

Newsletter



No. 54 Jan to Aug 2022

Hello everyone.

It's been a while since the last Newsletter for which we apologise. We have all been rather busy getting back into the swing of things since the "lockdowns" have all finished. What a relief to get back to some sort of normality.

Normality is such a wonderful word after the last two years. Chris, one of our trustees managed to get out to Kenya in February and check how things were going, which was really great. Tom another of the trustees is going out in September with two new supporters and Roger and Lesley are going out in October. It is so exciting for the boys to have people visit. For the last two and a half years they have been telling us in regular messages how they have missed us, and are always asking, "when are you coming back". So if any of you want to go out and visit the boys please contact us either by phone or email, both of which are below. The boys would love you to go and see them and you will be made very welcome

We have been busy taking the opportunity to do craft shows and fairs over the last few months to raise funds. We have been blessed both in taking money and making new contacts. Not least when we went to the Kent International Jamboree (KIJ22) where 3500 Scouts were camping for a week with many activities to do. We not only had our shop but ran activities to help the Scouts and Leaders understand about the education system in Kenya which is quite different to that of the UK with little or no choice in courses for college/university as well as being told where they will go for their education. As many of you know we also have to pay for their secondary education. Due to their economic climate we are also now having to pay toward some of their needs in Primary school too. Not easy! The Scouts and Leaders were quite surprised at the differences there were and many youngsters expressed how unhappy they would be to not have a choice and then to be sent hundreds of miles away from their homes without having a choice about it. If anyone wants to help us with the cost of the boys education please do contact us and we can give you more information.

The drought in Kenya has been particularly bad this year and together with all the issues that the Ukrainian situation have caused, the cost of fuel and food has risen astronomically which obviously causes the amount needed to care for the boys to rise, On top of this, the government have reneged on their policy that primary schools would be free and we are being asked for money to subsidise the cost of their education. Not easy for any family in Kenya but we have a family of 70 boys! We are keeping our head above water at the moment which is encouraging, but any extra assistance is welcome.

We hope you enjoy the newsletter and please note the date for our race night is 1st October. Please join us if you are able.

*Trustees:- Roger Dann (Chairman), Lesley Dann, Jackie Cooper, Mike Wilding, Ben Vince, Bill Compton,
Tom Nixon, Jackie Parker, Chris Dade*

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Our Thanks go to the following for their Support Please forgive us if we miss you out. We are so grateful to all of our supporters. Without you Harambee for Kenya would not exist and the boys could not be helped.

Shawn Kirby Michaela Stirling Tom Mitchell Pat Tregoning Phil Suter
Barry Langridge Chris Hyland All the golfers who played in the golf day.
Desbruslais Chartered Surveyors Brownhill Road Baptist Church
All the leaders and young people at KIJ22.
Patricia Musgrave. Hazel Savill Dave & Shirley Prout

And all our regular supporters

Race Night

We are holding a Race Night on 1st October 2022. This is a fun packed evening for all the family. Book your tickets by phoning 07941041616 or by email h4kinfo@gmail.com or speak to one of our trustees if you know them.

Buy a horse for £5 and if it wins the race you get £20.

Sponsor a race for £20 and we will advertise your business.

Tickets are £6 per adult £20 for a family of Four. This year, to save you money, please bring your own nibbles and drinks.

There will also be a raffle and a small shop.



If you are aware of any craft fairs or similar happening in the autumn or nearer Christmas (yes we have mentioned the "C" word!) please let us have the contact details so that we can consider having a stall.

Please let us know by email h4kinfo@gmail.com

Kent International Jamboree. (KIJ)

This was held at the start of the school holidays and our team camped on site for a week while giving young people and leaders an experience of carving woggles out of soapstone as well as doing activities to help understand what our boys in Kenya experience.

We also had a shop where the participants could buy gifts. We were blessed in that we sold items to a value of £5100 which really boosted our funds used to care for the boys. This was fantastic especially having been limited to engaging in fundraising events over the previous 2 years.

We were also privileged to have a banner bought for us by KIJ which we were able to display over the week and will be using it at the majority of our fundraising events. Thank you KIJ.



As many of you may be aware, three of our boys from Kisii are at University. Hudson, Dennis and Simon. Each of them are doing well and have just returned to University for the start of their second year, Simon and Dennis, and for Hudson, his third year.



Dennis



Hudson



Simon

Above KIJ soapstone carving.

Project News

Nyakoe

We have been getting regular updates from Andrew that all the boys are doing really well. In fact they have been learning skills to do with soapstone work and have been washing and rubbing down small balls which will be drilled and turned into necklaces. They seem to be enjoying doing this and it is a skill that some of them may want to do when they are older to earn money. They have the choice if they want to do this at the moment and it is great to see them working together.

All the boys are working hard at their schools and colleges. The university boys are enjoying the challenge and are doing well. We would like to thank all sponsors for their help in paying for this opportunity without which they would not get the chance. Simon and Dennis are about to start their second year while Hudson is starting his third year. Hudson did very well attaining 5th position in his year group at the end of the year.

The goats, Jackie and Sonia, are doing well. The kid is growing fast too.

The chicken project is also doing quite well but because of the way they look after them (in a house off the ground) it does cost rather a lot to feed them. We do try to encourage using scraps to give them but that is not done as regularly as we would like really. We are monitoring the progress and when we go out there we can update you more and even see if there can be improvements to help make it more successful.



They have managed to hatch more chicks.



Sonia the second goat has now arrived to join Jackie. They waited until they knew that Jackie would be cared for properly before introducing Sonia. The boys are very happy to have both the goats, Hopefully it will not be long before they are breeding so that the boys can have fresh milk.

Meru

The boys at Meru are also doing well with two more about to go to college. Edward is going to study agriculture which we are told, means if he does well, he could get a job within one of the government departments. It will be interesting to see what area of agriculture he enjoys most. So let us hope that he does well. He could be sent anywhere in Kenya if he manages this. But the qualification could lead to employment with the government if he does well.



One of the goats at Meru has had two kids. The boys are very excited about this. One is a male we have called Ben but we are waiting to decide what to call the other one as we have not been advised yet as to what sex it is. When we visit in October we will see who he/she looks like most and name it.

They are beautiful as you can see. The boys are going to have to keep on their toes and not leave things out that they do not want them to eat,'

A supporter called Curtis raised funds for the projects by competing and completing 7 iron man events. An amazing feat, At the moment he is visiting to see what some of his money is being spent on. Meru desperately needed re-painting and the Fundi's are doing this while he is there. Also the toilet doors broke up.....mainly because the carpenter added internal doors at the time of building rather than external doors (below), which were fitted before the Wzungus arrived. Hopefully these will last a lot longer than the others.



Gallery

