

## Kilimanjaro-Final Update

The following message was received today (3.12.10) from Katie's parents, Christine and Gordon Fyfe, following the Deloitte team's successful ascent in November. Also there are two photos of Katie at the summit in the gallery at the foot of this page.

"A final update on Katie's Mount Kilimanjaro climb and a couple of photos to prove it! Katie along with 41 out of 46 team mates summited Mount Kili on Friday 5<sup>th</sup> November 2010 after a long and very challenging climb.

Katie and the other 7 members of The Middle East Deloitte Team raised a whopping £17,000 for their charities, The St Mary's Hospice Malawi Trust, and The Children's Hope Foundation. If you would like to know more about the St Mary's Hospice Malawi Trust this is the link to their website [http:// www.stmarys-hospice-malawi-trust.org.uk/site](http://www.stmarys-hospice-malawi-trust.org.uk/site).



Gordon, myself, and all of Katie's family are extremely proud of what she has achieved, which was made possible by the wonderful encouragement you all gave her through your generous donations and kind words of good wishes. So on behalf of Katie, and the Middle East Deloitte Team we would like to thank you all from the bottom of our hearts for all of your very kind support."

The Trustees also wish to add their good wishes both to Katie and the entire Deloitte Team. As we said to the children in [Our School in Lewis](#), "We thank you and we salute you. This for us is an answer to prayer."

Also, Katie, you should know that when you come home Reay, Chrisanne (whom you've known since you were in the pram), Brian and Iain would like to meet you to thank you personally.

Just to give the uninitiated (i.e. most of us) a tiny flavour of the rigours of climbing Kilimanjaro I append this extract from the under-noted website which you can reach via this link. [www.tanzaniaodyssey.com/mount-kilimanjaro/kilimanjaro.htm](http://www.tanzaniaodyssey.com/mount-kilimanjaro/kilimanjaro.htm)

## The Mountain

"... Mount Kilimanjaro continues to preserve a mysticism that defies all recent knowledge of her slopes. Images of the towering snow-covered cone rising majestically from fertile green foothills have become a powerful motif of Tanzania's extraordinary extremes. Few could deny a very distinct sense of awe when the cloud clears to reveal a glimpse of the towering peaks, shining bright in the equatorial sun.

## Climbing Kilimanjaro

One of the most amazing aspects of the mountain in the present day is the accessibility of its peak to climbers with no mountain climbing equipment or real previous experience of scaling such heights. Kilimanjaro is the highest mountain that regular tourists can climb, although it remains a considerable feat of human endurance!

The breathable oxygen at the top is less than half the amount than is common at sea level, and climbers cover at least eighty kilometres on nothing but their own two feet over the five days it takes to reach the top and return.

#### Overall Fitness Required

Although it is possible to simply trek a route to the pinnacle of Kibo without relying on professional climbing equipment, it remains a hard and serious endeavour that requires a level of physical fitness, stamina and a realistic awareness of the potentially damaging effects of high altitudes."



The top - at last!

1. An exhausted (but still smiling) Katie on the summit of Kilimanjaro



And again on Africa's roof

Well done, Katie and all your colleagues who are about there somewhere!

CLICK ON PHOTO TO ENLARGE IT