



Registered Charity Number 1044872

The Karibuni Trust Newsletter Winter/Spring 2009/2010



Karibu Mr John! (Welcome, Mr John!)

Welcome to our new Chairman, John Cotton, whose first letter as Chair is in this newsletter. We look forward together with optimism and confidence.

We had already agreed a new structure to spread the work load among more volunteers - giving them specific roles. Some have already started – David Welsh is the new Project Liaison Coordinator, Michael Carr has agreed to be the Trust Fundraiser and Andrea Sheppick the Trustees' Minute Secretary – all welcome additions to the team. Tuni Mordue has been holding the fort in the office by keeping the data base up-to-date. We hope that others will soon be in place – see our 'Situations Vacant' – and watch this space! These are exciting developments for the future of Karibuni Trust.

As the work increases in Kenya the Trust is also having to consider employing someone to work there, probably part-time, to be Karibuni's link and support person 'on the ground'.

The person appointed will be a Kenyan with relevant qualifications and committed to the aims and objectives of the Trust.

Many of you will have read about the drought and famine conditions in many parts of Kenya, and the effects are wide-spread. In Nairobi the electricity is being cut off for three days a week which also affects the water supply, so even in the capital many people are struggling, especially, of course, those who are already living in terrible conditions in the slums. The short rains have started in some areas and we hope and pray that there will be sufficient rain to produce healthy crops, but not enough to cause flooding on the parched earth.



Right, a young woman crosses a dry river bed near Marimanti carrying water home from a distance – how many times in a day?

The effects are obviously being felt acutely in the projects with rapidly increasing costs of basic food, water and other necessities, and the staff all need wage increases as their costs for caring for their own families and travelling to work increase. Karibuni Trust is being challenged to meet these increases so that the work among these very poor children and families can be maintained.

Some news of the projects, the children and young people

At [Limuru](#) the struggle continues with many carers unable to pay the low fees for their children resulting in the project being unable to pay the teachers during the school holidays. Karibuni Trust has just agreed to pay



Above: new bench desks on the mud floor!

for the classroom floors to be concreted – currently most of them are mud floors – revolting in the rains and chokingly dusty in the dry season. In addition we've just heard that our application to BHA for funding for 'Eco-Stoves' has been approved and this will mean reduced costs for wood and a much-improved healthy atmosphere for the kitchen staff, and with benefits for the environment.

A note of thanks from [Kawangware Academy](#) –

'Thank you so much for making the lives of many desperate children afford a smile and give them bright future'

There is a new welfare officer in post at [Tharaka Women's and Children's Project, Marimanti](#), for which we are very thankful. Julius hit the ground running when he started as he had to organise the University/College/Vocational Training admissions for all the Secondary School leavers. Unfortunately some will have to wait until next year as the admission date had passed.

The three small homes to rent which our work party helped to build in February 2009 at [Wesley Empowerment Centre, Njoro](#), are all being rented to local people and bringing some income to the project. The wall to protect the borehole from damage has been built thanks to the money raised for this purpose by Short Cross Methodist Church, Halesowen.



The new wall and security gates for the borehole

A recent letter received from Rev Ferdinand Mkare at [Hunajeza](#) says

'The project is doing very well now and we are about to finish with the building, (of the dining/community hall and kitchen). We have done the roofing, the floor and the interior, we are now about to do the windows. We wish to thank you sincerely for your prayer and support.'

Karibuni Trust made a small grant towards these costs, but the local people have raised most of the money and provided much of the labour. This building will mean that the children will not have to walk so far from school for their lunch, the Women's Group secretary will not have to accommodate half of them at her small home under a banana leaf shelter, and the hall will be available for many community based purposes for the children and the local people – some of which will be income-generating for the project.

Mark Mwenda from the [Meru Children's Home](#) is in his last year at Secondary School and is expected to get a good grade and will be hoping to go to University/College.

The four boys being sponsored from [Meru Township Programme](#) are all doing well. Henry's grades in his 1st year are averaging at A-; John, who shared the storeroom at the project with Henry, and Martin are working hard, as is Joseph who is getting C+. These boys are from similar backgrounds; Joseph's single mother is an alcoholic who also brews the local liquor – it's overwhelming to see the changes being made in their lives and the undreamed of opportunities they are being given, and see potentially wasted lives being made whole!



Some of the children's carers at Meru Township Programme

There are more children who are reaching the required standard to go to Day Secondary School who we are unable to help at this stage. And even more living on the streets that are still unreached by anyone.

We get news regularly from the two young men at University – Daniel at Nairobi University and Jeffrey at Moi University in Eldoret, also Robert who hopes to join them in January, depending on the results of his exams – see below. They are so appreciative of the opportunity they have been given and are determined to do well and bring credit to Karibuni Trust and all the donors who have supported them through school and continue to do so. Here are some excerpts from their letters (addressed personally to Bill and Joy Murphy, as they are the faces of Karibuni Trust for them!) –

"I'm very thankful for care and concern that you have expressed to me, may the Lord almighty bless you abundantly. Bishop Mbaya gave me Kshs 10,000 on Friday, and I acted according to your instruction. I have only three weeks toward the exams which start on 07/12/09 and end on 23/12/09, so I kindly request you for your prayers because I know that working hard plus God equal to success. Thank you very much for such parental love that you have expressed to me, which I have never experienced before in my life, may the Lord expand your boundaries as you serve Him.

Your loving son, Robert"

“Greetings to you Dad Bill and Mum Joy in the name of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. I wish to inform you that I am fine and doing well here at school. I also appreciate your esteemed concern and quick enough response that you made regarding my education. Thank you so much for your kind and timely support that will definitely see me achieve my education well. Greet all that



you love, and tell them that you have a son in Africa, who is growing up to become a person worthy a mention, and an inspirer to many, as it is the case so far. I am proud to belong to you, and be attached to you, even with the love of Christ. Your loving son from Africa, Kenya, Daniel”

Above Left to Right – Robert,

Daniel, Sarah (now at Kenya Medical Training Institute) and Caroline (soon to join Sarah)

“Hi Mr and Mrs Bill,

I thank you so much for the money that you sent me for my school fees. Mr Kirima (his head master from Primary School) is advising me on how we will arrange on the cost of the food as you had told me to. I thank God that you people are there to help me whenever I have a problem. I have no word to say thank you but the only thing that I will do so that you can be happy is to perform my best in the university since it is the prayer of every parent like you. Again like I promised you during my high school course, I will get to the top and get the first class honours! (THE TOP!). Have a good night/day. Your son, Jeffrey”



We are seeking sponsorship for young people going on to Higher Education and we are grateful that so far two of them are being supported by friends in the UK.

Karibuni Trust in the UK

We continue to be grateful to our many supporters throughout the country and marvel at the various ways they have found to raise money to support the work in Kenya.

📧 During 2009 we said ‘Goodbye’ to three long-serving Trustees and we want to register our gratitude to them for their countless hours and valuable input in many ways. They continue to be Karibuni’s good friends and supporters. Thank you and ‘go well’ as they say in Kenya!

Now our Situations Vacant – all voluntary posts, some (but not all) can be done from a distance thanks to the wonders of the World Wide Web!

1. There is a pressing need for a good part-time **Administrator** to organise our office and the volunteers working there. He/she will need to live within reach of Stoke Mandeville Methodist Church.
 2. We are looking for a **Communications** expert – this could be done remotely and would include working with all our means of communicating our image and message – newsletters, flyers, the website and presentations – and more.
 3. A **Stock Controller** is needed to be responsible for ordering and organising stock and preparing boxes for events such as market stalls and weekend events. Again this person would need to be within reach of the store at Stoke Mandeville – and not have back problems!
 4. And we’re also looking for a **Work Party Organiser** to arrange meetings with potential workers, book flights, liaise with the projects and arrange accommodation in Kenya. This role could be done remotely via the internet and would be ‘seasonal’ as the visits are usually late January - February.
- 📧 Don’t forget to collect redundant mobile phones – Christmas is when many people get a new mobile and a notice in your church notices could be fruitful! If you collect a minimum of 30 phones then Greener Solutions will collect them from most areas without charge. Karibuni Trust gets a flat rate of £2 per phone – money from re-cycling, and helping to save the world too!
 - 📧 Please let us have your e-mail addresses and so that we can keep our data base up to date and keep you in touch with news. Let us know if you would prefer not to have your newsletters by e-mail in future, and also if you require paper copies for distribution in addition to e-letters.
 - 📧 If you have a fund raising event – big or small – please let Keith Hailey know and send him pictures and a write-up for the website. His e-mail address is: khailey@jee.org

e-mail: karibunitrust@uwclub.net web-site: www.karibuni.org.uk
4 Darvill Road, Stone, AYLESBURY, HP17 8PU

Letter from John Cotton, Chairman of the Karibuni Trust

Dear Friends

As you will know, I have recently taken over from Bill Murphy as Chairman of the Karibuni Trust.

Under Bill's inspirational leadership, the charity, which was established almost 15 years ago, has grown year by year so that it now supports fourteen projects in Kenya, involving well over 1200 children. This would not have been possible without the active support of numerous people drawn from all over the UK, who, having heard the unique story of the charity's beginnings and of the real difference it is making to the lives of desperately needy children, have given so generously of their time and of their money.

Like many people, I got to know Bill and Joy Murphy through my local Methodist Church, which, for several years, has supported the work of the Karibuni Trust. In 2006, a year after my retirement, I helped facilitate a Trustee workshop and the following year I joined a Work Party visit to Kenya. Having seen both the scale of the need and what is being achieved through the projects which the Karibuni Trust is sponsoring, I was well and truly hooked and soon afterwards was delighted to be asked to become a Trustee.

Looking to the future, I am delighted (and mighty relieved!) to say that both Bill and Joy remain very actively involved in the work of the charity. The task which we all face is to build on the notable achievements so far, strengthening the charity and its ability to support needy children by further growing our loyal base of supporters and by spreading some of the day-to-day work amongst a larger team of volunteers. If you feel that you might be able to help in any way, please do get in touch with me.

As you will have seen from this newsletter, the challenges in Kenya are numerous and our support is needed more than ever. What's more, we are determined to ensure that we stand by as many of the children in our projects as we can while they progress through their education. That involves a long term commitment on our part and so we are particularly grateful to those of you who have helped to give more certainty to our income by committing yourselves to regular giving.

I look forward to getting to know more of you, our supporters, over the coming months and would be delighted to hear from you about any issue relating to the Karibuni Trust.

Yours sincerely

John Cotton

(Tel: 01296 681226 e-mail: johnwgcotton@globalnet.co.uk)



Registered Charity number: 1044872

BANKER'S ORDER FORM

To the Manager: Bank PLC

Branch Address:

.....

..... Postcode

Please pay to The Karibuni Trust £ every year / quarter / month.

Starting date for payments (state number or ongoing) to:

Barclays Bank PLC Account number 70692697 Sort Code 20-03-18

Title..... Forename/s: Surname

Signature Date

Your Account Number Your Sort code

Your Address

.....

..... Postcode

Please complete the form and send it to Rev William Murphy, The Karibuni Trust, 4 Darvill Road, Stone, AYLESBURY, HP17 8PU.

The Banker's Order will be sent to your bank after registration at the Karibuni Trust office.

If you are a tax payer, please consider signing this declaration authorising the charity to reclaim the tax you have already paid on this amount of money, from the Inland Revenue.

THE KARIBUNI TRUST GIFT AID DECLARATION

I want The Karibuni Trust to treat this and all donations I have made in the previous six years, and all donations I make from the date of this declaration until I notify you otherwise, as Gift Aid donations.

To be eligible for Gift Aid you must pay Income or Capital Gains Tax in the UK equal to, or more than, the amount that we will reclaim on your donations. If you pay tax at a higher rate, you can claim further tax relief for this donation on your Self Assessment Tax Return.

Title: Forename(s): Surname:

Address:

..... Postcode: Signed:

If you do not want further information from Karibuni Trust, please tick this box:

Telephone: 01296 748128 e-mail: karibunitrust@uw.club.net website: www.karibuni.org.uk
Treasurer: Mrs. Pat Wignall 30 Brudenell Drive, STOKE MANDEVILLE, HP22 5UR