



COPA news

building caring Christian communities

June 2010

Helping Hands

The devastating earthquakes in Haiti left the COPA staff feeling helpless and wanting to do more. There was little that could be done to help their neighbours in Haiti so they looked for ways to help from the DR. Project Director, Connie DiLeo and Amy Edlestein, COPA Health Advisor, helped in the hospital while a US medical team was in the area. A number of Haitians brought in from Haiti through Jimeni received surgery. The patients included a 6 year old girl with a broken leg and severe head trauma, a two week old baby with severe head lacerations, a teen who had her arm amputated and a young woman who is paralyzed below the waist.

Rosalba worked with the youth from the new church and they were a collection point for donations in La Hoya. Donations of supplies, clothes, personal hygiene items and food were made and 4,000 pesos were donated. This was an outstanding effort from the people of La Hoya and Bombita who themselves have so little. Villagers from Bombita acted as interpreters for the casualties and the Project Trust girls were able to spend time supporting children at the hospital.

COPA UK sent money for use by our staff to help with the situation facing them and we also received several donations for the same use. Thank you.

We received some harrowing reports during this time with details of some of the terrible injuries and suffering of the Haitian people who had managed to reach Barahona, telling of nightmare situations.



Our thanks and admiration go to our team in the DR for their exceptional work and resilience during the aftermath of this disaster.



Photos: 1 & 2 - 2 week old baby; 3—six year old girl with broken arm and head lacerations; 4—Medical team and Amy walking to surgery with baby; 5 - Woman paralyzed; 6 - Father is reunited with his daughter.

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Registered Charity No.1027117

Recruitment

COPA currently has vacancies for a Project Director (3 years), a Health Advisor (2 years), and an Educational Advisor (2 years). A local wage is paid and accommodation, a return flight and health insurance is covered by COPA.

A job description, person specification and application form can be found on the COPA website www.copa.org.uk

If you, or anyone you know, would like to be considered for either of these positions or would like to receive more details please contact Christoph Courth (COPA Staffing and Recruitment Officer) at copahr@gmail.com

We are always interested in hearing from anyone who would like to work for COPA.

Joy in the midst of tragedy

When the earthquake struck Haiti on 12th January, Jovani Paredes had already been there for a week. He is the father-in-law of Moises, our 2nd grade teacher in Bombita. He was visiting his family in Leogane about an hour and a half west of the capital Port-au-Prince. Needless to say, as the news filtered through to Bombita about the extent of the damage his family here began to worry. This was intensified by the lack of communication, turning the well known expression "no news is good news" on its head.

After a week of worrying, Moises, accompanied by a friend Antonio, decided to make the journey into Haiti in search of Jovani. It was an hour and a half journey from Bombita to the border town of Jimini and then once into Haiti they continued on public transport for another hour and a half to the capital, Port-au-Prince. Along the route they were saddened to see many houses destroyed and bodies on the streets that were being collected and then buried in a mass grave. There were many small NGOs distributing food and water but they lacked sufficient personnel to aid the organisation of the distribution.

On their arrival in Port-au-Prince they were vaccinated and received face masks to reduce the possibility of them contracting any illnesses. They walked around for several hours taking everything in and meeting people who had been affected by the earthquake, like a man who just needed to unburden himself and talk about his experience. A camp was set up in the central square near the national palace and people had constructed makeshift tents in the streets. The main concern was sanitation due to the lack of toilets. On a positive note, mobile kitchens had been organised to help feed people.

They then travelled west to Leogane using free transport provided by the authorities in an effort to reunite families. Once there they were relieved and overjoyed to find Jovani helping to rebuild his family home. It was ironic that when the family saw Moises and Antonio approaching they began crying because they assumed that someone in the DR had died and that they had come to relay the sad news! Thankfully this was short-lived and once explanations were given they could enjoy the reunion.

They were pleased to see local politicians walking around the town talking with people, offering them comfort. Large cooking stations were set up which gave communities the opportunity to cook and eat together giving them a sense of solidarity.

That night only Moises and Antonio slept in a nearby house as people still suffering from the trauma of the earthquake were too afraid to join them inside, preferring to be out in the open. The next day Moises fully understood this as during the night they experienced three aftershocks, reliving the trauma vividly with each one.

They also travelled a further hour and a half to the southern coastal town of Jacmel which surprisingly had not suffered major damage. After a brief stay it was time to travel north, making their way back to the DR.

On entering the DR they found the Red Cross and Civil Defence stationed in Jimini. They were distributing food and providing medical attention to Haitians that were allowed across the border without papers. However, special police officers were on duty to ensure that once they were treated that they returned to Haiti.

As they had crossed the border late they were not able to transport all the way back to Bombita, walking the last six miles in the dark after being dropped off by a bus on its way to Santo Domingo. They arrived just after midnight to a tired but delighted family.

On reflection, Moises is glad that he went and is already planning his return. For his family it was a happy ending, yet we remember those who mourn the loss of loved ones and we pray that they will find the strength not only to rebuild their lives and homes but also their country.

Verona Smith
Education Adviser



A retirement luncheon was held by COPA on the afternoon of May 27th to celebrate the 30 year service of two La Hoya teachers, Dalila and Elsa. The luncheon was also held in honour of Verona, Education Advisor, and the three Project Trust girls who faithfully taught students all year long. Connie Di Leo opened with a few words of thanks and recognition of the dedication and loyalty of the two teachers and Verona's long service and Ruber Corniel (Headteacher of La Hoya School) followed with further recognition of the teachers' and Verona's long service and hard work and the girls' dedication to teaching.

Merquelin wrote a poem for the two teachers, read it, and presented them each with a copy. Felipe spoke at length about the contribution of the three girls to the COPA La Hoya school and thanked them

for their service. Both Dalila and Elsa said a few words. They each thanked COPA for the opportunity to work here in La Hoya and said that COPA had done a lot for them and for the entire community. Dalila told a very funny story about one time when her skirt had fallen down to her ankles and about how she was able to retrieve it in a ladylike fashion! She also said she had learned a lot at COPA but the one thing she had wished to learn but never could master was "tiempo Americano" referring to her occasional lack of punctuality. It was a very pleasant occasion and the meal served was cooked by our very own La Hoya entrepreneur, Daisy, owner of the Comedor Taveres on the highway. Esperanza gave the blessing.

After the meal, Ruber presented the 2 retirees and the 3 girls with notebooks where those present had written notes and gave each one a hug as if from the whole group. Everyone present enjoyed themselves.

Olivia Hill - Education Advisor



Dalila and Ruber

Guernsey News

This year we are organising a special Speaker Evening and AGM on **Tuesday 28th September**. We are delighted that Sebert Lane, the founder of COPA, accompanied by his wife Doreen, will be the speaker. There will be an evening meal at Les Cotils, making it a special evening, so we hope as many of you as possible will be able to come. Details will be sent to you in due course. **Please put this date in your diaries now!**

As many of you know, I have been involved with COPA for many years, since our daughter Louise went to La Hoya as a volunteer in 1996. However, I have decided to retire as I now feel it is time for someone else to take over the role of Chairman - a new face, new blood and fresh ideas are needed to take the Guernsey Branch forward. So far, I have been unable to find a successor, so I am appealing to all our Sponsors to see if there is anyone who would like to come forward to replace me. COPA UK have offered to take over the Guernsey sponsorship but I believe the local branch has much to offer and it would be such a shame if it has to close due to a lack of Chairman.

If anyone is interested or has any questions, please telephone me on 07781 147699 or Peter and Margaret Keeling on 265200.

Wishing you all a lovely summer,

Jenny Benjamin
Chairman
COPA Guernsey Branch

*This Newsletter
can be viewed
in colour on
our website :
www.copa.org.uk*

Trade Training Rooms

With the electricity and baking classes arranged to begin in June, I brought a list around the village to sign up students for both classes. I met with the baking instructor and got a list of materials that I will need to buy. I will be collecting 100 pesos of contribution to materials from each participant as it is not such a large sum as to be difficult to come up with but enough to indicate an investment in the class and will keep attendance up.

It seems Infotep, the training organization who provide the tutors for the Training Rooms, is having a harder time than they expected finding an instructor for electricity so that class may begin later than expected.

I received several boxes of sewing materials from Jeanne Phillips of the New Covenant Methodist Church in The Villages, Florida, USA. They are hoping to have some dresses made so I've asked around about those that might be interested in working on sewing projects. While sewing seems to be a good skill to have here, making one's own clothes ends up being less economical for those in the batey* than buying ready-made garments, particularly given the availability of cheap used clothing in the market. A class in recycled fashion might be a good way to teach sewing and construction skills with materials that would be more affordable for students to continue on their own. This might be something for the fall. In the meantime, I've inventoried the newly donated items and stored them with the other sewing supplies.

Rachel Bernstein - Administrator

* Bateys—communities where Haitian families live, often near sugar plantations, for example, Bombita

A bit like home already

Earlier this year Rachel Bernstein joined the team of COPA volunteers in the DR as the Administrator. Here are some of her experiences during the first few days in Bombita and La Hoya.

My first day in Bombita and Verona, the education adviser, takes me to visit the school where pre-school through to grade 8 stand to chorus "buenas tardes" each time we enter a classroom and I am introduced to the teachers. Some classes applaud when they hear I'll work with them on letters to their sponsors and the little ones crowd me with hugs.

In the afternoon, we stroll through the dirt paths of the village lined with brightly painted wooden and concrete houses. People are just as warm here, inviting me into their small front rooms and telling me to visit anytime. Cows, chickens, goats, dogs and a horse are joined in the street by kids who have school in the morning session playing in oversized t-shirts and men in plastic chairs playing dominoes.



Saturday is Independence Day as well as carnival but the festivities are tempered as there have been 3 tragic deaths in the last week. There are however, assemblies at school on Friday, so I attend the one in Bombita in the morning and then visit La Hoya, where COPA has its other school, in the afternoon. The kids perform poems and sketches about the struggle for independence, the founding fathers, and the flag.

Saturday is the COPA staff day to shop in Barahona but before picking up vegetables in the market we stop by a refugee centre where Haitians too ill to return to Haiti yet stay as they recover from treatment in Dominican hospitals. Many have casts on one or more limbs but seem in good enough spirits, especially as we help Modelin, who has been paralyzed from the waist down, into a wheelchair for the first time. This is a big victory for Connie, COPA's director, who has obviously won the affection of the refugees at the centre but until now been unable to convince Modelin to get out of bed.

Back in Bombita, Verona and I wander

in the village a bit before turning in and I meet dozens more people whose names I will not remember. They all invite me to church with them on Sunday. There are 3 small churches, each with services nearly every night full of music and singing.

On Sunday I do laundry and cook before joining Verona in a stroll into the village. We visit 2 girls who have had their tonsils out by a visiting medical team last week, watch silly video clips with the group of young guys who make up one of the church bands, then walk with them past people of all ages bathing in the canal and into the fields to cut some sugar cane. Walking back with our snack, I am made fun of for how slowly I chew through the long, sweet stick.

Later, we go to the joint church service where the children from all 3 churches perform dances to upbeat music and praise is belted out at the top of talented lungs. Everyone is welcoming and seem to include me even though I don't know the words. I'm excited to become part of such a vibrant community and although I have been here just a few days, it feels a bit like home already.

News from the schools ...

Celebrating Student Day

The COPA School in Bombita celebrated Student Day in February with various activities organised by its director, Luciana Méndez Matos (Maribel) and the P.E Teacher, Wander Yonhaly Marrero. During a brief speech to open the proceedings Maribel stated that the school offers the opportunity to improve the students' quality of life by providing the space and the opportunities for them to become successful members of society.

During the day there were various sports and recreational activities, which included, sack and relay races, hula-hoop endurance, cone targeting, filling a bottle with glasses of water as a relay race and musical chairs. The pictures show some of the activities which took place.

A baseball game between 8th grade and the teachers rounded off the day. Experience won through as the teachers were victorious by 17 to 10. It was a great day and both students and teachers enjoyed it tremendously.

Wander Yonhaly Marrero ❖ P.E Teacher (Bombita School)



A new initiative

In order to bridge the gap between school and home the Education Department has introduced a new initiative where each class will have a committee consisting of three parents elected by their peers that will become a link between school and the community. They will be encouraged to spend time in the classes to give practical support to teachers and use this as a means to keep parents more informed of their children's progress. A new committee will be selected at the beginning of each school year.

The slogan that accompanies this initiative says "Mum, Dad!! We need you in school." It is good to see that the authorities are now valuing the contribution that parents can make in the education of their children. Both schools held a general meeting with parents with very high attendance and then shortly afterwards the committees were formed and their information sent off to the district offices.



...in words and pictures from Bombita and La Hoya

Geography week was celebrated by investigating the impact of contamination on the environment. Students did investigations in their individual classes and then came together to watch a data show presentation organised by Merquelin with short films and cartoons highlighting the issue. One told the story of Ozzie Ozone who formed part of the ozone layer but lost his place due to rising carbon dioxide levels and they saw consequences of his absence. Another which they all enjoyed was a one minute cartoon showing a man tipping rubbish in a river and then later when taking a shower all the rubbish came through the shower head, landing on top of him. They were very effective in their messages and during the feedback session the students clearly understood and were able to relate the issue to their own lives.



Inventive as ever Merquelin decided to take advantage of the enthusiasm of his students in his science lessons with 8th grade when they covered the topic of “Illnesses that affect human beings”. The title of their study was “If we want good health we must educate ourselves about it.” Working in seven groups they investigated different illnesses such as Hepatitis, Dengue Fever and Malaria and then presented their findings on a poster. The information included how they are contracted, symptoms, treatment and prevention.

At the end of the study they went through La Hoya one morning in their groups stopping at ten designated houses in order to

inform the residents of the dangers of these illnesses, stressing the importance of hygiene in and around the house as a way of prevention. Later the class met up in a patio owned by a local with two large gazebos and gave feedback on their experiences with the villagers, which was very positive and then the information on their posters. In total they covered 14 illnesses all caused by unhygienic environments.

Another positive aspect of the session was during the feedback that any grammatical errors on the posters were corrected in a non-threatening way. Tomas, Sofie, Emma and I provided support and it was great to see how changing the surrounding provided such a positive stimulus for them.

Following in Merquelin’s footsteps, Brigida, took her 3rd and 4th grade classes on a walking tour of La Hoya reinforcing the theme of contamination. They visited the river and discussed ways to prevent its contamination, collected discarded rubbish and then compared it to the water in the swimming pool found at the same local patio Merquelin visited last month. It was pleasing to see how easily a topic could be brought to life and made very relevant to the student’s lives.



Spring was officially welcomed with the traditional kite competition and as always there was much excitement amongst both students and the parents who came along.

Verona Smith
Education Advisor



The development of I.T classes in La Hoya

In the two years that students have been receiving I.T classes they have learnt a great deal. As the I.T teacher I feel happy with these achievements that they have made. At first the students didn’t know how to switch on a computer and it was hard work with them for the first few months. However, today it is very different with the majority of them being competent with the basic working of computers. Those in 6th, 7th and 8th grade have advanced so much that they now have the capacity to teach the other teachers in the school the basics in I.T.

Mauricio Mateo
I.T teacher in La Hoya



World Book Day was celebrated with each grade in Bombita presenting the book that they had been studying during that week. It ranged from a presentation using posters to dramatisations of the stories. As a motivation Maribel turned it into a competition and formed a panel of judges. 8th grade won during the morning and 7th grade during the afternoon. The books read included, Cinderella, Handa’s Surprise, Simple Machines and the Lion and the Mouse. It was good to see a factual book included.

La Hoya had a reading competition in that started in March for 1st to 4th grade where students had to read a selected book and then discuss it to show that they had a sound understanding of the story. They received their prizes during special merit assembly. The second half of the competition for 5th to 8th grade started in mid April with the prizes will be awarded next month. These activities concentrating on reading replaced the traditional book study for World Book Day.

10 Questions for Verona

Continuing our series of finding out more about the volunteers we have working for COPA in the DR; this time the questions were for Verona, one of our Education Advisors.

1. Where were you born?

A small town called Meriden in Central England. I grew up in Birmingham and am the second of five children with one older and two younger brothers and a younger sister.

2. What did you do before joining COPA?

After leaving high school at 18 I studied a two year Higher National Diploma in Business and Finance with an option in Tourism. Due to my lack of practical experience I couldn't get a job within the Tourism industry so I worked in office administration for a year with McDonald's, taking advantage of the free hamburgers! I then did a similar job with the police for a further four years. After much contemplation I went back into full time study to do a four-year teaching degree focusing on primary education. After graduating I taught in my home city for 3 years, then my traveling adventures began.

First I spent 2 years volunteering in North East Nigeria as a teacher trainer with the British charity VSO (Voluntary Services Overseas). On my return to England I worked as a substitute teacher in London for 6 months and then moved to teach in a British Primary School in Spain for 3 years, which finally led me to my work now with COPA and I have been an Education Advisor with COPA since August 2006.

3. Do you have a favourite story about your experience in the DR ?

I don't have one favourite story, however, there are various scenes during the course of a day that have brought a smile to my face. During a journey back to Bombita when it was raining I happened to look out of the window to witness a piece of Dominican ingenuity. A bus driver whose windscreen wiper had broken off completely held it in his left hand, manually wiping the excess water from the windscreen while steering with his right hand. An example of multitasking!!

4. Can you tell us your scariest moment in the DR?

My scariest moment was during our evacuation from Bombita as a result of Tropical Storm Noel in October 2007. After being woken up at 6.30am and told by our night watchman Pachico that we had about half an hour to evacuate we rushed around gathering what we could and putting the rest up as high as

possible. With water flowing into the village I had to drive our Toyota Sienna van praying as the water level rose towards the wheel arch that it would not enter the exhaust pipe causing the engine to cut out and leave us stranded. Never had I been so happy to get up on to the main road.

5. What is the best part of your job?

Being flexible is the best part of my job as I'm in charge of my days and determine my workload to a certain extent. Variety follows a close second as I deal with all members of the community and also provide support to the other areas of our project such as maintenance and health.

6. What do you miss most by living in the DR?

Anonymity, everyone knows me, even when walking through the village at night when there is no electricity I hear "Hola Verona". Everywhere I turn someone seems to be watching so I have to be vigilant in my behaviour.

7. What are your plans after DR?

After COPA I plan to rest for at least 3 months and so catch up properly with family and friends and hopefully settle down in England for a while.

8. How do you feel you have impacted on the quality of education since you've been there?

Encouraging the teachers to be more open to new ideas and not to be afraid to implement and modify them in their classroom. By being better students they have become better teachers.

9. What are you most proud of?

I am proud to see both directors growing in confidence and competence as they seek to handle the day to day issues that arise in their schools independently. Their collaboration is excellent as they possess very different styles that compliment each other as they support their staff both within and outside the workplace.

10. Can you sum up the last four years?

It has been a pleasure working with COPA and both communities and this experience has given me a great opportunity to learn and grow so much as a person in all areas of my life. I have seen significant changes for the better during my time here and I hope that they will become even more significant for the future. The Dominican Republic is definitely my home away from home.



Destinations of Former COPA School Students

It is always interesting to find out what has happened to previous students of the schools and the progress they have made. A number of students have graduated from medical school and want to work in communities to improve healthcare standards. Engineering is a popular choice by many former COPA students.

Some have returned to work for COPA including Rosalba Perez, who studied psychology in Santo Domingo after she finished High School. She now works in COPA Bombita as the school's psychologist and is in charge of two youth groups in the La Hoyan community. Another group of ex-COPA students hope to graduate this summer after completing their studies in a range of subjects such as IT, engineering, tourism and medicine.

Anthony Matos Perez recently completed University studies and now works in the IT department of a bank

News from the Partnership schools

Olivia, our Education Advisor who takes the lead with our Partnership Schools projects, had to return to the UK earlier this year due to serious health issues. We are pleased to say that she has recovered and has now returned to the DR to resume her work. Below are some extracts from her diary since her return on May 16th. The photos are also from Olivia showing some very proud children with their schoolwork.

Monday May 17, 2010 Today was a school holiday due to the elections being held over the weekend. Since the "purple" party got in, they were processing everywhere with flags and streamers and one motorbike rider even had a mannequin with a bikini (!). The music was blaring and since we now have two speed bumps right outside the La Hoya school the traffic has to slow down passing the school and the music is more pervasive than ever. Since the road is paved and it is so recent, the youth are finding all kinds of ways to have fun with it.

Thursday May 20, 2010 I visited the Hato Viejo Preschool with Alex for their final Art lesson and was very pleased to see how much these Kindergarten's fine motor skills had improved since I left them in December. Their drawing was much improved and even though they were excited to have me in the classroom, they demonstrated model behaviour.

Thursday May 27, 2010 Today Alex and I went to Hato Viejo and gave out the collected artwork of the children in Kindergarten (Inicial), First, and Second Grades. Alex had worked diligently to collect and combine in alphabetical order

all the pictures the children had drawn in the Fall Semester for the model classes in Language Arts at the Partnership Schools. Since school was already out, we just stopped the pasola on the main street when we saw the first of the students. After handing over her book, I took a picture of her holding it. After that the rest of the students appeared from every direction to claim their books. Quite a few adults stopped to see what was going on. Originally, I had thought to give those with the greatest quantity of pictures (best attendance) a prize and there were three students, Claudy, Yohannelis, and Mirquely, who had perfect attendance but after reflecting on the highly competitive nature of the society and the fact that villagers are seldom happy for the successes of others, I decided against the prizes and that it is preferable to have many happy children rather than a small number happy and the majority unhappy because someone else got a prize.

It turned out to be a great event with a lot of parents looking on. It took them a while to realize just what we were handing out. One boy biked over to one of the girl's houses on the "back" road to alert her to what was happening. Another boy, Ricky, who had been a real rebel in the classroom, came all the way from the bridge where he had been fishing to pick up his book. I was able to tell parents who had gathered round about the work and tell the children to take the books home to their parents so that they could see their schoolwork.



New Support for COPA Comes On Board



When Sebert and Doreen took a cruise on the Saga Ruby little did they dream that COPA would benefit. Sebert is known never to take a holiday without his laptop and this was no exception. Having recently given a presentation to the Upper Thames Methodist Circuit Meeting the pictures were therefore to hand when fellow travellers, Robin and Gina Evers and Dennis and Joy Reader, asked to see them. The Cruise Director happened to pass by the corner of the ship where the viewing was taking place. Due to the enthusiasm and persuasive efforts of these new COPA supporters, an invitation was immediately made for Sebert to give a presentation on the big screen in the ship's cinema! The ship's printer was readily made available to reproduce the COPA story, and an advertisement appeared in the daily newspaper inviting passengers to attend. Everyone was so supportive and Jo Boase, the Saga cruise director left no stone unturned to ensure maximum exposure, says Sebert. The result was not only urgently needed new sponsors, but an anonymous donation of £1000! On the last Sunday on board, thanks to strong support from Canon Derek Brown, the cruise Padre, and from Saga, the collection from the service which was attended by several hundred passengers, was donated to COPA too.

Over the years Sebert has been invited to tell the COPA story to enthusiastic audiences in churches, schools, colleges, universities, service clubs, W.I. etc in the UK., in five different States in the USA, in the Channel Islands and now on the high seas! Where next? I ask.

In this economic climate, with a fall in the value of the £ sterling from \$2 to \$1.45, COPA is grateful for every opportunity to interest others in our work. If you belong to a Church or any group who are looking for an inspiring presentation, why not contact Sebert on 01793 750625.

Geoff Haslam - COPA UK Committee



COPA UK—Annual General Meeting

to be held on the afternoon of Saturday, 9th October 2010
at Cricklade, near Swindon, Wiltshire.

Please make a note in your diary—more details in the next Newsletter.

On the evening of 9th October there will be a "Concert for COPA" also at Cricklade (see below)



Contact names and addresses for COPA UK:

Treasurer:

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Sponsorship Secretary for both La Hoya and Bombita:

Mrs Sandra Samways
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Treasurer: COPA Guernsey

Mr Peter Keeling,
Les Poplairs,
Rue du Felconte,
ST SAVIOURS,
Guernsey, GY7 9QD

Guernsey Sponsorship contact

Mrs Margaret Keeling
Address as above

"TEN IN A BAR" has established itself as one of Swindon's premier singing groups. It is famed for its eclectic mix of music and quirky arrangements, from popular modern classics to serious contemporary works. As well as its reputation for high quality singing, they are also renowned for their zany sense of humour. The closeness of their ensemble work endows them with a distinctive sound which is unique to the local area. TEN IN A BAR will shortly be putting together their new repertoire for the Autumn which may well also include some of their popular songs from this year's programme, which included; Mama Mia, Mad World, Pretty Woman, Born Free, and Jai Ho from Slum Dog Millionaire and many others. Their "**CONCERT FOR COPA**" at Cricklade on the evening of 9th October will be a delightful, enjoyable and unique occasion and which should definitely not be missed on any account. It is expected that tickets will be in great demand and therefore should be obtained as soon as possible. It is worth travelling many miles to see and hear this group of outstanding musicians.

Sponsorship Letters

The address for your letters
and cards is:

*Child's name and sponsorship
number*
Escuela de COPA (*La Hoya or
Bombita*)
Apartado 42
BARAHONA
Dominican Republic

Please could you write your name
and address on the reverse of the
envelope. This will help the
volunteers when they are
delivering the letters and cards to
the children. Thank you for your
support.

