

**Happy Home Kenya Trust** exists to support charitable work in Kenya, including, but not limited to, **education, relief of poverty** and **religious knowledge (specifically Christianity)**. In particular, this includes assisting those associated, or formerly associated, with **Happy Home**.

Thank God for other organisations that support Happy Home and let us **keep praying that more local organisations in Kenya** will help supply the needs of Happy Home and also assist in providing much needed employment opportunities for its students.

### Reminder on ways to support Happy Home via HHKT in the UK

**Cheque** - send to our Treasurer made payable to "Happy Home Kenya Trust".

#### **Payment by BACS:**

sort code:30-93-08 account number:01592248

**Sharegift** - a low cost means of selling shares for charity.

Call 0207 930 3737 or email [help@sharegift.org.uk](mailto:help@sharegift.org.uk) for more information on how to help HHKT.

**"Giving a Bit"** - If you register with <https://www.givingabit.com> you can buy from over 1,200 online shops and choose HHKT as a beneficiary.

**JustTextGiving** - you can **text a gift** of £10 to HHKT at any time using JustTextGiving by Vodafone.

Simply text "**HHKT01**" to "**70070**". Your donation can even be gift aided!

**VirginMoneyGiving** - it's now easier than ever to donate to HHKT anytime by going to [uk.virginmoneygiving.com](http://uk.virginmoneygiving.com), click on 'Make a Donation' and then enter **HHKT** in the search box and click 'Donate'.

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**Web site:** [www.hhkt.org](http://www.hhkt.org) (this contains Latest News items, Project specific information and photos, current & archived Newsletters, Gift Aid and Standing Order forms)



### **Keeping in touch.....**

As trustees, we are in regular contact with our fellow trustees in Kenya. Martin Jones, our Secretary, maintains regular contact via email with Joseph Ochiewoh who is Treasurer for the Kenyan trustees, whilst Ken Horleston keeps in regular monthly contact with James Okul, Chairperson of the Kenyan trustees, by telephone. Martin and Joseph keep in touch on matters relating to the day to day running of Happy Home, Ken keeps in touch with James regarding the general wellbeing of the children and the staff and trustees and any specific needs that Happy Home might have. Below is an insight into the kind of conversation that takes place usually at the beginning of each month:



"Spoke to James today. He tells me that the rains are still with them and the water tanks are full of rainwater. However due to the failure of the early rains the bean crop has failed but they hope to harvest an 'average' size maize crop.

He went on to say that, 'The primary and secondary school children are now back at school following a half term break and they are all in good health as are the staff of Happy Home and the trustees.'

I then raised the possibility of Phil Marsden and two or three young men visiting them either in the Autumn or the following Spring if that would be possible for them. James replied by saying that they would be very happy to receive a visit but they would welcome as much notice as we were able to give.

I then asked James about a project that had been raised by Joseph with Martin regarding the building of five new classrooms as part of the establishment of a new primary school in the grounds of Happy Home. He said that his fellow trustees were in favour of the project as were the local residents of Kopere where the Orphanage is based, as the local primary school classes are overcrowded with around 50 pupils per classroom.

Finally, I asked him if, not having running water on-site would be a problem to setting up a new school but he said that the water tanks would provide much of the water required and that he was still hopeful that a new 'borehole' could be successfully sunk in order to provide them with a regular source of fresh water for drinking.

Our conversation closed with us giving thanks to God in prayer for the good health of all at Happy Home and the establishment of a new school and a water borehole on site and gratitude for the regular financial support that comes from the UK.



## News updates.....



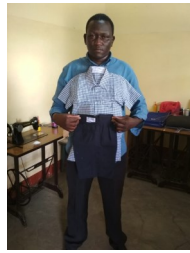
Happy Home has been successful in renewing its registration under the Ministry of East Africa Community, Labour and Social Protection in line with the Kenyan national guidelines for Alternative Family Care. This is reflected in the new name, 'Happy Home Child Care Community Based Organisation'. This acknowledges that Happy Home provides care not only for orphans but for children whatever their need. Children will now be placed in Happy Home by the Children's Officer through the court for short term or long term care. Happy Home continues to provide a loving home in a safe and secure environment founded on Christian belief and values. The assessors were particularly impressed by the level of educational provision which is made available to all children and young people in the care of Happy Home.



The computer teacher, Jackline Awuor, continues to generate some income for Happy Home through teaching external students and by providing a successful photocopying service to the surrounding community.



And many thanks to the 'Time to Sew' group at Burlington Baptist Church in Ipswich for their donation of £250 which has enabled the tailor, Michael Owuor, to continue to make clothes for the children together with school uniforms for two neighbouring schools – it is hoped that the latter may become self-financing as a result of this initial pump-priming.



Many thanks to St Clement's Church in Derbyshire who were able to raise £600 towards the cost of replacing worn mosquito nets and bedding at Happy Home following the annual inspection by the Ministry of Health. Effective mosquito nets are, of course, vital to the continuing health and well being of the children.

Shadrack Okoth

We are sad to report the death of Shadrack Okoth on 21<sup>st</sup> January 2019.

Shadrack was both a trustee and secretary to the board of trustees of Happy Home in Kenya, and has been a loyal and energetic servant of Happy Home during the last twenty years. We thank God for Shadrack's life and his contribution to the welfare of the children.



## Looking to the future

In an exciting new development towards self sustainability, Happy Home has opened a school on an experimental basis, initially using existing facilities. There are currently twenty five nursery age children (aged 3-6) and one teacher. Their prayer is to expand the school to accommodate all three nursery classes ('Baby Class', 'Middle Class' and 'Final Class') together with lower primary (age 6 upwards) from the beginning of January 2020. For this five additional classrooms will be required and the school will then be able to apply for formal registration with the Department of Education as a Primary School. The school has already created employment for one teacher and will provide employment opportunities for others as it expands.



The new school will help to ease the significant burden of overcrowding in the local primary schools and will ensure quality education for local children and the children of Happy Home in the face of reduced state funding.

The uniforms will be made in Happy Home's existing workshop, thereby increasing the value of this facility.

Please hold this promising new development in your prayers as HHKT continue to explore its sustainability, together with the consideration of a project proposal for the capital funding of the building of five classrooms.

And we continue to raise funds for the provision of a borehole within the grounds of Happy Home which would help to supplement the significant rainwater harvesting provision already in place; this will of course be of increased importance should the school development prove successful.

## Prayer Requests

Clean water for drinking is a key issue for the trustees of Happy Home in both Kenya and the UK.

**Please pray** that our efforts to locate a suitable site for drilling for water will be found within the 5 acres of land owned by Happy Home. This follows the failure of an earlier borehole that collapsed. A good education lies at the heart of Happy Home's desire to give our orphans the best possible start in life.

**Pray** for the setting up of a new Primary School at Happy Home. A Nursery School was started September 2018 with just 19 pupils. Happy Home needs to build 5 more classrooms on site over the next two to three years. In order to do this we need to raise at least £4600.

**Please pray** for those primary school pupils who will be moving up to secondary school this September, especially as it will mean them moving away during school term time and becoming 'boarders' at their new school.

**Pray** that they will settle in quickly and make good friendships.

**Give thanks** that 5 of the 10 students at University and Polytechnic Colleges, and who are sponsored separately by individuals in the UK, will complete their courses this year: they are Christine, Lynn, Naphtali, John and Virone.

**Give thanks** that although the early rains were insufficient and the 'bean crop' failed, the maize crop did better and we have been told that they expect to bring in an average harvest.

**Finally, give thanks** that so far this year all of the children, staff and trustees of Happy Home have enjoyed good health.