

# Old MacDonald had a Farm for Africa

Tales from the Farmyard

7/26/2012

Edition 5

## Update Newsletter

The sun may not have been shining in June but at the Tron Theatre's Victoria bar The Word Factory were making hay. As part of an Oxfam initiative, Facilitator Marc Sherland transformed himself into Young MacDonald and recruited members as farm hands to stage a fundraising event with all the fun of a

although with pigs being hard to find in Glasgow, the Word Farm, as usual, improvised, dressing poet Nuala Watt up with snout and curly tail.

It can be reported that her pig impersonation is as excellent as her poetry. Poets were given the opportunity

*This Newsletter will highlight all the wonderful projects "Young MacDonalds" are getting up to across the country*

Country Fair.

What frolics there were when highly respected poet and Federation Makar Maggie Rabatski cut the ribbon and declared the fair open. With music in from Frank Somers in the background, people were invited to stroll around and participate in all you would expect to find at a fair – Guess the amount of macaroni in the jar- (Poor Mrs MacDonald, Linda Grant had to count all 1,176 pieces); guess the weight of the pig,

to take their angst and ire out with a bat on a Piñata and have their cards read by a somewhat bogus fortune teller.

Space was cleared to allow for a celebration of the spoken word with an open mic section and a poetry harvest where a selection was drawn from our rich heritage of rural poetry.

But the highlight of the event was the thrills and spills of the Kentucky Derby quiz with teams from

Great news our combined money raised is enough for six farms - so well done everyone !!

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The up to date summary of where we are with our targets are as follows

<b>Number of Young MacDonalds</b>	10
<b>Money raised</b>	£3003
<b>Number of farms</b>	6



Photo: Steve Simon / Oxfam

Clydebuilt, Mirrorball and the Federation of Writers Scotland among others. A grand effort was made in the face of some rather bizarre question – who, for instance, would possibly know “what happens when your plough kills a daddy longlegs?” The score keeper remarked - you could tell the room was full of writers; they came up with some very “imaginative” answers. Competition was fierce but it was the Federation of Writers were first past the post, winning a rosette and a solid gold plastic trophy.

Not forgetting the purpose of the event, the sum of £150 was raised. This will go towards

the Oxfam initiative of establishing farms in Africa to enable families to become self sufficient. The fundraising will continue until April 2013 so keep your eyes open for more fundraising events.'



**Old MacDonald had a farm for Africa** is a 12 month project devised by Poets **Liz Lochhead** and **Jim Carruth** and supported by **Oxfam** is looking to set up a number of farms across Africa. Each farm will provide communities with clucking, mooing and baaing livestock, which besides the noise will produce enough eggs, milk and fertiliser to benefit many families. Each farm will cost £482 and the aim of the project is to raise enough money for as many farms within the year up till the 1<sup>st</sup> April 2013

We are looking for **Young MacDonalds** to get involved and run their own fund raising projects across the country

For more information on the Old MacDonald had a Farm for Africa – or to make a donation [www.justgiving.com/Jim-Carruth](http://www.justgiving.com/Jim-Carruth)

For more information on how to become a Young MacDonald [jim@carruth.freeserve.co.uk](mailto:jim@carruth.freeserve.co.uk)

All money raised will go to Oxfam farm projects