razel, could have broken the unity, love and sisterhood that oozed from us.

Egbe Mbiwan Monjimbo, Saker's Historian and Scribe par excellence was recognized for her tirelessness, selflessness and dedication to Saker Baptist College as evidenced on Saker website.

Lady K took us down memory lane with a fashion display of Saker uniforms, past and present, giving the Fashion Houses, a run for their money!!

To crown it all, meeting my very own English teacher, Mrs Grace Kaba put the cherry atop the cream! What a night!

The church service was spiritually uplifting. Even Reverend Ramble could not help himself; he praised the selflessness of Saker tutors like Miss Binder, Miss Kern et al, and gazed with admiration at the colourful outfits. The singing in the church and all the way to the hotel was truly remarkable. Matter of fact, the entire city stopped dead in her tracks at the echo of our voices!

We expected nothing but the best from our fellow quintessential ladies, and indeed, we were not disappointed. My very own Carats who tagged along could not help but notice the exuberance and welcoming spirit. Each invitee was enveloped into the fold and made to feel part of the vibrant sisterhood. It was inspiring to hear and bear witness to such success

stories, as mothers, daughters, tutors and children were united to celebrate fifty years of excellence. Surrounded by reunited classmates, the atmosphere was undeniably infectious!

Oh la! la!! EXSSA UK has indeed beaked its way out into the open, moist and bright future...
Mais quelle merveille!! ...and like the new grass that sprouts after the long icy winter; she is now bidding her time in preparation for the World Stage.....Need I say more? *A nous revoir!*

Rendez-vous a Paris ! March 2013!

LOVE, UNITY & SISTERHOOD !!!!

Edith Fielding

P.S....Comment dit-on 'lebber' en Francais?

To: exssauk@yahoogroups.com

From: dialle_mofa_takang@yahoo.co.uk

Date: Wed, 12 Sep 2012 01:12:01 +0100

Subject: [EXSSAUK] Thank you for choosing EXSSA UK! We glittered! [1 Attachment]

[Attachment(s) from Dialle Mofa Takang included below]

Resplendent Quintessential LADIES,

Did we have a ball? Did we excel? Did we glitter? Did we roar with pride? You bet we did and more...*(shame on you, if you were a Thomas)*! Your fantastic and formidable Convention Team delivered! They worked tirelessly and produced a masterpiece, a first class grandiose event. They re-established the Saker brand in the UK! They re-energised our platform for all upcoming EXSSA UK activities. They re-instated our benchmark! Our patrons now know what to expect from Sakerettes in the UK. And the killer masterpiece - we raised funds for our Projects too!

- I can give you anecdotal accounts from the event...*Sister Mary almost own goal in handball, Sister Edith & Ernestine in Wheelbarrow race - going backwards instead of forward, Sister Patience disqualifying South Region in Thread & Needle race, the Midlands échauffe...led by Nya.*
- I can recount some funny happenings...*Dibo on the dance floor, the 'toga' uniforms on Pam, Mandip & Playne (we swaggered in them without a care in the world), Mandip & Embelle in tripping in three legged race...my pronouncement at all to show their hands ('dem pin & tie Midlanders')....*
- I can enunciate the memorable moments....*Lady K en vogue in true Quintessential Form, Auntie Kofo flawless delivery of her masterpiece keynote speech in affinity with our theme, Rev Ramble's sermon on Sunday...Auntie Jane's cake cutting with the Methuselah & Benjamins (the Cake..hmmm...well done Belle Ntuba).*
- The singing....oh the singing! You know...when its inherent in you, no one, absolutely no one can take that from you! None of the guests could believe, we had no rehearsal.....we just did our thing...the photos don't do any justice to the 'Nebuchadnezzar' swagger from Church to the courtyard BBQ!

Embarking on our maiden convention here in the UK.....a mammoth undertaking, an uphill struggle and an almost insurmountable task...but with bulldog spirit and determination, delivered with panache, verve and full on Saker show-show culminated with an almost flawless event! And even after the gala night...the donations are still coming in! Our patrons were completely enthralled and vowed to provide future tremendous support.....!!

You are termed Quintessential Ladies because YOU are, in any setting....Home, Church and Everywhere! You were described as Resplendent because YOU don't need to metamorphose into one....we look good in anything, period!

It is your DNA - and given the right platform...you exhale and soar....You are GOLD!

Feast your eyes.....

<https://picasaweb.google.com/etheltakang/EXSSAUKCONVENTION2012?authkey=Gv1sRgCKXHo72FhPw4#5787036119428005970>

To the Convention Team - Thank you...and I salute your gallant efforts, sleepless nights of worry, endless hard-work, valour and chivalry. Just to highlight a few of the marvellous activities you orchestrated....

- Njie: for scouting the location, negotiating the t&c's (*and Cynthia for securing our 10% discount as an Alumni of Aston University*). Programme printing and my constant companion in 'worry and anxiety land' of Numbers, Money and all things Convention! Lest I forget - an impressive seller of Raffle tickets (she sold over £500...to all...*you fit sell ice for eskimo*)
- Yoti: for expediting the Raffle ticket prints, managing our accounts and holding steadfast to the budget and purse strings notwithstanding my dismal attempts to obtain more funding for creative ideas (*how many times did I hear.... 'we no get money'*). Another assistant in the 'worry and anxiety land', securing donations from your clients with no knowledge of Saker....as well the grand seller of more than £600 Raffle tickets...I bow to your sales skills!!
- Hilda: for your relentless efforts to secure guests tickets, raffle ticket sales, purchasing the Kindle...and volunteering to model the uniforms (*which I forgot to inform you it was time to do the catwalk...hence one uniform was not worn on the day...ooops, Sorry girl!*)
- Linda: for sewing the Saker Uniforms which formed part of the parade and showcase on the day...so sad you missed it all.
- Playne: for securing funding we so desperately needed; steadfastly ploughing on with Raffle Ticket Sales within your Region (despite the odds...Ashia), purchasing the DVD and bravely modelling the 'toga' uniforms on the day.
- Cecile: for diligently checking the accounts daily to remind us of what was in our coffers and coordinating activities within your Region.....I am sure the Natwest Bank Manager knows you personally with the countless errands executed...
- Janet: for coordinating activities in the South, against all the obstacles, you soldier on as a true Sakerette determined and destined for Success
- Sharon: for monitoring Raffle ticket sales in the North, assisting Playne and your relentless efforts to secure ticket sales.
- Melvis: the star of Raffle ticket sales (she sold £460) outside the original Convention Team. Drafted in late - you soared with Raffle and Guest ticket sales
- Gladys: the self proclaimed EXSSA UK Marketing manager! You sold the brand (out of your own pocket) and secured much needed ticket sales.
- Sister Dupe, Sister Pauline, Sister Tina, Doris, Dora, Doreen....for mucking in on Friday with the Convention team to assemble our Booklet, Name Tags, Menu cards etc.....we sang as we worked our way through the night into the early morning, packaging each souvenir bag!

It has been a fundamental achievement and I can categorically say with my head held high, I am one proud Sakerette!

Thank you to all who personally sacrificed time, effort and expenses to make it happen...we would not have done it without your help.

Thanks to all who chose EXSSA UK, forsaking work, family and other commitments...your support and contribution made it a grand occasion.

Thank you to all who chose to support Saker Baptist College...your legacy and contribution are testament to lessons and values learnt in Saker.

Thank you for choosing to Appreciate and Embrace others and most especially for Inspiring a generation. By their deeds you shall know them...

In Faith you chose to support a vision, In Hope you wished for better happenings and in Love, Unity and Sisterhood, we excelled 'with one mind'!

Thank you...Sakerettes....Thank you one and all!

The Convention Team will be extending appreciation and gratitude to all Donors, Sponsors and Patrons...for their participation, contribution and magnanimous support accorded.

I will issue out the minutes of the General Assembly after the Convention team round up conference call this weekend (**Big Key Decisions:** Registration to EXSSA UK now increased to £20 a year! Regions levied to pay £500 into EXSSA UK coffers and our next General Meeting before 2013 convention will be held in Paris in March - Gay Paris...nous voilà!!) Lastly, Save the Date...EXSSA UK Convention 31st August 2013!

Keep well one and all.

In Love, Unity & Sisterhood

Dialle Mofa Takang

N/B: For all LEBBERS...I will issue out the Sermon by Rev Ramble, Auntie Kofo's keynote Speech as well as Lady K speech in due course!