

"And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love Him, who have been called according to His purpose."

Romans 8 v28

As I look back over the last few months and think about all that happened, it's an account of God's hand of protection on us and incredible answers to prayer. The most obvious example of this was in the deteriorating security situation we encountered at Ngaremara (location of our HQ and one of our three homes) in July. For three weeks, gunfire could be heard at regular intervals, closer and closer to our home, leaving children and staff equally distressed and scared. Also, our neighbours began to seek refuge with us. For a few weeks at night we had upwards of seventy women and children sleeping on the floor of our classrooms/dining area, on mattresses we provided. We had some amazing times of prayer during those weeks as the kids all came together as one voice. One Tuesday morning, with rumours of retaliation surfacing after a particularly bad afternoon of shooting on the Monday, we gathered in the classroom, joined by a large group of our neighbours. During this time together, the women and children sang their hearts out in praise and prayer. No sooner had they finished, we watched vehicles, like those that had been involved in the shooting the day before, just drive straight on by through the village. Their guns silent. God answers prayer!

After a few days of quiet, we were starting to return to normal when on Friday afternoon the calm was broken yet again. This was to be the worst day of the trouble for our home. As before, when the shooting started, we gathered all the children and staff immediately into the dormitory and crouched down low. This was different though. The noise was deafening at times as we felt the shots getting closer and closer. Children being children, inquisitive minds, they wanted to see what was going on and time and again we had to bring them back from the windows! The full extent of the situation was only revealed after the shooting stopped and we went outside to assess the situation. The gate to the compound had been sprayed with bullets. The boy's dormitory had bullet holes in it and my room had a bullet hole in the window, the wall and three in the roof. Thankfully these rooms were empty at the time. That was God's protection on us. The reason for the noise was that one of the bullets had glanced off the tree beside the baby's dormitory, where we were. It had lodged in the wall above the window from where we had constantly pulled back inquisitive children. I believe that was God. If the bullet hadn't glanced off the tree it would have come through the dorm window!

As the weekend progressed, more shots and more rumours of retaliation led us to make the major decision to move all the children and staff to Isiolo. A lot of the village had already fled the area. So leaving only a skeleton staff at the home to maintain security there we began the difficult operation of securing the site and transporting children, food, clothes etc to Isiolo. It took several trips and on the last one the car broke down. While we were standing at the side of the road with a car load of terrified children we



were again in the middle of gunfire from a passing vehicle, no provocation or reason. But, in the middle of all this strife we once again had God's hand of protection upon us, and even more than that, we had His provision in the midst of it all. We were heading for Isiolo, to the Parish of Waso (Anglican Church of Kenya). The vicar there along with his congregation had kindly granted us their church and facilities, mattresses and blankets for the foreseeable future, as we had no idea how long we would be away from Ngaremara at this stage. As it was, we spent three nights there with 46 children, 19 of them under 7. The members of the parish supported our staff in caring and providing for the children. We cooked, ate, slept, cleaned, everything on the church site. We were visited by local government, some local charities, Kenya Red Cross, Action against Hunger to name a few who had heard of our evacuation from Ngaremara! Despite all the difficulties and fear, God had brought us together, protected us, answered prayer, helped us make some new connections for the future and showed us the love of Christ in the form of the Christian family of the Waso parish and its vicar. We had some amazing times of singing and fellowship with them.

God has placed these children in the care of Kindfund and ultimately in the care of all of us who support the work in any way, through prayer, sponsorship or any other means. I, for one, cannot wait to watch these children grow and to see what plans God has for each one of them.

So, while things can get hard, as I've described the security situation and tough decisions that must be made as they do in any family's lives, just on a bigger scale. We need to hold on to the promise given to us in Galatians 6v9: "Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up."

Let us together, as a Kindfund family, persevere in the work God has given us with the lives of these His precious children and not give up. And even more than that, follow Paul's example in Phil 3v14 where he said:

"I press on towards the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenwards in Christ Jesus."

**Gillian**

# Kindfund

Be kind to one another Eph 4:32

## How to Help: Pray, Sponsor, Share...

For more information visit our website [www.kindfund.com](http://www.kindfund.com)

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**Religion that God our Father accepts as pure and faultless is this: to look after orphans and widows in their distress...**

**Our God is the God of the humble, the poor, the orphan and the widow.** James 1 v27b NIV

A few months ago we were asked to take in a new baby whose mother had died in childbirth. Could we say no to this tiny helpless child? Our manager remarked "God has called us to serve needy children and He has a plan for each one." Some days later the new youngest beautiful addition to our big family arrived. In the last few months we have brought 7 additional children into our Homes and 2 more will be coming in the next few days bringing the family to over 130 children. Our older children love babies and spend a lot of their time with them. They welcome with open arms new members to our family. They bless us and of course like all families we also have challenges with them from time to time. Our children are shown the love of Christ and taught of a Heavenly Father who loves them unconditionally, who gave His only Son to die on the cross for them and the whole world and that when we believe in Him we have eternal life.

It blesses me so much to sit in Fellowship with children between 4 and 10 years and listen to them as they talk to their loving Father sometimes for 5 - 10 minutes. They don't run out of words. Then, there's Anna almost 4 years who carries a new testament with her most of the time. When I stop with her she opens the testament and proceeds to tell me the story of Adam and Eve and the fruit and the snake. After preaching to me she prays. She always puts a smile on my face.

Money couldn't buy the joy these children bring, and I praise God for the privilege of being with them.

**Pamela**

# Kindfund Prayer Letter September 2018

Be kind to one another Eph 4:32

## Andrew and Paul visit Ngaremara July 18



After many hours of travelling, driving over the equator along the way and the odd stop off for some mangoes and pineapples, we finally arrived at Kindfund's Ngaremara Children's Home. We were instantly met by many very excited kids as well as Pamela and Gillian who also looked happy to see us. We had barely managed to get out of the jeep before hands were out for handshakes and hugs – What a welcome!

After a quick tour of the site, we got settled down and started meeting the kids. It wasn't long before the fun began, with kids keen to show off their dancing skills, copy our every move and hang onto every limb of our bodies.

The tiny tots in the nursery were not so fond of us initially, but we quickly learnt that the key to their trust was to produce our phones and take a photo and suddenly all of their fears somehow disappeared.

Our first night was very comfortable once you got used to the strange noises outside and the recent influx of crickets as they hopped around our bedroom and made themselves at home in our clothing and suitcases. After a few girly screams from both of us, we quickly got used to these critters and they soon became part of everyday life in Kenya.

We spent just under a week in Ngaremara where the majority of the teens were based alongside the nursery kids. The week involved getting alongside the kids, building relationships with many of the teens and playing and introducing lots of new games and activities. Andrew, coming from a teaching background, was also able to aid with teacher training in the centre's school. We were also privileged enough to be able to witness Sports Day and even got to take part in the staff race which Andrew finished a close second.

## Editorial

Acts 20:35 **'It is more blessed to give than to receive.'**

To those who have travelled to Kindfund Kenya for short visits this summer, to share with the children, we say thank you. We thank you for the investment of your time, for the application of your abilities and resources, for sharing your lives in imaginative and inspiring ways which revealed Jesus and the difference he has made to your lives. You have contributed to a memorable July and August for the children.

In this issue you will find in their articles the truth stated above in Acts 20:35. Let this reminder challenge and encourage each of us to invest our lives in the work God has set before us. It is only too easy to fritter time away.

Pamela and Gillian give different perspectives on what was a very challenging sometimes dangerous but always rewarding three months. Much has been achieved in difficult circumstances. Please pray for consolidation and more victories in the challenges that still lie ahead.

Gillian returns to Kenya for 5 weeks at the end of September to tie up some administrative issues and Jonathan, Sally and Hazel will follow on to spend time with the children in November. Pamela and I plan to spend Christmas with the children. Please continue to pray.

**Ken Dobbin**



Left: Paul with children at Wamba

Andrew's Thoughts:

"For me, this visit to Kenya was an experience I will never forget. I went out hoping to encourage, inspire and share hope with the children I would encounter but in reality, it was me that came away the most encouraged, challenged and inspired by these incredible children and young people. Each and every one of them is so precious and it's unthinkable to imagine where many of them would be today if Kindfund hadn't intervened. There is no doubt Kindfund is facing increasing challenges and obstacles, something we should all strive to pray for more often, but praise God that he is doing amazing things through this fantastic organisation, who are providing practically for many helpless and vulnerable children and ultimately pointing them to true hope and life in Jesus. I will be back! Asante Kindfund!"

We will not mention where Paul finished.

One highlight was being able to lead a practical workshop with the teens one evening, teaching them about the importance of prayer and giving them a practical framework to follow when praying to God, something many of the teens found beneficial and useful for personal devotion.

Near the end of our first week, we were given the opportunity to travel Kindfund's Children's Home in Ndirkir, situated further north in the desert. Despite the increase in heat, we were blessed to meet Raphael and Lucy as well as over 20 children who were in their care. Great enjoyment was had, blowing bubbles and learning new songs before Andrew shared about how Jesus is always with us, even in our greatest storms and trials.

Our second week was spent in Wamba, where Nzau gave us a very comprehensive walking tour of the town shortly after arriving. The kids here were equally energetic, enthusiastic and joyful. Again it wasn't long before we were out on the pitch playing a range of games including football, rounders and frisbee. The use of Bob and Babs, our 2 puppets, went down a storm as Paul shared from the Word of God and taught the children from the book of Daniel.

Unfortunately our time in Wamba was cut short, due to the increase in violence back in Ngaremara, something we had earlier experienced the previous week. Despite this, one of our most encouraging moments was being part of the impromptu prayer meeting that was called at Wamba, as the kids prayed passionately and loudly for their friends and family members back in Ngaremara who were in danger...a very moving and humbling experience for both of us.

Returning to Ngaremara, brought with it risks but also some special reunions with the kids we had left the week before. Undoubtedly the shootings, which we witnessed ourselves on 4 separate occasions, were certainly frightening experiences, not only for ourselves but more so for the women and children living in the local area as well as in the centre. It was amazing to see the positive impact and influence Kindfund is having within the local community opening their doors to those that were in need of shelter as well as how God protected and provided safe haven at the church in Isiolo during our time of need after the evacuation of the centre.

Despite the violence, it's fair to say we were both very sad to leave Kenya and have to return home. We both had a super time and learnt so much through the experience. Planning is already underway as we seek to organise our next visit.

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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.



I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made; your works are wonderful, I know that full well." Psalm 139:14

As we sat down to plan our Kenyan Bible club, this verse came to mind. Alongside the fun games, quizzes, singing and crafts, we wanted the Kindfund children to know without doubt, that God loves them and that true identity can be found in Christ alone. So, as we later walked through the verses of Psalm 139, looked at the Father heart of God in the story of the Lost Sheep, and outlined the Christian's duty to bear fruit, it was clear that the Holy Spirit was with us, driving our club, calming our nerves and guiding our words. Praise God!

From the moment we arrived until the sad goodbyes, we had hands pulling at our arms (counting freckles!), endless hugs, and a great deal of pinching the backs of our legs whilst giggling at our fear that cockroaches

or grasshoppers were crawling on us! We shared such funny times with the children and we have yet to see cotton wool used in a more imaginary way! They loved the dots stickers, loom bands, limbo and gladiator wars and the staff also happily joined in. The only injuries were ego thankfully!!

All 3 of the homes offered us very different experiences and not just because of the scenery, off road driving, camel spotting and pothole avoidance! The children had their unique characters/personalities - the more confident ones with their big smiles and lots of chat, the quieter ones with dreamy eyes and shy mannerisms. All having started their little lives with what seems to us as unfair pain, and all needing the same love and attention. We praise God for Kindfund!

Finally, a lasting highlight for us all was listening to the children singing. The music is in them; their rhythm is infectious! Whether it was the funny Emu-like Samburu dance, singing along to a Swahili chorus or harmonising to the more familiar 'Bless the Lord O my



Soul', those times of fellowship were precious.

What an amazing God-given opportunity we were blessed with this Summer! It is our prayer that the work of Kindfund will grow from strength to strength, and that the staff and children will know God's presence with them as they live out His will for their lives.

God Bless,  
Glenda, Angela and Shelley.

