

## Cross Channel Swimming Team

Harriette Johnson, an ex pupil of St Piran's, is one of six students in a team from Wellington College who will be swimming in a race across the English Channel on Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> July against another school from New Zealand to raise money for a school for deaf children in Uganda called St Mary's School for the Deaf. The money will be administered through The Mityana Charity. Harriette was lucky enough to visit Uganda last October and visited St Mary's which she found truly heartbreaking. Most children in Uganda are desperately poor and lack basic amenities and facilities such as healthcare and education. The children at St Mary's are in a different league because in Africa being handicapped in some way (and many of St Mary's children are more than just deaf) is believed to be the price for something had in a past life. As such they are normally outcast by their families so truly have nothing.

Harriette is obviously a very committed and excellent swimmer and we were thrilled to hear that she has been selected to represent the Great Britain youth team at the triathlon world championships in Beijing this September.

Harriette and her team have been training in Dover harbour which has given them a taste of what to expect with sea temperatures of 12 degrees (wet suits are forbidden), and some huge swells, not forgetting the numerous ships, some the size of high rise buildings, which will be in the Channel. The distance to France is about 21 miles and is expected to take them around 13 hours to complete.

A few pounds goes a huge way to giving these children something back. Harriette would be really grateful if you would consider sponsoring her by visiting her charity page at <http://www.mycharitypage.com/Harriette>. Please remember to accept the fairly nominal card processing charges so your whole donation goes to the charity and also the gift aid so it will get a further 25% from the Government.

On behalf of Harriette, thank you very much.

