

Newsletter

Harambee For Kenya



No.10 April '09

We have just got back from another amazing trip. Each time we come back we wonder if the next trip can be as exciting. Well it was!

We were able to spend more time with the boys this time, which was great. So we were able to do all their profiles so that we could comply with the Kenyan authorities. It took longer than we expected but we did it. Many of their stories were similar. Many of their parents had died through diseases like Aids, Malaria and TB, but it was quite surprising how many had died in road accidents. But most of them, having lost parents were abandoned by relatives who could not look after them. There were some sad stories and one or two of them found it difficult to talk about.

The house looked really lovely with the front sign written which we were not expecting. The kids came running out to welcome us when we got there, and even more excited when they showed us around the ground floor, where we were to move them starting the next day. It did not take long to move the beds 9 to a room. (That is 3 x triple bunks). Then we dished out the bedding and taught them how to make them. Every day after that, I had a sneak look in the bedrooms and all the beds were made neatly. It will be interesting to see how long that lasts but now we have Elijah managing the building and the boys, so hopefully it will continue. Elijah is going to move in with his wife and three children, firstly staying in the two rooms upstairs which will eventually become an office and store room. But eventually they will live in a bungalow which we are now trying to raise money to build.



Picture by Bill Compton



Picture by Lesley Dann

If you would like to be a part of one of our trips to Kenya, we are going again in October for two weeks. Dates are **17th October to 1st November**. It should not cost you more than £1000 for the fortnight and you can be sure that you will have an amazing time working with the kids and seeing the sights of Kenya. Call Lesley on 07941 041616 or email lesley@harambeeforkenya.org if you wish to find out more.



Our Thanks go to the following for their support.

Blueprint at Hailsham James Frost
Grange Moor Hotel Jenny Turner
Lewisham Manor District Scouts David Parker

Left is Eric. A little girl from The Meads School called Ellie, made this book mark during a Kenya experience which was part of a school activity day. She decided that she wanted to give it to Eric, who along with his brother Alex, the school support. When Jackie and I told him the story he was absolutely delighted as you can see, he gave you a thumbs up Ellie. Well done!



Below, the boys show off their new jumpers from Skinners School and their new shoes.





David Parker is a Yr 8 at Skinners School in Tunbridge Wells and has been very active getting his fellow students and teachers on board with fundraising for Harambee For Kenya. He got permission to sell key rings to his friends and did extremely well. The school also raised over £300 by taking a smartie tube and filling it with coins once the smarties have been eaten! Fantastic job everyone. Here is a picture of David's class who have really taken it on board. Well done everyone!

So what is next?

We now need to raise about £6000 to build a bungalow for Elijah and his family. Elijah is the only paid person as we need a full time carer for the boys in the house. Elijah is a lovely caring man with a wife and three children. At the moment he is staying in what will be the office upstairs. So it is important that we raise the funds to build a home for him.

So if you have any ideas to raise money, please feel free to share your ideas with us. BUT the best way to show it works would be for you to raise money and send it to us.

We look forward to hearing from you!

October Trip.

17th October to 31st October 2009

A number of the trustees are going back to the project in October. If you would like to join them please contact Lesley ASAP.

There is plenty of work for you to help with. We all pay our own way and to give you a guideline, it will cost you around £1000 if you get in early. We have the opportunity to get very reasonably priced flight tickets (£340) but that will vary if you delay.

Phone Lesley if you want to join the gang on 07941041616 and get more details.

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

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