

# Kindfund

Be kind to one another Eph 4:32

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For more information visit our  
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To arrange for a speaker  
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*'All...who were willing brought to the  
Lord freewill offerings for all the work the  
Lord commanded them to do.'* Ex.35:29.

Jeremiah 9:24 I am the Lord who exercises kindness  
Ephesians 4:32 Be kind to one another



## Marsabit - northern Kenya

Greetings. "Is your peace strong?" This is the most common greeting that the Gabra people give to one another. An appropriate one for the advent season as well as we wait for the Prince of Peace! We are so very pleased this year to have found Kindfund. Over the past 7 years we, as a family - David, BJ, Chuluke, Jesse and Roba - have been living side by side with nomadic pastoralists; sharing our lives with them and trying to follow Jesus in being and speaking the good news. We have been moving with our camels, sheep and goats together with our Gabra neighbors. BJ's veterinary profession speaks to the heart of the Gabra as she has specialized in camels, and David's profession of development, sustainable energy, and water resources development, which is crucial to keeping livestock, have been in some demand. The mobile experience has been rich and intense and we have learned so much. It has been a rare privilege to share the lives of such tough, resilient people who survive and even thrive in one of the harshest areas on earth.

We have been praying about future directions and praying to know God's path for the future. Over the years, as we have cared for little Roba (a mentally and physically handicapped Kenyan boy now c.13 yrs old), we have sensed God telling us to be more involved with the disabled and other marginalized people. Because of Roba, we have had many requests to assist with other disabled children who are either abandoned or whose family, for various reasons, are unable to look after them. We feel that God has been leading us to share our lives with more children than Roba and to that end we had been exploring various options.

We own some land on the outskirts of Marsabit and we had thought to settle on the land and spend some time reflecting, writing and processing the lessons learned from the last number of nomadic years. We have been thinking of developing our land as a permaculture farm with various animals and vegetables which could feed the home and also help to bring in an income. We also feel that this would help the kids develop skills and be able to help with the farm in whatever way they can manage - a healing activity for them. It was by "God's happy accident" we feel, that we bumped into Pamela and Ken a few months ago as we travelled from Nairobi to Marsabit. In addition to the God who leads us, we also owe that to Vera, who was working with Kindfund at that time. She wanted us to stay with her in Isiolo town with our 13 chickens and 2 wild cats! It was Vera then who led us to Kindfund. In November, with some financial help from Kindfund, we began to build a home for ourselves and up to five disabled children. The home, in order to contain costs, will be built using a mix of traditional building materials and more innovative products (earth bags). When we have it complete we will include a photograph in a future issue. Kindfund is also helping us on a monthly basis with some of the special needs for Roba.

We are quite excited about what God is doing as we work and plan together with Kindfund to fulfil the vision he has given us for the project at Marsabit.

*David and BJ (originally from California David and  
BJ have been living in N Kenya since 1988)*

# Kindfund Prayer Letter December 2015

Working and Witnessing among the pastoralist  
Turkana, Samburu and Rendille since 2004

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## Editorial

Luke 10:20

**Not what you do for God but what God does for you  
– that's the agenda for rejoicing. (The Message)**

The verse above reminds us of our priorities. It is effortless for us to be so totally absorbed with what we are doing for God, that we lose our perspective on God himself and what he has done for us. Conversely, it is important that we graduate from 'college' where we have been studying the subject and move on to start living it.

As Colossians 2:7 (The Message) puts it: 'School's out; quit studying the subject and start living it! And let your living spill over into thanksgiving.'

In this issue we are reflecting the broadening base of Kindfund with articles from a variety of those involved in Kenya and here at home. The reports from the Bible Camp are a timely reminder of what God can do in our lives when we say yes to him. If you are thinking about coming to Kenya in 2016, either as a visitor to encourage the children, use your skills in some project, or as a member of a bible camp team, the sooner you contact us the more you will gain from the experience.

Tempus fugit – new babies arrive, young children become teenagers, and young men and women graduate to adulthood, moving out into their place in society. What a privilege and responsibility to bring them "to believe in the one he has sent." This is the work of God. John 6:29 (NIV) **Ken Dobbin**

## News Items

Emmanuel, who had his second reconstructive surgery operation in 13 months at Kijabe (190 miles away) hospital early in October, has progressed excellently and is a different boy from 15 months ago. Thank you to all who supported him prayerfully and financially. We will be taking him to see the surgeon when we return to Kenya in December to hear if any further work is required.

Our two senior girls, Damaris and Helen, completed their four years of Secondary education in November with their KCSE exam. Five middle teenagers sat their end of primary KCPE exam also in November. Pray for the right path for all these young ones.

# Kindfund

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**Manoo, Kesh, Enniskillen, BT93 1TP**

(Registered with The Charity Commission for Northern  
Ireland NIC100121 and in Kenya Society No.26316)

## UPDATE

### Robert, Lucinda and their son Jaden

Because only a very few Samburu and some other pastoralist tribes in Northern Kenya have heard the gospel, babies who are born outside of what are culturally accepted practices are considered "outcasts" and unwanted. These children are usually killed by crude abortion, poisoned, or they are abandoned in the bush to die of exposure and by wild animals. God protected my son Jaden and He is using Kindfund and other locals within these communities to rescue these and other at-risk children.

"For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans for welfare and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope." Jeremiah 29:11

Catherine (a local woman) explained to me how she rescued Jaden. She said, "Some children told me they saw two babies lying in the lagga (dry riverbed) two days earlier. I went there the next day. After lying in the lagga for three days, Jaden was still alive but his twin brother was dead. Jaden was cold and shivering, covered in sand, and his breathing was very shallow. I took him home (a hut), cleaned him, and gave him goats milk mixed with water, sugar, and salt. After a week his breathing was still not good so I took him to the orphanage (a full day's journey)." He weighed just 2 1/2 pounds! Today, Jaden is a healthy and handsome 10 year old boy who is lots of fun to be with. He has a funny sense of humor and he is a very good swimmer! Sometimes I look at him and I think about the tough beginning he had and the beautiful, healthy boy he has become. Thank you, God, for protecting him and for the plans You have for his future!

**Robert**



*Today, Jaden is a healthy and handsome  
ten year old boy who is lots of fun to be with.*



## New Babies

Robert, along with Catherine, has been instrumental in rescuing two babies in October. Joy and Diana were received at Ngaremara in mid-November where they are now in the care of two staff and two senior girls who have just completed their secondary school education. Joy was a good sized, healthy baby at 3.1kgs but Diana only weighed in at 1.6kgs. We give thanks that by Wed 25th November the babies weighed in at 3.5 and 2.1kgs.



## Thinking of visiting in 2016.

If you are thinking of a general visit contact Jonathan 07738 178250 or if you are considering helping with bible camp call Anne 07793 883825

## Memories of a journey

The journey began in October 2014 as the Kindfund Outreach Tour came to a close and I started to ask God, "What next?" in relation to supporting the work of Kindfund.

Under the leadership of Jonathan Dobbin, we met to praise, worship, pray and seek God for insight in relation to plans for taking a team out the next summer. God was faithful to direct and guide us, just as He has promised in His word. As we acknowledged our own weakness, He met us with Grace and moved us along, encouraging us as doors slowly began to open, to move plans forward to become a reality.

So, to finally be heading to Kindfund with a team of 8 on 29 July was the end of one journey and the beginning of another. To liken it to the faith required for stepping out of the boat and walking on water would indeed help you identify with my sense of awe at how far God was taking me in faith with Him.

Once in Kenya the 8 became 10 as my daughter Katie and Robert joined us. They had arrived earlier in the summer to work with Kindfund. It was so good to have their energy and commitment as we learned and worked together.

I think it is fair to say each one of the team felt very aware of our own inadequacy, but was ready to be used by God; not quite sure what we were letting ourselves in for, yet trusting God to make it work for His glory.

It was an incredible work He did in all of our own lives as we made this journey. This was such a surprise, for we signed up to serve and ended up being blessed, growing in our faith and understanding of our Creator and His ability and enabling. Growing also into a sense of one another, the family of God, brothers and sisters in Christ. Despite my faith in Ephesians 3:20, I had not imagined He would do such a work in our own lives. But He did and we were incredibly moved and blessed as a result. It is fair to say God has used this journey to surpass anything I could have hoped for or imagined, just as in Ephesians 3:20, he is able to do exceedingly abundantly more.

It is not hard to single out one thing that stands out from my trip - the children. The Kindfund children come from so many different backgrounds, each one with a story to tell. They have faced so many difficulties in their young lives, yet their smiles could melt the coldest of hearts. I will not forget the hope of the children of Kindfund. They take you into their hearts and you are overcome with love for them. How good it was to be able to share God's love with them.

I loved the times when we sought God at the 5am prayer meetings during the week of the Bible Camp. As we poured out our hearts to God and asked Him to shower the Kindfund family with his blessing and to use them in turn to bless Kenya and her people. This continues to be my prayer.

The work of the Bible Camp, the team's willingness to serve and to be pushed and stretched outside their comfort zones to produce an effective work filled me with praise and thanksgiving. Not only for the team from Northern Ireland but for the Kindfund managers, staff, older youth, and teens, as we worked together to deliver a pleasing and successful bible camp.

Since returning home I have been savouring the blessings and enjoying the memories with thanksgiving. I have discovered a new depth of fellowship with my creator and with the body of Christ; I have grown in faith and grown in prayer. I have seen Him to be faithful.

Since our departure from Kenya, the team has reunited to share in our 3 churches something of what God did in those days in Kenya. West Presbyterian Church Bangor, Tubrid Church of Ireland, and Magheramason Presbyterian Church heard us tell of the work of Kindfund, the Lord's goodness and the transforming power of God.

Today, however, is a new day; to be about His work for His glory. To hope once more to shine His light, to herald His Kingdom come and His will to be done.

Anne

## Report by David & Sally Thompson



When we answered the call to serve God through Kindfund, Kenya, last August, little did we know it would leave such a lasting impact on both our lives. Our trip lasted 2 weeks. But what God revealed to us in that short time about ourselves and the resilient faith of the Kindfund family has given us a whole new perspective in serving him. We were especially touched by the beautiful, open way those amazing people share their love of their Lord and are continually singing praises to him with thankfulness, yet have so little - such a contrast to us in our day to day lives at home.

Every moment spent there truly inspired us but here are some events that left a lasting impression on us.

### David

- How God is in the hearts and the minds of the children of Kindfund.
- The hardworking staff of Kindfund, cooking, providing clean pump water, teaching, transport etc...
- Their praise, witnessing and praying from early morning to late at night.
- The love and acceptance of the children and being able to be 'a big kid' and enjoy simple, homemade fun with them.
- God's presence with us and working through us on our trip.

Many of the Uniformed Youth Organisations - Scouts, Guides, Girls Brigade and Boys Brigade have been supporting Kindfund over the years.

As a result of the personal contact made with many of the young people and their leaders during the Outreach visit 2014, there is an opportunity to develop this.

A special Kindfund badge that can be awarded for projects involving the children of Kindfund has been designed for those Groups / Units who wish to become involved.

Maurice Lee, a member of the Kindfund Committee, is developing a resource pack of ideas/information to assist leaders and children with this badge. For more information please contact maurice@kindfund.com

**Please pray for all involved and the successful launch of this new initiative.**

### Sally:

- Chu Chu, (13 year old girl from Wamba), taking me aside and teaching me to sing "To the river I am going".
- Nursery School at Wamba - so basic, yet young children being so well taught by Veronica.
- A prayer walk through Wamba village, singing with the children as I walked along - handing over my bible to "Robert" (a local) who requested a bible.
- Samuel, a young teacher at Ndirir, has with no formal training, yet has won an award from the Kenyan government for his excellent grades with the children with minimal resources. Also, the children are so well taught in their scripture.
- Samson (12 year old boy from Ndirir) singing "To God be the Glory" as we drove down to Bible Camp on the back of a truck.
- Making crafts with children at Bible Camp and seeing their joy on completion.

'Our trip was capably managed by Jonny Dobbin and Anne Glenn. Through their guidance and leadership we were greatly taken care of, both spiritually and physically.

The theme of our Everest Bible Camp was "God's Mighty Power" and we definitely saw God's power at work through Kindfund as they reached out and impacted on so many lives they came into contact with.

Above all we are thankful to Our Great God for bringing Ken and Pam Dobbin and their Kindfund project into our lives. It was amazing to see at first-hand what they have achieved in 11 years. God opened doors and, with faith, they went through them and I have no doubt with God's help they will continue to follow his lead.

We feel Kindfund has given us much more than we have given them. It has strengthened our faith immeasurably and has introduced us to many inspirational people. Thanks to all at Kindfund.'

David & Sally



**Currently, a number of Scouting Groups/ Guiding Units and other youth organisations are considering becoming involved. This will have an educational benefit to children here and in Kenya and further increase the awareness of Kindfund.**