

Newsletter

Harambee For Kenya



No.9 Feb '09

Christmas came to the lads we have in the house, just as it did in the UK. But I am confident that our lads were probably more grateful for what they got than perhaps our own kids were.



We had donations to use just for the boys for Christmas, which was really lovely. So we sent it (£70) out to Thomas to get the lads some extra special food. They got meat, vegetables, sodas and (extra special) cake. But what amazed us more than anything is that when Thomas told them they had money to use for food, they wanted to share it with some of the younger kids who are still on the street.

How humbling is that, especially when we see some of our own kids being less than grateful when they only get one computer game instead of two or three! It has often been commented by Roger and others that even though these kids have lived on the street, been feral and up to no good, you look into their eyes and there is no evil in them. They really show love to those who try to help them and still show concern for the other kids still on the street. They really bless us when we see this sort of generosity time and again.

The house is slowly moving forward to completion. We are chasing the builders all the time. Thomas has said that the electricity should be connected to the house by the time we get there in 5 weeks time which will help. Also, John Buria, a friend of one of the trustees, who is a Kenyan from Meru, went to the project to look at it for us and encourage them. He spent about 3 hours there with his wife, talking to the kids. His report back was very encouraging and it was good to receive his comments which we value as he is involved in a number of projects in Kenya.

We have just had the house inspected by the authorities who appreciated that it was not finished but were encouraged by what they saw.....and then gave us a list of 21 things to do! More work to be done! Seriously, they have been very helpful and are supporting us in our "worthwhile project".(their words) We will update you more in April with pictures.

IT'S NOT TOO LATE TO JOIN!

Join our 100 club and help us to raise money while you have an opportunity to win money on a monthly draw.

You join the club by paying just £12 for the whole year.

You are given a number and every month there is a draw. If your number is drawn you could win £15, £10 or £5. Yes this happens every month!

In December 2009 we have a special draw where you could win £100, £50 or £25.

Contact Jackie on 01825 830645 or email jackie@octoberhouse1.idps.co.uk

We have just received the pictures below of little Alex who was the 6 year old who had Osteomyelitis. It has healed up amazingly. Looking at it now it's hard to believe that he was so ill, that he was in danger of losing his leg or worse, his life.



Before



After

We have just been told about Alex and Eric's background. Sometimes the information takes time to get it out of the kids because they have perhaps, been traumatised. Here is the information from Thomas.

They are total Orphans. Alex Otiso the sick one. Eric Omwenga Otiso, His brother who is in standard one.(Yr 1) They have three brothers and two sisters all alive. His brothers are James, Douglas and Angwenyi. His sisters are Cintia and Ezna. James and Douglas are married also Cintia she is married.

All the brothers are not able to take care of the two boys hence they threw them away from the home. Cintia she is a twilight in the streets. Their Grandfather is dead but the Grandmother Mangoma she is alive.

They come from Mochabumbi Village their Assistant chief is Peter Nyamweno and the chief is John Metombwa. They came to street because they were left to fend for themselves. Both their parents are dead Father's name is Otiso Obae and the mother she was called Jane.

They died of two different diseases. The Husband died of Tuberculosis & the Wife died out of Aids. They left Alex & Eric very young.

Now Eric is in Std one however very big & Alex is in Pre-School. Their brothers abandoned them and never bothered to take them to School.

WE NEED YOUR HELP!!!

Can you have a look in your cupboards and see whether you have any sheets, or pillow cases you can spare that we can take to Kenya with us to use on the boys beds. Perhaps you could ask your families a well. We need them by 25th March so that we can distribute them to those who are travelling with us so that they can pack them.

Call Lesley on 07941041616 if you can help. Thank you

Our Thanks go to the following for their support.

Year 11's Sackville School.

David Parker & Class 8 Knott –Skinners

Luci & Guy Partridge

Mick & Mary Wilding

Margaret Hunt Dr & Mrs Hall,

John & Avril Goodway

Horam and Vines Cross Village Diary.

Year 8 at Sackville.

Trinity Methodist Church, East Grinstead.

Yrs 7 & 8 Skinners School, Tunbridge Wells

Jenny Mankelow



We visited the dump where one of the bases is. The kids who live here are now growing crops on the edge of the dump in the hope that they can eat better for some of their meals or they can sell some. There are 350 children on the streets in Kisii. We are hoping to set up a feeding program for those that are still on the streets by doing something like a soup kitchen. Not ideal but it will help.

We need more support and sponsorship to be able to do all this work. Ask your friends if they can help. A small donation on a regular basis will help ENORMOUSLY! Things are difficult in the UK at the moment, imagine how these children feel.

Boot fairs are starting again, consider getting things from friends and family that you can sell and raise some money to help. Thank you.

Trustees; Roger Dann (Chairman), Lesley Dann, Patricia Musgrave, Chloe Durow, Michael Wilding, Jackie Cooper, Ben Vince.
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