GLOBETROTTER TURNS CHARITY CHAMP

A COMPASSIONATE Harborough solicitor who left Dingley Hall in 1990 to travel the world has given over half a million pounds to Third World children.

By Alex Blackwell

Sharon Beasley (47), formerly of Wincanton and then Dingley Hall, is on a mammoth mountain bike trip 10 years ago, visiting every continent.

The Mail reported Sharon’s departure. She was not sure at the time whether she would return to the legal profession after her globetrotting adventures.

But after spending time at a Romanian orphanage, Sharon and New Zealand-born friend and fellow solicitor Annette Ezel were inspired to raise money for girls and poor children.

The pair set off on their first in a picture-flourish notebook written six or seven years ago offering legal consultation to corporate finance and insurance companies.

They are now to give the profits to the poor – and so far they have handled over £67,000.

The money has been sent to organisations in Nepal and Uganda, funding hospitals, schools, clinics, medical equipment, food, and education.

Sharon said: “It is not an exaggeration to say that thousands of children have benefited from the work of the charity, whether they were one of the 472 children born into the creche which were supported in Uganda, or one of the thousands of children in the mountains of Nepal who have received the injections, de-worming medication, and financial assistance in medical aid outreach.”

Her father, Neville Beasley, who also wanted to see the world but never found his ambition, died of a heart attack in 1992. Brother-in-law Chris Beasley, a former veterinary surgeon, in Keswick, said: “Sharon and Annette decided they could do no more for the less well-off and set up a charity to help sick children.”

Many children from them what they are sick, that they want to do something to prevent them getting ill in the first place, which is why they set up the charity.

“Today, we put money into the charity and are investing in children who are not sick. We believe there are no villages so that parents and relatives can give them a proper funeral and say goodbye to their loved ones.”

A new project is in the pipeline which is going to last for generations of children having improvement and will continue to give relief to treatment centres so they can concentrate on other problems.”

All set to put on blooming good show

ANOTHER blooming great year could be in store for Harborough.

East Midlands in Bloom judges will descend on the town on Wednesday – and there is a chance Harborough could notch up a hat-trick of wins after being triumphant in the last two years.

And it is not just a question of the town looking pretty – the judges will look at environmental aspects and their single eyes will focus on private gardens and industrial estates as well as public areas.

They will be given a guided tour of the town by Gordon Ethergate, who is team leader of Harborough’s river clean-up squad, and Richard Moss from the nursery based at Wallass Burd.

And there could be further glory in store for the town – it will be judged on August 12 for the Britain in Bloom competition after winning the regional contest last year.