

kivuli NEWS

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Kivuli Project Inc is proud to be a project partner for J606N with Global Development Group (ABN 57 102 400 993) www.globaldevelopment.org.au



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jambo friends,

What an actioned packed month it was for Kivuli, both in Australia and Kenya. The support from Australia and generosity of donors has been once again extremely overwhelming and it has wonderful to be able to share the Kivuli story with so many, in both countries!

Now that plans have been finalised we can share with you that we have decided to remain in Australia until the end of September, instead of returning this month. One of a few reasons for this (besides being able to enjoy carpet for that little while longer!) is the opportunity to increase the profile of Kivuli Project Australia. Some wonderful opportunities to do this have occurred since being back including presentations to a variety of groups, churches, individuals and clubs. In

addition, the Kivuli Australia Board are currently undertaking strategic planning for the future of the Kenyan project; being able to work with them to complete this task before we return to Kenya will be of great benefit.

Dan and Kate Hickingbotham have again shown their amazing flexibility, 'can-do' attitudes and heart for the project. After returning to Australia at the beginning of July, they will return to the project at the end of the August school holidays for another six weeks until we return.

We thank God once again for providing for Kivuli through Kate and Dan and are very excited and expectant about the work He will do in the coming months and years.

Love Dan and Dee



madaraka day

On the first day of this month the Kivuli family celebrated Kenya's day of independence, known as Madaraka Day. This was a public holiday, so a day off school for all the kids and a day off work for most people in Kenya. There was a special ceremony to mark the occasion at the Ndaragwa football field. The ceremony included appearances from the local police, who marched their way around the field and an appearance from a prisoner choir, who sang and danced for the audience. We also heard speeches from local government members who spoke about how Kenya attained independence.

Kivuli enjoyed a special family lunch of potatoes, meat and chapati. We were also excited to receive a Madaraka Day gift from the local Msamaria (general store), who we regularly purchase supplies from. They gave us 30 loaves of bread and a big bottle of fruit juice for the kids to share. It's a blessing to receive donations from local businesses.



from dan and kate...

June was another busy month for the kids. They all studied hard through their mid-term exams and all got impressive results. Harrison and Francis returned home from boarding school for about a week for their mid-term break. It was great to have the whole Kivuli family together (minus the Rutherfords of course) and great to hear about how they are going at high school.



This month we had our regular once a term visiting day, where we had guardians and family members come to visit. We shared in a lunch together and the kids spent time catching up with their family members. Once again, it was a difficult time for those kids who didn't have family to visit them. This situation is a constant reminder of the importance of Kivuli, in the love and care it provides these kids and also a reminder about the importance of the financial support that comes from Australia.

The Kivuli Stars Football team had many matches this month. The boys very much look forward to Sunday afternoons, when they can put on their uniforms and have fun playing against other local teams. They returned home one Sunday showing much excitement after winning against another local team who had always been very difficult competition! The boys are also learning about teamwork, giving everyone a chance to play on the field and humility in winning.

sarah and dan visiting

During this month, Dan H's sister Sarah and her husband, another Dan (Uncle Dan C), visited Kivuli and spent a week with the kids. Here is a reflection from Sarah about their time here...

It has been such a great experience to be part of the Kivuli community for a week. We have been warmly welcomed by all the children and staff. Our highlights have

been simply being part of daily life with the children- walking to school, eating meals, playing games, chopping firewood and helping with preps. As a teacher, I (Sarah) loved seeing the work the children were doing, and particularly helping some of the students with their reading. It is impressive to see the way the whole place runs like clockwork, a credit to all of the staff. The love and care the children receive here is evident in all their interactions with each other and the constant smiles on their faces.



new chairman

We are pleased to announce that we have appointed David Craig as new Chairman for Kivuli Australia. David has a background in advocacy for the disabled and has a wealth of strategic planning experience. He has a great connection with Africa, spending the first 15 years of his life in Ethiopia. We welcome David as Chairman of the Board and look forward to working with him.



trivia night

We would like to thank everyone who attended the Kivuli Trivia night on the 4th of June. Over 160 people attended and we raised over \$5800!! We had a great night and even had a live Skype performance from the Kivuli kids themselves all the way from Kenya – a real highlight!!

We also send a huge thank you out to our fundraising team (Shannon, Beck and Jacqui), to our MC's (Christian and Sharon), to those individuals who helped on the night, and to the various individuals and business who donated goods.



the day of the african child

This month, Kivuli, along with other children's homes and schools in Kenya celebrated 'The Day of the African Child'. This day recognises and celebrates children growing up in Africa and allows them to have their voices heard about issues that concern them. 14 Kivuli kids piled into the Kivuli van along with Uncle Dan, Aunty Kate and Aunty Loise to attend a ceremony located at Rurii Polytechnic, about an hour away from Kivuli. The theme for the day was to acknowledge the plight of street children and the importance of developing solutions in order to get the children off the streets.

The 14 Kivuli kids were very excited to attend the day. These children had their names picked out of a hat, as it was not possible for all of the Kivuli kids to come along. During the weeks leading up to the day they spent time preparing a short performance, a Kiswahili poem with actions. The poem was about how children should be treated fairly by adults, especially their own families. Joseph, one of the class 8 boys was chosen to give a short speech in line with the day's theme, so he was treated as a guest of honour, sitting on the stage with the other important guests. He spent time writing the speech himself and spoke very professionally about

solutions for street children, such as; education, food, housing and love.

The Kivuli children were given an opportunity to meet children from other children's homes, including children with disabilities and a group of street boys who were invited to attend the day. We watched as each home or school made a presentation; dances, songs, poems and dramas. There were also a number of speeches from local government officials and health workers. The children also shared in lunch together.

Overall, the day was a great celebration of children in Africa and a great experience for the Kivuli kids, who don't often get to venture out for such opportunities.



child profile

Name: Yvonne Wambui

Age: 13

Favourite food: Chapati and Meat

Favourite sport: Football

What do you want to be when you grow up: Lawyer

Tell us something interesting about Kenya or Kivuli: Kivuli Project is in Kenya. In Kivuli we have people who help us and teachers for lessons at night. I have a sponsor in Kivuli. We are given special foods and treatments and sometimes we have visitors come and visit us. I love Kivuli!

thank you girls

We mentioned last month that a young group of girls from Wangaratta chose Kivuli as their Organisation for a school community learning centre project. We thank Georgia, Natalie, Grace, Jo, Amy and Sophie for their work and initiative. Now that their project has finished, we are happy to announce they raised over \$200 in total, a fantastic effort! They did this by raffles, a staff luncheon at their school, casual days at a number of schools and other means. Thank you!



for those that pray

Prayer Points

- Pray for the process of searching for a new staff member for Kivuli to help the children with their homework at night, as interviews are conducted next week.
- Pray for Kivuli during the months of July and August, as Anne and the other staff manage the project.

Praise Points

- Thanks for visitors from Australia who come and share with the kids, and help them enjoy their lives at Kivuli.
- Praise God for the fun had during the Kivuli Trivia Night and the huge amounts of money raised.

to donate

Donations to this Global Development Group (ABN 57 102 400 993) approved aid and development project J606N Kivuli Project are tax deductible.

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