



give us a hand!



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Kariandusi Newsletter

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- > Langalanga Primary School is underway
- > Dragoman Overland's Kariandusi Cycle Challenge
- > Next Years Challenges & Fund Raising



Kariandusi Primary School is completed

Kariandusi Primary School construction was started in November 2003 and the whole project was completed in January 2005 with the opening ceremony of 14th February 2005. The full project cost £50,000 and was completed one year ahead of schedule.

Headed by Colonel Harry Vialou Clark from the UK and Mathenge Ndiritu in Kenya, a team of Kenyan builders with the help of the local community, worked throughout 2004 to create a school that is the envy of the local area. It is a very fine achievement.

The new school has eight large and spacious classrooms, a fully equipped library, staff room, head master's and dep-

uty head's studies, store-room and a large hall (two class rooms open into one large function room).

On February 14th 2005, Valentine's Day, the school was opened by The Hon. Ms Jayne Kihara, MP of Naivasha Constituency. The whole community must have been incredibly proud and it is a great statement on what a committed grass routes charity can do.

A huge thank you to the various sponsors who have funded this first project. In particular we would like to thank the following people, organisations and charitable funds for all their help. Thanks to our major donors, the Par-

thenon Trust, Dulverton Trust, Twinkle Trust, Mrs. Wendy Birrell, Mr. Douglas Birrell, Mrs. Elizabeth Peck, Ravenscroft Park School, Dragoman Overland and all the Dragoman Overland passengers who helped on the building project.

We will continue to monitor and help where necessary at Kariandusi Primary school, but our efforts now must be to give help in neighbouring areas. There can surely be no better reason or encouragement to go on and provide schools in other communities in the Rift Valley.



Kariandusi School Trust—Our Aims.

The Kariandusi School Trust has been set up for the advancement of education amongst children and young people in the Rift Valley of Kenya. In December 2003, the Trust was registered with the

Charity Commissioners for England and Wales (Registered Charity No 1101103). Bit by bit it is hoped that the KST can refurbish the schools of the local area, increasing the catchment areas of each and

the number of pupils who can be educated at the schools. The task is endless and depends on the generous donations of sponsors and the hard work of a dedicated team.

Fund Raising Beyond Our Wildest Dreams - Donate.... Donate.... Donate

Over the last two years we have exceeded all expectations in terms of fundraising. Thanks to the hard work of Harry and Alison V-C and of Dragoman Overland, we have managed to get over £127,000 worth of sponsorship, donations and fundraising events. Donors have come in all shapes, sizes and ages, from large charitable foundations to young children.

The Cycle Challenge did incredibly well, and we would like to say a really big thank you to all the fund raisers for the challenge. A special thank you must go to Annie Owen, for her

tireless efforts in helping organize the cycle ride and then for riding both trips as tour guru. Also thanks to Annie and Tony, her husband for their great support, design skills and enthusiasm. Thanks also to Kathy Churchill at Dragoman Overland.

If you are interested in making a donation, a donation form can be downloaded from our website.

If you would like further information about donating money, please contact Harry or Alison Vialou Clark who will be able to explain in detail what

your money will be used for. Please return this form to Colonel HE Vialou Clark Folly Cottage, Penton Mewsey Andover SP11 0RQ Tel: +44 (0)1264 773674

"GIVE US A HAND"



"My name is Kenneth Kimani. I come from Kariandusi. I am a fifteen years old. I have a single parent, only my mother. I like mathematics and science. My hobby is reading story books."

Langalanga Primary School Project Is Underway

The History

The town of Langalanga is a dilapidated shantytown that has grown up on the northern edge of the old colonial motor racing track. ("Langalanga" is Masai for "round and round".) The total population is well in excess of 5000, many of whom are under thirty years old and there are real rural problems. Only about 10% of the population is in employment. Drugs, HIV, alcohol abuse and poverty are all endemic.

The Trustees of KST believe that a fundamental change to these conditions and to attitudes of the local community is the best way to improve the quality of life. A number of future ideas have been canvassed with the community. One of these is the rebuilding of the primary school.

The Commitment

The redevelopment of the existing school is well over due. Three of the five buildings were built to house Italian prisoners of war in the early 1940s. They have had practically no maintenance since then and are in a terrible state. KST are redeveloping all the building of the school to the same high standards as the previous project, the Kariandusi Primary School.

The Project

In September 2004, KST commissioned a land survey and the title deeds were obtained. Work started on construction of a brand new 4-classroom block in March 2005. Amazingly this was completed and occupied by the children in late August, less than 6 months from the start of construction. The block was opened by Nigel Farthing who very kindly sponsored all the new furniture. In June 2005, one of the original 'Italian prison blocks' was demolished and re-construction was carried out by UK volunteers working with Madventures. This is now completed and will become a library and staffroom.

Early September saw the beginnings of construction on the next 4 classroom blocks and these are scheduled for opening in February 2006.

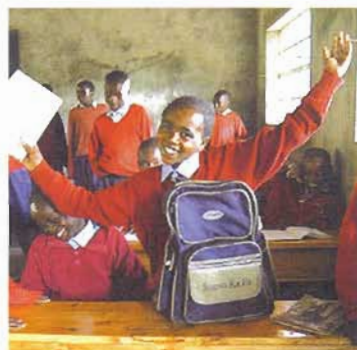
In the long Christmas holidays, we will start the upgrade of another existing block and from January to June 2006, the final demolition and rebuild of the last 4-classroom community block will occur. Finishing touches and clearing up should take us through to September 2006.

Fundraising

This is a very ambitious project, but the funding is now in place. This funding has been obtained through a variety of sources and KST would like to say a big thank you to everyone who has donated moneys.

This project could never have progressed had it not been for the fund raising work done by Dragoman Overland over the last year. They have been responsible for finding over £50,000 of the moneys raised over the past year and a half. Much of this, £35,000 was raised through the sterling work of the cyclists on the Dragoman Overland Kariandusi Cycle Challenge 2005. Thanks also to John Etherington of Escape Adventures who oversaw the cycling trip. Also a big thank you to the Dragoman Overland passengers who have committed time, money and emotion to the school.

Special thanks must to the Jephcott Charitable Trust for their generosity. Thanks also to Mr. Nigel Farthing, the Parthenon Trust, Mrs. JP Simpson and Mrs. Jill Norris. Also thanks to Stephen Johnstone who has kindly sponsored the Langalanga football team.





Dragoman Overland's Kariandusi Cycle Challenge - £35,150 raised

Charlie Hopkinson, director of Dragoman Overland reports on the challenge.

Well, we did it, the first ever Dragoman Overland Kariandusi Cycle Challenge. Correction, THEY did it. Who are they? 16 of Suffolk's finest. Even that's not entirely true, as there were a couple of riders not from Suffolk, but for the sake of a good story lets call them Suffolk's finest.

It's unbelievable what 15 rookies can achieve. Thanks to their get up and go or perhaps to their wonderful naivety, they raised £35,150 by cycling 270 kms in 5 days up and down the Rift Valley.

The whole trip including flights to and from Nairobi took 10 days including a day to adjust in Nairobi and a day of safari in Nakuru National Park.

To get any idea of what this trip was like, think mountain biking on a beach or down a dried out highland stream. Don't think flat tarmac, don't even think rolling English countryside. We are talking serious biking here and yet these rank amateurs went out there with big smiles and came back ten days later with even bigger smiles, lots of bruises and loads of stories. It wasn't all hard going but no one should underes-

timate what these guys did. For us mere mortals, we can only look on with admiration. On completion two of the riders commented to Harry VC, that it had been the best days of their life. Total respect.

A HUGE THANK YOU to these intrepid riders. To all those who went, we salute you.

Thanks to Annie Owen (she did the ride twice), Sharon McVeigh, Bernadette Slee, Wendy Pontin, Finn Curry, Paula Slater, Heather Durie, Emma Buckmaster, Robyn Childs, Gillian Gill, Rhona Allen, Melanie Rowe, Rosey Walker, Jill Norris, and Steven Johnstone.

Where Do We Go From Here—Future Projects

So far, so good, but what does the future hold for a small hands on organization. This is the inevitable problem that many small charities face once they have proved themselves. At the moment we are comfortable carrying on in the same mould, developing the infrastructure of the local education system in and around the Rift Valley. We currently are restricting ourselves to development of primary schools. However, the

question does have to be asked as to whether we should widen the mandate to include secondary education. This would enable the children who have had the benefit of their primary education to go one stage further, providing a further platform for college or university

This would be a big step for us, but is one, that at some point in the future, we must consider.

The The Kenya Education

system is split into 3 parts: Primary (ages 6– 14), secondary (14-18) and the college or university .

For the time being we have decided to continue developing primary schools. At the next trustees meeting we will be deciding on project No. 3.

Watch this space. Work will commence on Project 3 in Mid 2006, but first of all the title deeds need to be obtained.

Next Years Events

Kariandusi Cycle Challenge 2006

2 trips in June and July 2006, 10 days UK to UK. Each trip will have ten people. We will be launching this in November.

Mt. Kenya Climb

We are also planning a climb of Mt. Kenya, probably in September 2006.

Please send us your name and email address if you are interested in this event.



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Dragoman Overland

Dragoman Overland is an adventure travel company that runs tours and holidays from 2 to 40 weeks across Africa, Asia and Latin America. They run mixed hotel and camping holidays with a strong ethos of Responsible Tourism. They also run family adventures in East and Southern Africa, Morocco and Peru.

In November 2003, they teamed up with the Kariandusi School Trust to help with the projects. In the last two years both the Kariandusi School and the Langalanga School have been visited by numerous Dragoman groups.

3 of their journeys visit the Kariandusi School Trust projects and their passengers give hands on assistance on the project while they are there. Passengers all donate US\$15 which is matched by Dragoman Overland with a further \$15 pp. The company also have committed another £1000 p.a. We would like to thank the directors, staff and passengers of Dragoman Overland for this help. If you would like further information on any of Dragoman Overland's adventure holidays and overland journeys please go to :

www.dragoman.co.uk

New Patrons Come On Board

Patron:

John Peel.

After the sad and sudden death of John, we are currently looking for a new patron. Watch this space.

Vice-Patrons:

Sheila Ravenscroft and Sarah Beeny

We would like to say a huge thank you to Sheila Ravenscroft, John Peel's wife, for agreeing to follow in John's footsteps and to continue to support the KST and to become our first vice-patron. Thank

you also to Sarah Beeny, who has also very kindly agreed to become a vice-patron. At the age of 24 Sarah set up her own property development company and is now the presenter on her own prime time Channel 4 show Property Ladder. In 2003 she co-hosted Britain's Best Homes for Channel 4 and has also written two best-selling books both on the subject of developing property for profit to accompany the Property Ladder series.

Trustees

Colonel HE Vialou Clark
Mrs. A. Vialou Clark
Lt. Col. DF Kruger
Charlie Hopkinson

The Kariandusi School Trust is a registered charity in the UK
Registered Charity No: 1101103