# *Emmanuel Home Newsletter*
# Jul 2023

*(formerly* ***Kanyawegi Children's Home****)*

It's time again to update sponsors, donors and others regarding our important work in Kenya!

## Positive feedback on some of the 'Prayer Pointers' from January:

**Ian Alex** was the lad who was really struggling in his first year at secondary school. We decided to seek out a more practically-based 'artisan' course for him and he was able to join a Motor Vehicle course at the Romogi Institute of Advanced Technology. It wasn't at all certain how he would cope with a different style of study and living in the college hostel but he made a good start. After the first term he needed to find a work placement at a garage and this he did – providing him with a base to put into practice what he's been learning at college and develop new skills. For his second term he decided to rent a room in a place with a friend and he prefers this to the hostel. We were sent photos of this accommodation and realised he had virtually no furniture – so we are addressing that for him so that he can live and study in more comfortable conditions!




***What Ian Alex calls his 'Crib' (above) and 'Kitchen' (below)!***

We are grateful to God that Ian Alex is enjoying the course and is working hard to do well.

The decision to move him out of secondary school has proved to be a good one.



Two other boys, **John Lloyd** and **Alex**, finished their 4 years at secondary school in December and we gave them a few months to investigate potential options for their futures. John Lloyd hasn't yet found anything that's suitable for him, but we are pleased to report that Alex was able to start a Diploma in Building Technology at Bondo Technical Training Institute. He struggled generally with most subjects at school, but we hoped this programme should suit him well; and the latest news is that he's doing well.

Our current approach to funding post-school training is based upon three main criteria:

- Only approving training that is at an appropriate level for the individual.
- Choosing a vocational work subject the individual has a interest in.
- Making future funding (i.e. 2nd year fees, for example) conditional on the individual demonstrating commitment to working hard and making the most of the opportunities given.

## Personal challenges faced by Linda, our manager:



The period since our last newsletter hasn't been easy for Linda. In January her husband passed away unexpectantly and a week later his father also died. We gave Linda as much support as we could through her time of grieving and organising the funerals. Linda found the period of isolation following the funerals (a cultural expectation of widows) very hard. A few weeks after this a motorcycle taxi Linda was travelling on was hit by a minibus and she received severe cuts and grazes to her legs and face. After a period of recovery she was about to return to work and then became sick with pneumonia and other medical conditions and had to be admitted to hospital! So the last few months have been very difficult for her.



I'm pleased to say that Linda is much better now - as can be seen in the recent photo on the left. It shows a mid-term meeting of some of the children for lunch at Linda's house.

*(From left to right there is Kelly, Maurice, Catherine, Beryl (and her baby Joyline), Nelly,* ***Linda*** *and Michael)*

## Support from Lydia and Lilian:



Whilst Linda has been 'out of action' we are grateful for the extra support provided by **Lydia** (who oversees the finances and guides Linda and Lilian) and **Lilian** who has been undertaking the bulk of Linda's work and has been doing really well. She fits it in around her own hospital work (testing for TB and Aids), which she has been doing since finishing her Nutrition and Dietetics course. It's wonderful that a person who joined Kanyawegi Children's Home as an orphan when aged 7 or 8 has successfully been through school and college with support from our charity and is now able to work part-time for us when needed to cover for Linda.

## Financial Position:

Thanks to the ongoing support from our donors the financial position of the charity is stable, and we are confident that we will continue to be able to support the education and care of the remaining children and young people we are responsible for. We have excellent records of how the money sent over to Kenya is used and we are able to make adjustments to the budget when new needs arise. The UK Committee is planning ahead for the time when all the young people will have completed their education and training and we will keep supporters informed of how the last few years of the charity's work will be managed. Thank you again to all those who give to our work.

## Kenyan Troubles:

We have all been facing challenges in the UK over recent years and even now many are still struggling with the cost of living crisis, increasing interest rates and ongoing political uncertainty nationally and globally. Please remember those in Kenya for whom the negative impact of these issues is further magnified by corruption in government, the deteriorating value of the Kenyan Shilling, the increasing poverty and ongoing 'tribal' friction. Also, there is a bit of a 'brain drain' as educated young adults seek work opportunities outside Kenya.

## Prospective Visit to Kenya:

Currently a potential visit to Kenya is being considered for the end of this year. The last time the Chairman went to Kenya was in 2019 and there are several reasons why one more visit would be worthwhile. There is a possibility that he will be accompanied by another charity Trustee and a couple who are showing an interest in charitable work in Africa. More on this in the next newsletter!

**Here are photos of a few of the youngest children we support** (please pray for them, that they will grow up to be happy and productive individuals who have a sense of God's purpose in their lives)**:**



***Beryl***



***Kelly***



***Catherine***



***Michael***



***Nelly***



***Maurice***

**FOR MORE INFORMATION about the work of the Charity:** Please contact Pete or Gill Skinner, Carino, Old Gore Lane, Emborough, Radstock, Somerset. BA3 4SJ. Telephone: 01761 232337. Email: peteskinner123@gmail.com

## New Prayer Pointers

***Please pray...***

- For Linda as she gets back into her Manager role after recent difficulties.
- For the children still struggling with their school education and/or experiencing ill health.
- For Alex on his new training course and others who may start vocational training soon.
- For the right plans to be made for the potential trip to Kenya.
- For greater wisdom and integrity in the government of Kenya.
- Giving thanks for God's ongoing guidance of and provision for our work in Kenya.