

The Isaiah Trust

Newsletter: Summer 2006

www.isaiahtrust.org

Reasons to be thankful over the last 12 months

New Hope Centre Opened at Kachok Rubbish Dump

New vehicle purchased to support the Trust's activities

Building Work Underway in Kibos

Septic Tank Dug and Toilets being built at Kibos

Electricity Ordered from Kenya Power Company

Hope Centre moves to new building in Kondele

Boys accepted for mechanics training at CMC motor company in Kisumu

Six acres of farmland in Kitale blessed with rains

I will bless the Lord at all times. His praise shall continually be in my mouth.
Psalm 34:1

Rubbish Revival

In November last year we began a new outreach centre in Kachok, where the Kisumu municipal rubbish dump is located. Kachok is home to a large number of street children, who spend their days scavenging through the new deliveries for anything of value. The boys search for food as well as tin cans, plastic bags and

bottles, indeed anything that might be resold for a few shillings. With the co-operation of the municipal authorities, who have given us the free use of a small building within the national stadium, we have begun an outreach program with the boys, meeting with them daily and running numeracy and literacy classes twice a week. We have begun a few small income generating projects which will provide a number of the children who are too old to return to school with a means of earning a living. The day to day



running of the Kachok program is managed by a qualified social worker, now employed by the Trust as an outreach worker, called John Ochieng. John has worked with the children on the Rubbish Tip for four years. This outreach is particularly poignant for the Trust, as it was here in October 2001 that the Trust's founders, Tim and Nicky, first met with street children in Kisumu



Defender of the Faith

In June we were thrilled to take possession of a second hand Land Rover Defender Station Wagon. The 4wd vehicle will prove invaluable in moving between the many programs that we run, transporting children and supporting our farming activities up in Kitale. Many of Kenya's roads are unsurfaced (including the road to our centres in Kibos and Mamboleo) and the car will prove a tremendous asset.



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A Visitor to Kisumu

Andrew Cuthbert visited Kenya at Easter with Nicky, here he tells of his experience: -

I went out to Kenya in April of this year to meet Charles – the eldest of the very first intake of boys into the Isaiah Trust program. I'd heard so much about the project and the transformation in the lives of the boys and I wanted to experience it for myself. I was able to raise a significant amount of funds and wanted to impact Charles' life back in his village.



Charles is the first of the Mount Zion boys to be repatriated home. I had heard that he needed support as the roof of his house was leaking and his widowed mother was struggling to support him.

To raise funds for my trip, I had my head shaved, joined friends at school in being auctioned as servants for the day and held a large confectionery sale and I am grateful for all the support I received.

During my trip Charles showed me how he had lived on the street and how he had survived. He is truly grateful for the kindness and the opportunities extended to him through the Mount Zion program. It was through their efforts that he was reunited with his mother and rebuilt his relationship enabling him to return home. Charles often visits the rehabilitation centre and views the team there as his family.

Meeting Charles changed my life. I found out so much about how different our lives really are. Even though Charles had next to nothing and he was living in such poverty, he was a really humble and kind person. This made me appreciate just how much we have here in Britain and how much we take it for granted. It was a truly wonderful experience to see how such a small amount of money can make such a huge difference to someone else's life. Charles' home is now being restored, funds are available for a grinding mill for his mother to generate income and I was also able to provide him with glasses, as we learned that he was struggling with his sight.

I know that I will return to Kenya in the future (hopefully the near future) to see how the work is expanding and how more lives are being changed as a result of the work of the Isaiah Trust and the Mount Zion project.



Building for the Future

With the help of the many wonderful capital donations that we have received over the last 12 months, we are now able to undertake a major building project on the Trust's land at Kibos. We have met with the architects to agree the design of the buildings on the land and are very excited by the start of the work. We are very keen not to build a large Institution, with big dormitories and few staff. The vision that God has laid in our hearts is for a series of smaller, traditional houses, where children would live with their house parents in a more family oriented environment. A separate office will provide the Trust with a focal point for the centre and for the work in Kenya We are thrilled with the designs that we have and are eagerly awaiting the start of the work.



The first thing that we have to do is put in place the drainage systems on the land and build the large septic tank (not very glamorous I know, but get it wrong and the consequences are not very pleasant!). Work started on this process when Tim visited Kisumu in May and is proceeding well. All work is done by hand and the photo shows one of the workers deep inside the hole that has been dug to hold the tank.

