



Kisumu Nkera Initiatives (KINI)

Barbara Parkins, CEO

Phone: +61 422 109 264 (Australia) or +254 713 747 316 (Kenya)

kisaruentitoproject@gmail.com www.kinikenya.com

"Rescue a Child – Rescue a Community"



1-2014 January

FROM THE CEO

We are almost finished the third week of school for 2014 and still we are enrolling students! I cannot believe already it is towards the end of January and we are still getting organised!

Sadly on the Sunday evening before school was to start, one of my children's mother passed away from the Manyatta so was a very sad and busy time preparing for the burial. So had very few students that first week and we closed the school the day of the funeral. She left behind 6 children, two of which are now in my school and I am being asked to pay the boarding school fees for another two girls. A smaller boy is still at "home" being cared for by an elderly grandmother.

At present I have a little 8 year old staying with me as she has pneumonia and malaria and is being cared for by her 96 year old grandmother. As they really don't know basic health care I thought it best she stay with me until she is a little better.

So life is always interesting here with its many challenges. Finances are the most challenging at the present time as there are not enough finances at present to pay for food or wages at the end of the month, so praying people will think of us and donations will come in.



My new jiko for cooking with coal. So much better than a smokey fire, as long as the coal is dry!

TEACHERS FOR 2014

Anne is our new teacher for the "nursery" class which is the first class the children attend. She is a Maasai young lady who has just completed her Diploma for Early Childhood Development and has been doing well with the 18 children in her class.



At present we are recruiting for a Year 1 teacher and hope to have a teacher appointed within a week.

Also our Head Teacher Abel has accepted a position with a Government school and leaves us at the end of the month. I will greatly miss Abel's knowledge and help and great gardening enthusiasm! We have interviewed for his replacement and he will start on 5 February, so may need to be on duty for the few days we will be without a Head Teacher. As he was away this week I had an interesting time teaching the Year 1 students, I don't think I am cut out for teaching all day long and with students who don't understand me!!

SCHOOL HIGHLIGHTS AND CHALLENGES

The year has started with an increase in students now totalling 66. This has put a strain on resources, having to supply uniforms for all children, as well as providing food for them each day. The cooking pots we have are currently not large enough to cook for them all so we will need to purchase 4 more pots as soon as possible.



The girls in their uniforms looking good.

The biggest challenge at present is the need for regular monthly donations to cover costs for wages, food and medical and other expenses. All students need new pullovers and shoes so praying we can purchase these before winter.



The boys uniforms will be available next week.

One of my students has a disability and requires special raised shoes to help her walk more comfortably. She will be taken for assessment next week to see if anything medical can be achieved, and fitted for shoes. This should cost around A\$50 if anyone would like to support her.



A shy 8 year old who was made look after younger siblings and the father planned to marry her this year so get the dowry.

These girls cannot go home again and must stay at the boarding school during holidays as well as school terms. All they want is an education and a life different to the poverty they see their mothers in.

FGM HIGHLIGHTS

Barbara spent 3 days with the Kuria tribe in Kehancha speaking with girls in schools and also getting to know more about the origins of the practices of these people and those who pioneered stopping FGM by refusing to circumcise his 4 daughters. She stayed with the oldest daughter who is now a headmistress and has rescued many girls from the same fate. It is still very much practiced within the culture and early marriages of girls is a great concern. Please enjoy some of the people she met through their pics and short stories. Barbara has been invited back as soon as she can arrange her schedule, to run more programs and talks in schools in this area.



The road down the hills that we travelled. The dust was something else and was very slow going.



This 12 year old girl was about to be circumcised and married as a 9th wife to a very old man!



An orphan who was to be circumcised and married so the uncles could get the dowry.

*Thank you for sharing in our dream.
"Raise a school ... Raise a child"*

FUNDRAISING EVENTS

Because of the falling dollar value we need approximately \$A1,000 per month to ensure the smooth running of the school and to purchase supplies.

If anyone has any fundraising ideas please pass them along to Barbara through her email and she can pass them on to the Board and Fundraising Co-ordinator.

Jewellery for Sale

To help women who are mostly grandmothers looking after orphaned grandchildren, and to help raise money for KINI, I have some wonderful traditional Maasai jewellery for sale, some of which I have been able to send to Australia with a friend. So if you would like to purchase some or hold a party and invite your friends, please let me know and I will arrange to have it send to you.

If you wish to purchase for yourself I can post them from here.



A beautiful belt



Round necklace

The variety of colours and patterns are below. More are available. Bracelets are also available:



DONATIONS

Please make all donations through the website www.kinikeny.com donate via the RAWCS button, for a tax deductible receipt, or direct to our bank:

Bank: ANZ, Nambucca Heads
 Name: Kisaru Nkera (KINI)
 BSB/Account: 012754/204398639

A sample of some other jewellery and items:



Collars for those special cats and dogs



Different styles of belts



These can be made to order in any colour



Beautiful round necklaces which look great on any Dress or for casual wear



Most have bracelets to match

Samples of the many bracelets –matching necklaces:

