



## Kanyawegi Children's Home Newsletter

February 2015

**New name..... new home...** It seems appropriate that the new start in a new home should have a new name (the name 'Kanyawegi' referred to the site of the original home). After some consideration Roy Samo, the home's manager, applied to register the work as 'Emmanuel Community Based Organisation'. The intention is that, following successful registration, the home will be called '**Emmanuel Family Home**'. Emmanuel means 'God with us' and emphasises our belief that God is with us in supporting needy children and young people in Kenya. The name of the UK charity may change in time, too – but for now it remains the same.

**Manager visits the UK...** We were delighted to welcome Roy Samo (and his father Pastor Ambros Samo) to the UK in September 2014. They came at their own expense, having other friends and family to visit and other affairs to deal with. However, Roy was able to give considerable time to meeting with the Chairman and other committee members, enabling good discussion relating to the home and work of the charity. He was also able to meet some of the children's sponsors and give updates on their progress. Unfortunately, due to considerable difficulties in getting visas and having to travel when flights were affordable, we only had short notice of the date of their visit and were unable to arrange for him to see more people and/or churches.



**Staffing the home...** We are now able to provide an update on staffing:

Roy Samo	Home Manager
James Ayoki	Deputy Manager
Linda Akinyi	Head of Girls Affairs
Linnet Akinyi	House Parent
Ernest Ooko	Security & Maintenance

Of these just Linnet is new (and part time), coming from Pastor Ambros's work with the Rehema School. Unfortunately we had to say farewell to Pamela (a house parent), Christine (the cook) and Peter (one of the security guards at the old site). We are grateful for the positive contribution they made while at the Home.

**Didn't they do well...** A 'snapshot' of school results:

The latest performance grades available show some impressive results from some of the children. The priority for us is that the children are healthy, happy and safe, but they also appreciate the opportunity of a good education, and we want them to do their best. A young boy, 'Lucky', was found on the streets of Kisumu and brought to the home when he was aged about 5, with no traceable background. He is now fitter, happier, attending school regularly and has gained a 'C' grade. Others have done really well, notably Lilian Olgoli ('A' grade) and Wendy George (B+) who only recently joined the home. A few of the children have struggled, and of these 3 have moved to new schools which we hope will be helpful for them.



**A Big 'Thank You' to our sponsors...** We are extremely grateful to everyone who gives to support the work of Kanyawegi, including churches and other organisations that make occasional gifts. The lives of young people like those shown in this photo have been transformed by the ongoing support they have received.

There is no doubt that some orphans' lives have actually been saved through being rescued by the Home, and certainly they have been transformed through the education, training, support and care received. All this has been provided in a Christian atmosphere and the children have been encouraged to explore and live the Christian faith for themselves.

*Young people proudly showing off their uniforms in January at the start of the new school year.*

## **What about... ADMISSIONS?**

In previous newsletters this section has covered subjects such as the work of the Kenyan Board, the UK Committee, the Home's budget, fundraising, the staff and the children and their education. Here we look at how children come to the Home:

### **Traditional Admissions:**

The vast majority of the children and young people we support came to the home by being selected from a waiting list of orphans who had been highlighted as being in greatest need of support, and often were neglected and at risk. Staff from the Home would visit the 'family' and make a judgement about whether the child should be admitted to the home. On joining Kanyawegi they would be provided with a bed, clothes and medical care and in time introduced to education in a local school.

### **Current Position:**

For a few years we have been unable to admit many new children due to the rising costs of supporting those we already have. However, some new additions have occurred, usually through the following route:

### **Court Order Admissions:**

Sometimes the local Children's Department will come to the Home with a child or young person and insist that they are admitted - regardless of the fact that there may not be sufficient funds to support a new child! Lucky was one such admission, but there have been several others, including a girl we'll call Martha - who joined very recently. This is her story:

The District Children's Officer brought Martha to the Home. She is 16yrs old but had been out of school for a year doing child labour to help raise funds for her hospitalised mother (a single mum). Martha had just been rescued from abductors who were transporting her to Nairobi - and possibly on to Saudi Arabia - in connection with the child trafficking and slave trade that has been reported in Kenya.

There was no choice but to take her and, unusually, on this occasion we were told that her school fees would be covered by the Children's Office. However, even if that does happen, we will still have to meet other costs. Our hearts go out to children like this - but it is a fact that money also has to go out if we are to help them!

**Fundraising...** Two recent initiatives brought in some additional funds:

A Christmas gift scheme in one church meant folk could buy vouchers for friends (instead of traditional gifts) and let them know what the money would be used for in Kenya. The scheme raised **£135**. We intend to continue this through the year for birthdays etc. and enable more people to use it. See below for details.

A New Testament 'Read-a-thon' led by the Moxham family started at 7am on 30<sup>th</sup> December and involved the reading of the whole New Testament in one session, ending in the early hours of the following day! A number of people participated and even more sponsored the activity; **over £800** (inc. reclaimed tax via gift aid) was raised – a great achievement; many thanks to all involved!

## **MONEY £ MATTERS** (... it really does!)

### **A little more about the financial position:**

In the last newsletter we spoke of the move from the original site to a new Home. The sale of the old home went ahead, but unfortunately none of the proceeds were directed towards the new home; this was a huge disappointment to us. However, Pastor Luke (the previous chairman of the Kenyan Board and owner of the land) offered to support some of the older boys directly, and a few of the boys chose this option and left the care of Kanyawegi. This means their course fees do not need to be paid by us any longer, but it doesn't change the ongoing costs of running the home for the others.

The UK Committee are carefully considering options for the future and would love to see new sponsors coming forward to support the Home regularly. We thought it might be helpful to indicate the total costs per individual for those who wish to make a one-off donation, or plan their giving in a different way:

Currently the annual cost **just for education** varies with age, stage and institution but is between

£100 - £200	each for 2 of the children
£400 - £500	each for 3 of them
£500 - £600	each for 6
£600 - £700	each for another 6
£700 - £800	each for 5, and
£800 +	for 1 young person

In **addition** to these figures are all the costs of living and running the home, including rent, fuels, staffing, food, bedding, medicines, clothing, transport etc. Currently this works out at about **£1,000 per head per year**, averaged over the entire age range.

There are at present **around 25 children and young people** in the Home or at college, supported chiefly by gifts from

individual sponsors or churches. As a charity we have stated that we want to support all these individuals through their education. Unfortunately this is not achievable on the current regular income, much less taking in more children in need. Please do what you can to help, including recommending the charity to friends and neighbours and giving them information if interested.

*If you have problems thinking of birthday/anniversary presents and would like to give or receive something that is unusual, useful and appreciated – then look no further! How about our gift voucher scheme?* It works like this: a donation of any amount from £5 to... £? (the sky's the limit!)

can be made to Kanyawegi, and a voucher printed out with your preferred wording. It could say that a donation has been made to the general funds of Kanyawegi UK (with or without specifying the amount) – or you may like to suggest a particular way in which the donation could be spent (eg: £5, a mosquito net; £7.50, a course of malaria treatment; £11, a pair of shoes; £25, a special activity/treat such as a swimming trip for the children; £125, a year of primary education – and so on). The voucher would be set in a card with a photograph of some of the children/young people on the front so that you could give it as a gift card to your friend/family member (see example pictured on the right). For further information, or if you would like to do this, please contact: Gill Skinner, 35, Spring Ground Road, Paulton, Bristol, BS39 7RA. Telephone: 01761 751006. Email: [gskinnermail@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:gskinnermail@tiscali.co.uk).



**KANYAWEGI UK**  
**Standing Order**

To the Manager .....p.l.c.

Address .....

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Please pay the account of Kanyawegi U.K. at:  
**Barclays Bank, 37 Milsom Street, Bath BA1 1DW**  
**Sort Code 20-05-06 Account No. 93390446**

The sum of £.....

In words: .....

On the .....(day) of .....(month) .....(year)

and thereafter on the same day of each month until  
further notice.

Please debit my Account No. ....

Sort Code: .....

In the name of .....

Signed: .....

Print name: .....

Date: .....

X

**Gift Aid Declaration**

Send to Kanyawegi UK, Mayfair House, 21  
Ashgrove, Peasedown St John, Bath. BA2 8EB:

I want Kanyawegi UK to treat all donations I make  
as gift aided donations until otherwise notified.

Signed: .....

Date: .....

Full Name: .....

Address: .....

.....  
Kindly remember to notify Kanyawegi UK if you no longer  
pay an amount of income tax or Capital Gains tax equal  
to the tax on your donations

**Prayer Pointers**



Please pray...

- that the children will stay healthy and happy
- that if school is hard they'll still try to improve
- that the staff will continue to work effectively
- that Roy Samo will continue to lead expertly
- that the UK Committee will have wisdom
- that adequate resources will be forthcoming

Most of all, please pray that in all we do as a charity  
we may experience the reality of God being with us  
(Emmanuel). The work is one way in which we can  
show God's love and care to needy people. Ultimately  
we want all people to know what a great God he is,  
and how great was the sacrifice he gave in his Son, the  
Lord Jesus Christ

**KANYAWEGI UK**

**Registered Charity No. 1106296**

**UK Committee (The Trustees):**

**Chairman:** Peter Skinner (01761 751006) or  
[prskinner@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:prskinner@tiscali.co.uk)

**Treasurer:** Sally Petit

**Sponsor Coordinator:** Doreen Moxham (01761 437256)  
or [timmoxham@aol.com](mailto:timmoxham@aol.com)

and.. Sarah Moxham  
(also supported by Elizabeth Maggs & Gill Skinner)

**Website:** The website is a fantastic source of  
information about the Home and the charity. There is  
also a Facebook page – so have a look at that too!  
[www.kanyawegi-uk.org/index.aspx](http://www.kanyawegi-uk.org/index.aspx)

**ebay** Whenever you buy or sell something through  
ebay you can make a donation to Kanyawegi UK – and  
we are grateful to those who have done this in the  
last year.

Please use the form on the left if you wish to make a  
donation and/or become a regular sponsor. If you  
are a taxpayer please consider Gift Aid, as the charity  
benefits greatly from reclaiming the tax.

Thank you.