



Dear Friends,

A very **Happy Christmas** and **New Year** to you all – how quickly time has passed since the January newsletter.

In 2004 it is planned to publish 2-3 updates to keep you all up to date with current developments.



Happy Home is now providing a home for some **32 children** (23 boys and 9 girls) as well as supporting **17 children** (10 girls and 7 boys) in the **local community**, especially with their education costs.

Primary school education tuition fees are now **paid by the Kenya Government** but all other costs need to be met by the pupil and family.

Secondary education (from 14-18 years old) costs around **£200/year** but enables pupils to take the national Kenya School Certificate of Education exam (equivalent of UK GCSEs).

Currently there are **20 secondary** school pupils.

George Ochola is continuing his time in the UK with his family, doing part time study and Chaplaincy work. Jenipher is continuing to enjoy working with and bless a number of folk suffering from mental health problems.

Happy Home now has a day to day contact in **Mrs Dorcas Awinda**, along with a residential Production Manager looking after special projects such as the tailoring venture, an Accounts Clerk, three cooks and a gardener/security guard. Further **dedicated people** are needed to ensure continued growth and service provision.

Please pray for:

- **wisdom** and **safety** for the current **staff** and the need for more
- **health** and **wellbeing** of all the **children** and young people





This is a special time for Happy Home as it now has its own UK charity – the “**Happy Home Kenya Trust**”.

Established in October this year it has taken over the funds previously deposited with **Ashtead Parish Church** and is the main means of fund provision from the UK.

Once Charity Commission registration is complete then it will apply for Gift Aid approval.

The current **Trustees** are Peter Adkins, Jonathan Barnes (Chair and Secretary), Kay Johnson (Treasurer), Philip Marsden, George Ochola and Robert Sopwith.

Thank You

A big thank you to **Ashtead Parish Church** for all the support that they have given to Happy Home in handling its UK finances for many years.

A special mention must be made of **Eileen Campbell** for her tireless dedication which is now ably being carried on by Kay Johnson.

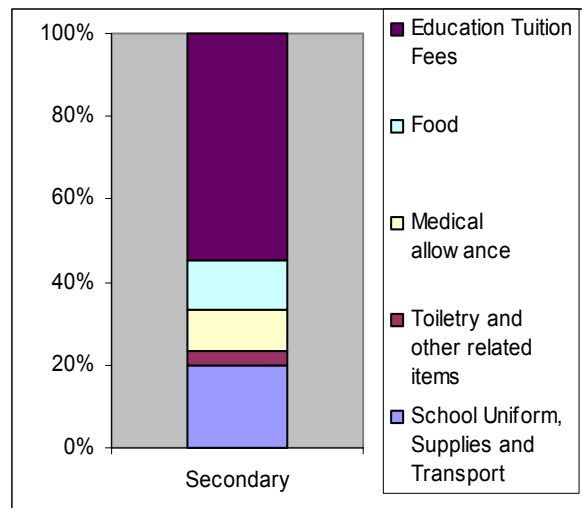
Another thank you must go to **John Fell** who has given his legal and professional services freely to ensure the smooth set up of the UK trust and advise the Trustees.

Although a significant proportion of Happy Home’s funding comes from UK it does receive money and gifts in kind (such as sugar) from some **local** sources:

- nearby agrochemical factory
- the local Anglican Church and other Denominations
- occasional grants from the Kenya Government as well as individuals.

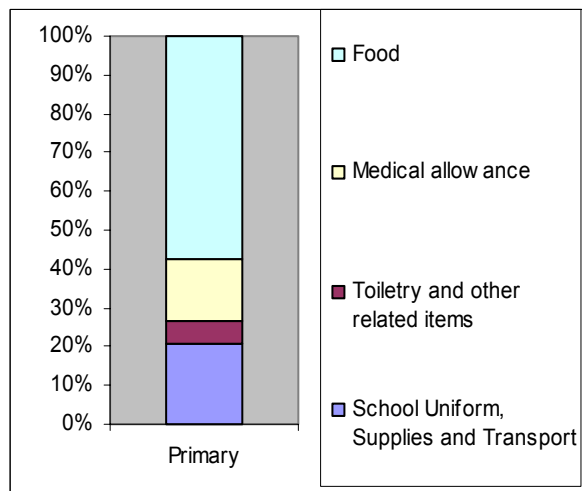
The **budget for 2004** shows an projected yearly expenditure of just over **£17,000** (or just under 2 million kshs !).

The annual expenses directly related to an individual **Secondary** school pupil are as



follows with total cost/yr of **£364**:

For **Primary** school children the breakdown is as follows, tuition being free for this age group - total cost/yr is **£224**:



So far this calendar year some **£17,500** has been sent to Kenya and plans are in place for a regular pattern of grants by the Happy Home Kenya Trust.

To complement this it would be most helpful if regular givers could consider **monthly** or **quarterly donations** so that at least a base level of funds is known in advance. Kay Johnson will be very happy to help you organise this as appropriate. (See tear-off slip later.)



At present **monetary gifts** are the most appropriate means of giving to Happy Home given the current shipping and import duty costs - unless there is a friendly traveller who can take gifts in kind (security permitting!). As well as ongoing expenses there is a current need to buy **clothes** and **sheets** as well as **educational supplies** such as books, pencils etc.

In addition to giving money Happy Home would very much welcome practical support in the following areas:

- **teaching** children at Happy Home
- **working** with local Churches in mission
- **agricultural** assistance
- **health** expertise

Maybe you could spend an extended time with Happy Home, say, as part of a 'gap' year. All such **visits** will need to be carefully **co-ordinated** so please contact George Ochola or the Secretary of the Happy Home Kenya Trust.

Could you consider being a **church representative** for Happy Home, distributing these updates and encouraging people to support its valuable work?



Ipswich recently played host to **Bishop Francis** from the Maseno South diocese in which Happy Home is situated.



He visited Burlington Baptist Church, the spiritual home of Simon Harris (the Minister) and Phil Marsden who visited Kenya in November 02 and took the pictures in this update.

Funds raised through their Church **Christmas card appeal** will be given to Happy Home this year.



The Bishop is currently Chair of the Kenyan Trustees of Happy Home. He told us of the plans for **moving Happy Home** from its current location to a new site some 10km away at Songhor.

This site is nearer to mains electrical power and local schools as well as being land owned by the diocese.

Happy Home is much in need of new, more substantial and **fire resistant buildings** as well as security of tenure for its site. The Bishop has recently returned to Kenya to set the direction for this vital project for which **Dorcus Awinda** will be manager.

Please pray for the plans as they are developed and contractors as they are brought in to start work. There will be more news and hopefully a clearer idea of potential costs in the next “Happy Home Update”.

Initial estimates put the total required as around **£70,000**, though the work is expected to be performed in a number of phases as funds allow. A major principle underlying this project is that the **institutional buildings** of Happy Home will only be sized to take the 100 most needy children, further **support being given to communities** who are struggling to bring up orphaned children with little or no resources.

Give thanks to God for:

- provision of funds over the last 12 months
- continuity during the changeover from Ashtead to the Happy Home Kenya Trust.
- dedication of the Happy Home staff and Trustees



Please **pray** for:

- education and health of children at Happy Home and in the local community
- Happy Home staff – for wisdom and safety as they are spread “thinly”.
- Bishop Francis – juggling many priorities but with a real heart to see Happy Home flourish
- Dorcas Awinda in her daily responsibility for Happy Home.
- George and Jenipher as they study and minister in the UK and seek a clear vision of the enlarged task in Kenya.
- The new Happy Home Kenya Trust (HHKT) and continued support from UK donors

Key Contacts:

Jonathan Barnes
(Chair & Secretary of HHKT)
16, Windermere Close
Ipswich
IP3 0RU
Tel: 01473 711701

Kay Johnson
(Treasurer of HHKT)
25, Grays Lane
Ashtead, KT21 1BL
Tel: 01372 272363
Email: mkjohnson75@hotmail.com

George Ochola
34 Tucker Street
Watford
Herts.
WD18 0AU
Tel: 01923 239567

✂ -----

Please return this slip to Jonathan Barnes or Kay Johnson at the addresses above.

I would like to help Happy Home by:

- Promising to **pray** regularly
- Giving a one off **gift** of towardse.g. general funds
- Giving a regular **gift** of towardse.g. general funds
- Providing **gifts in kind** (including funds towards shipping and import costs)
- I would like you to **send** additional “Updates”
- I would like to **register a new contact(s)** for future “Updates” (details on separate sheet)

Please make all cheques payable to “**Happy Home Kenya Trust**”.

Name.....

Address.....

Telephone..... **Email**.....

I confirm that I wish to remain on the mailing list (address details not passed to other bodies).

Please note that all gifts received by the Happy Home Kenya Trust will endeavour to be targeted at the specified need but it must be recognised that from time to time other priorities will arise. When this is the case, in agreement between Happy Home and the Trustees of the HHKT, funds may need to be redirected.