



# Emmanuel Home Newsletter

(formerly Kanyawegi Children's Home)

Aug 2016

## Latest News – a period of stability!

After a period of quite significant changes over recent years we can report that things are more settled at Emmanuel Home now and this newsletter will help you to understand more about how the children and young people we support are progressing and where they are based during the week.

Currently the Home is fully supporting around 30 individuals directly – 10 girls and 20 boys, spanning nursery age up to young adults. An informal partnership with Rehema Mission School (run by Pastor Ambros Samo – father of Roy Samo, the Home Manager) has developed over the last year as it has provided an appropriate education option for 9 of the children. They stay there during the week and at Emmanuel Home during the weekends and holidays. A few youngsters stay at the Home all week and are joined during half terms and holidays by those who are at boarding school. Four of the older boys are now living with relatives but are still being supported in their education by the charity, and their progress is monitored by staff from the Home who visit them periodically.

Since last January we have been able to support 7 youngsters (included in the 30 mentioned above) as they started Primary School for the first time. Five of these were brought to the home by a local 'chief' after being rescued from an abusive father and we had little choice other than to care for them. How long we are able to continue supporting them in education depends entirely upon the charity receiving sufficient funds from donors.

## Young Adults make good progress:

*Rachel Atieno* is one example of a success story of a girl who was supported right through her schooling and university studies. She graduated and went on to Kilifi Kenya Medical Research Training College where she did a Nursing course in 2015 before then getting a job. *Kevin 4* (Kevin Okoth) has recently completed his Computer Knowledge course at Muscom Computer College but also did a driving course at the Imperial Driving School. He is now volunteering at Rehema Mission School – helping out with some of the office work - see picture on left. Several of these folk are in their early 20's and have been supported for many years by Kanyawegi UK. It is not unusual for children, especially orphans, to start their education quite late, meaning they are much older (compared with the UK) when



they come to complete their college courses.

Another Kevin, *Kevin Osumo*, (pictured on the right) is currently 'on attachment' (work placement). He is in his 3<sup>rd</sup> year of a Molecular and Cell Biology course at Kenyatta University and is due to finish in 2017. The number of young people being supported at polytechnic or university is diminishing as we are no longer able to commit to supporting young people in education beyond secondary school level, due to the high cost of fees. We will, however, do all we can to help them access grants or other support when they leave their secondary schools.



Earlier this year *Roseline Okisa* completed her Diploma in Food Science and Technology at the Eldoret National Polytechnic. She is currently searching for appropriate work.



*Josuia Odera* (pictured left) is currently in the second year of his Diploma in Medical Laboratory Technology at The Kisumu National Polytechnic. *Francis Onyango* is at the same institution, doing a Diploma in Applied Biology. It is great to know that all these young people joined the Kanyawegi Children's Home as orphans when they were quite young and have progressed so well through their education, due to the ongoing and kind support of individual sponsors, churches and other donors.



Another example of progress is *Dancan Otty* (pictured on the right). He is in his second year of an Environmental Science course at Masinde Muliro University of Science and Technology, where he will study until 2018.

### What about the 'Young Ones'?

As has been reported before, the Home was unable to admit new orphans for quite a while because the financial resources were insufficient to be able to guarantee them ongoing support in



the Home and through their education. Of course, we have had to accommodate some new children left at the Home by a local chief but currently we are not able to commit to more than Primary School education for them. However, the children we do have are happy and healthy and really value the opportunity to go to

school. The picture above shows them in Emmanuel Home after a tiring trip to visit and learn about the local airport in Kisumu.

For the ones being schooled at Rehema Mission School there are good opportunities to make new friends – some of whom also joined them on the visit to the airport. One lad we have mentioned before is 'Lucky', who at the approximate age of 5 was rescued from the street in Kisumu and who has no known close family or relatives. He was shy and quiet, and at the time knew no English. After several months being cared for at the Home he was stronger, healthier and happier and able to join a nursery school and get



some education for the first time. He is now at Primary School, doing well, can speak some English and has made some good friends (see photo – Lucky is on the left).

## Ongoing Appeal for funds

Thank you to everyone who continues faithfully to support the work of the charity Kanyawegi UK which funds the work of Emmanuel Home in Kisumu where all these children and young people are helped to make the most of their lives in a Home with a Christian ethos. As has long been the case, the demands of running the Home plus all the school and college fees means that we are always seeking out new sources of funding. Please make your friends and relatives aware of this valuable work so that it can continue and the children we have are supported through their education.

**Vote of thanks for Paulton Methodist Church.** As it's his local polling station, the Chairman visited the church to cast his vote in the referendum on Europe. He was encouraged to see a table top sale area that has been maintained there for several years, with the proceeds being passed on to Kanyawegi UK. The UK may be leaving Europe, but may that sale table REMAIN for as long as possible! On behalf of the charity, he thanks the church and all the individuals who have been faithfully supporting the work in this way for so long.

**Staff at the Home...** Please pray for them:

*Roy Samo* is the Home Manager, but is also kept busy with other business interests . Please pray that he will have wisdom in all his decisions. *Linda Akinyi* is the main 'House Parent' , looking after the needs of the children staying in the Home, but also travelling out to visit children at boarding schools or colleges to check on their progress and welfare. *Ernest Ooko* started as a Security & Maintenance officer, but he too is now involved in the visiting of those boarding away from the Home.

**'Emmanuel' ... God is with us ... including through the last year...** In June last year we reported the devastation caused by a storm and are pleased to say that within a few weeks most of the damage was repaired and things largely got back to normal. However, since then there have been a number of sad events impacting upon the people involved with the Home and charity. In October 2015 we were shocked to hear of the sudden death of the longest-serving 'house-parent' and deputy manager, James Ayoki. He is sorely missed by many. The following month the longest serving Trustee and sponsor co-ordinator Doreen Moxham died unexpectedly, shortly after an operation from which she had been recovering well. Doreen had visited Kanyawegi Children's Home several times and was a great support to the children and the work generally. The UK Committee thank God for all Doreen's faithful service and miss her very much. In January 2016 Roy Samo (the Home Manager) had the great sadness of losing his sister. Then in February Roy was involved in a serious car accident in which he and others were injured and his friend George (who was driving the car) was killed.

Where is God in all this? Bereavements and accidents happen to all sorts of people, including Christians – who are not immune from the negative impacts of these events. However, we believe in a God who is faithful and trustworthy and is able to sustain us and give us peace even in the worst of circumstances. Roy has shown great strength of character and resilience as he has relied upon God through all the above events.

**MORE INFORMATION about the work:** For further information, please contact Gill or Pete Skinner, 35, Spring Ground Road, Paulton, Bristol, BS39 7RA. Telephone: 01761 751006. Email: [gskinnermail@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:gskinnermail@tiscali.co.uk) or [peteskinner123@gmail.com](mailto:peteskinner123@gmail.com)

## **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: .....



### **Gift Aid Declaration**

**Send to Kanyawegi UK, 35 Spring Ground Road,  
Paulton, Bristol. BS39 7RA:**

*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 (particularly £650 extra needed for Sept)

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  
[peteskinner123@gmail.com](mailto:peteskinner123@gmail.com)

**Treasurer & Secretary:** Sally Petit  
Sarah Moxham

(The Committee is also supported by Elizabeth Maggs & Gill Skinner)

**Website:** The website is a fantastic source of information about the Home and the charity and has been recently updated by Richard Portsmouth – Thank You!

[www.kanyawegi-uk.org/](http://www.kanyawegi-uk.org/)

There is also a Facebook page – so have a look at that too! Note its new address:

[www.facebook.com/EmmanuelHomeKanyawegiUK](https://www.facebook.com/EmmanuelHomeKanyawegiUK)

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.