



The Ghanaian Community in Geneva *Newsletter*

April 2016 Edition

MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE

Dear Compatriots,

The Executive of the Ghanaian Community in Geneva (GCG), extends warm regards to Ghanaians and friends of Ghana in Geneva and its environs (which includes Canton Vaud and neighbouring France).

This is the maiden edition of the GCG newsletter. The aim of this 6-monthly newsletter is to keep Ghanaians in Geneva and its environs informed on matters and events within the Community. This edition covers events between January and September. The next edition will be published in early October.

During the first quarter of 2016, we focussed on developing a draft 2-year plan for the GCG. The draft plan will be presented during the first General Assembly meeting scheduled for 14th May 2016. Our draft 2-year plan has events for children, adults, and projects to donate items to deprived communities in Ghana. There are also events to promote a positive image of Ghana. You will have an opportunity to make inputs into these plans.

Next year will be particularly important as we celebrate Ghana@60. As we set up ad hoc committees to plan for the celebrations, we will count on your full support. We are open to new ideas and suggestions. Do not hesitate in sharing your ideas with us through:

ghanagenevacommunity@gmail.com

With your support, we will contribute towards making our stay in Geneva and its environs more interesting.

Long Live Ghana and Long Live the Ghanaian Community in Geneva.

Thank You.

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EVENTS IN GENEVA (FIRST QUARTER)

(A) GENEVA WELCOMES HIS EMINENCE CARDINAL TURKSON



His Eminence Cardinal Peter Turkson, President, Pontifical Council for Justice & Peace paid a 3-day working visit to Geneva and was Guest Speaker at the *"Caring For Our Common Home"* Conference. Cardinal Turkson also celebrated mass at the Saint John XXIII Parish, Rue de Montbrillant 57 on Sunday 17th January 2016, where a reception was held in his honour. The Ghanaian Community in Geneva invited Ghanaians to attend mass and have an opportunity to interact with His Eminence Cardinal Turkson during the reception.

(B) FOCAL POINTS NOMINATED TO SERVE ON EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

The process of nominating Focal Points to serve on the Executive Committee of the GCG from the different constituencies in which a sizeable number of Ghanaians are represented commenced during the first quarter of 2016. This work is on-going and to date, 10 Focal Points have been nominated from United Nations agencies, Churches and the Private Sector.

The Focal Points will serve as a crucial link between the Executive and the different constituencies in which Ghanaians are represented within Geneva and its environs.

(C) GHANAIAN COMMUNITY IN GENEVA BANK ACCOUNTS

To facilitate the payment of dues to support planned projects, a new BANK ACCOUNT is being opened for the GCG. The Account details will be sent to you shortly. We encourage all Ghanaians and friends of Ghana to pay their dues of CHF 100 per adult covering the period Nov 2015 to Dec 2016 when they receive details of the new account.

EVENTS IN GENEVA (FIRST QUARTER)

(D) GHANAIS CELEBRATE 59 YEARS OF INDEPENDENCE

Ghanaians and friends of Ghana from all walks of life gathered at the St. Johns XXIII Parish on 6th March 2016 to celebrate 59 years of Independence.

In attendance were the Ambassador of Ghana to Switzerland H.E Mr. Sammie Eddico, Head of the AU H.E. Mr. Jean-Marie Ehouzou, the Ambassador of Uganda to Switzerland H.E. Mr. Christopher Onyanga Aparr and the Chargé d'Affaires of the Togo Mission to Switzerland, Mr. Balom'ma Bedaba.

Ghanaians and friends of Ghana (including our children) from the different churches in Geneva and its environs including Temple of Praise, Bethel Prayer Ministry, Lighthouse Chapel Int., Church of Pentecost, Church of the Nations, Church of the Living Saviour, Crossroads Church, etc, gathered to celebrate and thank God for 59 years of independence.

A reception after the church service provided an opportunity for Ghanaians and friends of Ghana to interact while sharing a meal.

The GCG and the Church Committee wishes to thank all Ghanaians and friends of Ghana who attended the church service

Do not miss the Ghana@60 church service scheduled for **Sunday, 12th March 2017.**



Ideas & Suggestions

Please send your ideas on ways in which we can improve on our Church Service for the Ghana@60 celebrations to the email address: ghanagenevacommunity@gmail.com

EVENTS IN GENEVA—*COMING SOON*



General Assembly Meeting (14th May 2016)

A General Assembly Meeting will be convened on 14th May 2016. The venue will be communicated shortly. The purpose of the General Assembly is to exchange ideas on planned events for the year. Don't miss the first ever General Assembly meeting of the GCG.



Ghana Cultural Day (6th August 2016)

A Ghana Cultural Event is planned for 6th August 2016. This event will showcase the very best of Ghana through our rich culture, food, music, clothing, fashion, dance, traditions, artefacts, etc. **Save the date. You cannot miss this event!!!**



Summer Clothes Collection (Announcement on 1st July 2016)

In support of deprived communities in Ghana, the Ghanaian Community in Geneva will collect clothes, shoes, etc which will be donated to orphanages and deprived communities in Ghana. The announcement will be made on 1st July 2016 (*Republic Day*) and the collection dates and venues will be announced.



Ghana@60 Youth Essay Competition (Announcement on 1st July)

As part of the planned Ghana@60 celebrations, the Church Committee is organizing an essay competition for Ghanaian youth aged between 15–18 years and 19–23 years respectively. The essay competition and all its modalities will be announced on 1st July 2016 (*Republic Day*) through email. Awards for the competition will be presented during the Ghana@60 celebrations in 2017. Parents should encourage their children and wards to take part in this competition to win the attractive prizes.

KNOW YOUR ELECTED EXECUTIVES



Kofi Amekudzi
President



Sheila Addy
Vice President



Enyonam Asafo
Secretary



Edna Osei-Tutu
Org. Secretary



Seth Afari
Treasurer

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