



CHADIK newsletter number ten

Introduction

David and Gilly Cowan visited Nanyuki in February and were able to see a couple of our projects in Kenya, as well as meeting the local team and discussing future projects. Both are members of our Management committee, and with a special involvement in the LISHAQ Self-help Centre were well equipped to report back to us. They were able to meet not only the local team monitoring the projects but also the medical team from Gertrude's Children's Hospital in Nairobi. These visits are described below.

Gertrude's They joined one of the monthly visits (Likii) and the quarterly visit to the HIV clinic in Nanyuki General Hospital on separate days. The clinics continue to run very smoothly with a few minor requests made to us. This is due to the high quality of the visiting team.

It seems that the outreach clinics in Dol Dol and Rumuruti are running well with enhanced reputation and attendance. Both are susceptible to bad weather affecting the roads making access for both patients and the team difficult.

The charity and Gertrude's are still looking at the viability of running an extra clinic at Solio but this



The picture shows Dr Judy Mbitha examining one of her patients at the Likii Clinic

area is not only made up of a number of small villages, but has no one focal place where the clinic could be held regularly. Solving this problem is very much on our "wish list".

LISHACG self help centre.

The IT centre is still giving concerns as to how best to promote the centre to the community and in



Peter Macharia, the IT manager with one of his students

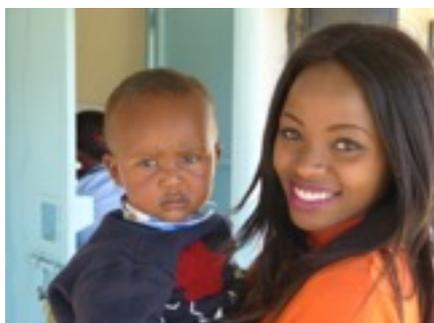
particular their children. The equipment is all working well and proving a major benefit to those adults and young making use of the facilities. The extra library benches are easing the congestion during the school holidays. Christine the librarian is working together with Peter, the IT manager, to promote the library services during term time as most children go home to do their homework. This is therefore a perfect time to encourage more adults and therefore reach a wider group of people.

Both the library and the IT centre work together to provide a good environment for learning and communication which are so central to the community's development.

Block making machine

In the past, the centre had a block making machine which only produced rectangular blocks for building, in which there was no commercial interest. CHADIK is looking at the possibility of buying a new machine making interlocking blocks, which do not need mortar and this machine can produce up to 500 bricks a day. The outside of buildings constructed in this way, however, have to be painted to prevent erosion.

This would provide much needed rooms, in particular sanitary and clean cooking areas, in a relatively short time. Once the equipment has been bought, the blocks would be sold commercially and bring in badly needed extra funding for LISHAG.



Celebrity Support for our work

There was great excitement at the Clinics where the staff were joined by current Miss Kenya, Idah Nguma who was there to support the work done by Gertrudes Childrens Hospital and to represent her chosen charity, Smile Train.

Agricultural Technology programme

Due to the generosity of the Richard Lawes Foundation, sufficient funds have been received by CHADIK to start the training programme. However, we have been very disappointed to learn that the Kenyan project team have been unable to raise funds locally to provide transport and a midday meal for these very poor children. This is being looked into urgently to find alternative support. We will not know until May whether our application to the City & Guilds has been successful

On the home front

We were delighted with the success of our dinner at the Buxted Inn. As a result of super raffle prizes and generous donations we made over £1,300, even better than last year. Now we are planning our summer entertainment on **July 18th** when Pippa Dames-Longworth, the opera singer, is bringing her group and a special version of Hansel and Gretel to entertain children of all ages. More details when we have worked out the programme.

The autumn lunch will be at Hendall Manor Barn on **Sunday October 4th**. Please get both dates in your diary now!! In addition we will be having a Kenya/CHADIK day on our trustee, David Rose's Eco farm, on **Saturday May 9th**, which will be convenient for those of you living nearby. More details to follow.

To spread the news of our activities more widely, I have been to the Kenya High Commission in London to meet a Counsellor for Education, Margaret Lesuuda and I am joining the Kenya Society and hope to give a talk there later in the year. Together with a young graphic designer, Stuart Mack, we have been busy designing a leaflet for a PR initiative.

Gillian Bullock April 2015.

www.chadik.org.uk