



CHADIK newsletter number eleven

It seems hard to believe that it is already four years since three of us split off from the Kijani Kenya Trust and started to form a new trust. It took us nine months to register with the Charity Commission but in those four years we have achieved a lot. Much of it has been a learning exercise trying to manage our projects long distance but we are steadily progressing.

I was recently in Nairobi to meet the Foundation Manager from Gertrude's Children's Hospital and took advantage of my time there to visit the Nyumbani Children's Home and the superb diagnostic laboratory. I was taken round the very impressive home as well as the labs by Sister Mary Owens and among other things learned the good news that there is now a "once a day" combination tablet for HIV patients. Hopefully this will help combat the adolescent drop out which is quite serious.



Gertrude's Children's Hospital

We are now looking at expanding our very successful monthly clinics into a new area, 20 km from Nanyuki, called Solio Villages. This is a group of six villages of displaced people established by the Kenyan government. I visited the health centre run by two experienced community nurses and noted that, not only is it very clean and adequately equipped, but that it is also within walking distance of five of the villages. To start this extra outreach clinic the plan is to run a medical camp of specialists and volunteers from Gertrude's to establish the particular health needs of the population. The hospital team has considerable experience in this as it runs them several times a year. We intend to apply for grants to cover both the camp and all our clinics which would be a great boost to our projects. (Photo of the Health Centre)



The agri-tech programme

We have been extremely lucky to obtain a very valuable grant from the Lawes Foundation to start this training programme for disadvantaged teenagers. Open advertising brought in a big response and selection by the Chiefs and pastors resulted in 30 students starting on May 5th. 21 boys and 9 girls are well through the first term and I had the pleasure of meeting them and their two Diploma teachers (photo of Alex Githua and Sospine Mutoto). We were entertained by song and verse, one of the latter was entitled Poverty is not a Curse and spoke of the joy to be given a chance of a real career. Two years from when we started planning we are on the way.



We have a number of problems to overcome still in that we still do not have news of the major grant we applied for as well as support from the Family Bank and Equity Bank in Nanyuki. A private sponsor has covered the travel and food costs for the students this but these costs have been at least doubled by the unilateral decision of the College Chairman to set up a full boarding facility. We can understand some of the justification to feed and house the students much better but the local Chief says that the change was not justified. This is being challenged by the Chairman and will have to be resolved. For the next term we are looking into bus transport on a daily basis as a possible alternative.

For the livestock training we are being given a piglet, lamb, goat kid and some rabbits which will reduce our budget very considerably. We are now looking at the other items for further essential savings. Crops and trees are being grown which will help further (photo above, spinach and kale in a nursery bed).

LISHACG IT centre and library

We are now in the position that the library is so popular at weekend and school holidays that seating has become a problem despite buying extra tables and chairs. Solar lights have been donated for installation in the library so that it can be kept open after school hours for home work.

Lack of advertising and initiative has led to very poor use of the internet and computers since my visit last September. The site committee has to resolve this problem as well as the very confused accounting resulting in unauthorised

expenditure. None of our money has been lost but the income expected to pay for the two staff is very much reduced.

We are now in a better position having reconciled the accounts and stated very clearly that only the agreed expenditure on essentials such as salaries can take place, otherwise agreement has to be put in writing. We will draft a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU), based on the ones we have with Gertrude's and Mt Kenya College, stating clearly procedures and responsibilities for both parties.

On a very encouraging note, we have the assistance of a volunteer, Gilbert Mwaas, who is a trained teacher with computer experience to work in the IT centre and develop its potential.

RealIPM

I also revisited Henry and Louise at their exciting developmental farm in Thika. Louise offered to visit the Ag/tech students and introduce them to biological pesticides. This, alongside the traditional use of chemical control of pests, will ensure they understand the pros and cons of each method.

On the home front

With monthly donations, fund raising and other generous support we are just about covering our costs but no more. A grant to cover our outreach clinic costs would relieve the strain and allow us to develop the other projects further.

Kenya and CHADIK fund raising day Newark

On May 9th David Rose our trustee from Farmeco together with Valentine Nkoyo (a Masai lady) organised the second Kenya Day with great success. Last year 10 Kenyans came from Nottingham and this year over 100 attended. Besides farm



trips for the children, a splendid meal was produced based on typical Kenyan food and including roasting goats reared on the land. (Photo - a Masai mother and child in traditional dress)

Two or three charities were involved this time and came well prepared with t-shirts and other items for sale so we will have to be better prepared next year. Even so nearly £100 was raised for our coffers.

CHADIK fund raising weekend

First of all, we must say a very big thankyou to Pippa Dames-Longworth and her "Singing Salon" who gave up their time for the three performances of Hansel &

Gretel. A lot of work was put into advertising, printing tickets and posters, and also preparing the ground for both Hansel and Gretel and the barbecue. Another thank you to all of you who helped so much with the preparations both beforehand and on both days. One thing at least we have learned is that sponsorship to cover our costs should be sought well in advance of a major production. We were very lucky to have had an anonymous donor otherwise our profit would have been much less. Thanks to all the other donors together with ticket sales we have raised £1000 towards our projects.

All who attended the performances thoroughly enjoyed them particularly the part in the woods. The singing echoed through the trees in a truly magical way. I am attaching photos at the end of this report to show some of the highlights. We were blessed by lovely sunny weather on both days and the barbecue followed by swimming was much appreciated.

Looking forward

Next diary date - Sunday October 4th at Hendall Manor Barns again.

Start inviting your friends to make up tables of ten if possible but smaller groups very welcome. Don't let them make other appointments. It would be lovely to see some new faces as well.

Gillian Bullock - July 2015

[www. chadik.org.uk](http://www.chadik.org.uk)