

News

Bookcrossers Stamp up for Thatu

18th July 2006 *ARTICLE*

UK Registered Charity thanks BookCrossers for their support

Two months ago, a UK BookCrosser made a post in the Chit Chat forum about an appeal being held by a charity she volunteers for, called Thatu (you can read the post here).

Thatu, a UK Registered Charity, fundraises to create community organic permaculture food gardens in poorly resourced areas of South Africa. Thatu aims to help projects become more sustainable so that they can provide nutrition, medicine and income for communities, many of which are being severely challenged by the HIV/AIDS epidemic. One of their current appeals is to collect local and international used and unused stamps and coins, which they are able to exchange for cash donations.



Thatu encourages its supporters to raise money in creative ways that are a thousand miles from the usual sponsored walk.

Another BookCrosser, screen name Libertine101, on the other side of the world in Australia, came up with an extremely clever and creative method of publicising Thatu and collecting stamps.

She works in Ballajura Public Library in Perth, Western Australia, and created an intriguing display of books on the subject of philately. The display included information about Thatu and its stamp appeal, and library patrons have begun to participate by bringing in their contributions of stamps and first day covers!



Meanwhile, packages of stamps continue to drop through the letterbox of Thatu from BookCrossers everywhere. Margery Povall, Thatu's founder and chairperson said "I have been completely astonished and delighted by the response of BookCrossers all over the world who have taken the time to collect and send their used stamps, first day covers and old and foreign coins to Thatu. BookCrossing is obviously a community comprised of people of enormous spirit and generosity, and I am so grateful for the packets that are arriving from Europe, the USA and even further!! I hope to learn more about BookCrossing myself and look forward to keeping the BookCrossing supporters of Thatu abreast of the progress of the food gardens that they are helping to create. Thank you all!"

Thatu's Stamp Appeal is ongoing. If you would like to participate by sending your stamps, you can find more information in the 'How you can help' section of their website

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