



CHiNK Newsletter

November 2007

FUNDRAISING

Since our visit to Kenya in May it has been a very busy period for the trustees. We have raised a substantial amount of money for Karibuni School and the children in Kenya.

DESKS	195.00
DONATIONS	574.70
GENERAL SALES	38.00
GIANT SALES	2023.60
TABLE TOP SALES	
CAR BOOT SALES	546.80
TOKEN SALES	154.00
TALKS EVENTS	560.50
GRAND TOTAL	£4092.60



Fundraising is hard work, so we would like to thank everyone who has been involved in helping to raise this considerable amount.

We have approximately 40 children sponsored. Since our latest visit to Kenya we have promises of more sponsors.

LATEST ACHIEVEMENTS IN KENYA

Arriving at the school again, proved to be a very emotional reunion. The children remembering and welcoming us with songs and hundreds of handshakes, of course there was the usual 'Jambo' from, not only the children, but Grace, Kombe and Grace 2, the teachers. It was like meeting up with long lost friends or relatives. Had it only been 6 months since we were here?

Seeing the children, teachers and the school again, inspired us immediately. Adrenaline pumping, we were already planning the extension to the kitchen - a shaded area where the children can eat their meals. The kitchen built in May, needed some extras, shutters for the windows, making the building more secure. A hatch, to serve the food from etc. The swings made in May were up and working. Then of course there were desks to be ordered and made, books, pencils, cups, dishes, food to buy.



A well deserved outing for the children to Haller Park was organized. Haller Park is a nature reserve about 5 miles from the school. We hired 3 buses in which to take all 82 children. Some of them had never seen a bus before, so the journey was a new experience. Listening to them chattering and pointing at cars or tractors warmed our hearts.



Before the outing, it was decided to buy every child a pair of plimsoles. We knew it wasn't going to be straight - forward - and straight - forward it wasn't. A gauge for measuring their feet was borrowed from the local shoe shop.

That was the easy part.

Fitting and writing names in the shoes was not simple. In the end there were 82 proud owners of new shoes and socks.

OTHER TASKS

Three of the trustees recently Kenya and whilst there, many other tasks were undertaken, including, discussion with the teachers about their wages, preparing contracts, ordering building materials, costing out the food program, authenticating teachers certificates etc.

Two very hot days were spent, walking in the bush from village to village, checking the houses of children awaiting sponsorship. Although we had checked housing conditions before, it was still disturbing.

One of the things that hit us when we were looking at the housing situations, was the disbelief that families actually live in the conditions like the ones we saw in these villages. Tiny corrugated iron shacks or huts made from cow dung and mud with dirt floors sleeping a family of six and often a grandparent who is the only surviving adult, struggling to make ends meet to send the grandchildren to school!! The villages in the area of Karibuni school are all like this and yet the people are very resilient and the children always have smiles on their faces.

In May we visited the house of James Kasim, an orphan who lives with an elder of his village.

He is a very happy and contented 6 year old boy and despite his situation, is a good scholar and can speak and understand English.



**MAY 2007 JAMES -
STANDING WHERE HIS HOUSE
STOOD BEFORE THE RAINS**

James's sponsor sent out extra money, so we bought him a mattress, clothes and extra food.



**NOVEMBER 2007 - JAMES IS
AN ORPHAN AND LIVES WITH AN
ELDER OF THE VILLAGE. HE HAS
THE MOST HEART WARMING
SMILE AND IS AN INSPIRATION
TO US ALL**

**CHINK IS YOUR CHARITY
'THE FUTURE BELONGS TO
OUR CHILDREN'**

KENYA STAFF

FELISTER MALUKI, is our Administrator in Kenya. We have known her for seven years. She works at Pistachios Bar in Shanzu. Without her help, knowledge and advice, we wouldn't have been able to have achieved as much.



In November we visited Mikoroshoni Primary School in Shanzu. It started, in 1996, as several mud buildings, now it is a stone building with 8 classrooms and a computer room. A similar school is our dream. We were also lucky enough to visit Tumaini Children's Home in Bamburi. A home for orphans infected or affected by HIV/AIDS. Joan Smith, founder, is 75 years old and is totally dedicated to the home.

Tumaini in Swahili means 'Hope' and that is what Joan has brought to the orphans in her care.

LOOKING TOWARDS THE FUTURE

Felister had been making enquiries about 2 plots of land near Karibuni, where an unfinished building stood. When we saw it, we were inspired and immediately making plans to turn this into our new school. Felister worked hard, tracing the owner, getting a surveyor and researching into the authenticity of the land.

3 hot days were spent at the Land Registry office in Mombasa. When we found the documents were genuine, we were thrilled.

THEN DISAPPOINTMENT STRUCK

According to the surveyor, the asking price was far too high. All is not lost though, as another Kenyan solicitor is to make further enquiries, on our behalf.

We now have our dreams and hope to turn them into reality. More fundraising, donations and sponsorship is needed. We wouldn't have made it this far if it wasn't for you. We thank you all, for your help, through sponsorship, donations and support, now and in the future.

**YOUR HELP MAKES A
DIFFERENCE**

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