

Report

Summer Bible Camp

What a welcome! It was so good to be back in the place that stole our hearts just over one year ago. Last time out, we experienced a pretty eventful and sometimes frightening few weeks with local violence in Ngaremara leading to the evacuation of the entire center on our final day. Praise God that since that day, Ngaremara has been a relatively peaceful place.

We were greeted with many hugs and happy faces; faces we had got to know last year and were delighted to be reunited with. We spent our first 2 days in Ngaremara spending time with the younger children as well as a few of the teenagers who had been attending secondary school in the area. It did not take long for these little ones to recite back and sing everything we had taught them last year and for us to be reminded of how energetic and fun this bunch of youngsters were. It was also great to reunite with Pamela and Gillian who once again went out of their way to make us feel welcome and made sure we never went hungry. (Not an easy task!)

After these 2 short days, we headed up to Wamba to be reunited with the majority of the children we had met last summer. Arguably this welcome was even more impressive and humbling than the last. We could hardly get out the door of the jeep due to the volume of kids mobbing the vehicle. After many more hugs and high fives, we soon settled back into life in this beautiful part of Kenya. It was so great to see all the kids again, particularly those we



had been sponsoring and praying for through the year and seeing how many of them had grown and matured. Our main vision and goal for the 2 weeks was to share Christ with these precious kids both through sharing the gospel and simply spending time with them showing them God's love.

Having been out last year, we had a much clearer idea of what to expect and had decided to split the group of almost 80 kids into two main groups. Each morning we held a meeting for the younger children that largely took the form of a Bible Club for the week. During these meetings, we shared a different miracle that Jesus performed through his lifetime and considered what these meant to our lives today; namely that Jesus provides, heals, empowers, understand and saves. There was also some fantastic singing on show as well as a lot of healthy competition in our quizzes between the boys and the girls.

In the evenings, we brought together the 27 teenagers for a separate time of worship and teaching that was more relevant and useful for their age group that took the form of discussion workshops. During these meetings we both feel that God really spoke, teaching these young people about their incredible value in Christ, the seriousness of their sin, how to read the Bible/have a quiet time and how to be salt and light to others around them.

Most of the rest of our time in Wamba, consisted of playing games,

making crafts and getting alongside these amazing kids. We also spent one afternoon climbing a nearby mountain with some of the kids, something they found a lot easier than we did in the scorching heat while trying to avoid the many 3 inch thorns on the ground below. Each night also consisted of some incredibly intense games of Uno with both children and leaders regularly showing their passion and competitive edge

"Kindfund has grown a special place in my heart and personally for me, this year even outshone last year's trip. God continues to do amazing things in the lives of these amazing kids who once again inspired and challenged us in ways they will never realise. I leave Kenya once again feeling greatly blessed by those I met and only encourage more of you to invest time, money and prayer into this amazing work. Asante Kindfund!" **Andrew**

"Coming back a second year and seeing the kids reinforced how much I missed their infectious smiles and endless energy. These 2 short weeks again struck it home how blessed these Kindfund kids and young people are to have a loving home with safety, shelter, food, education, friends and above all the gospel message presented to them. It was such a privilege to witness how Kindfund has impacted their lives and how Ken, Pam, Gillian and all of the staff are working tirelessly to care for these kids. Let's keep on supporting and praying for Kindfund!" **Paul**

A warm welcome at Magheramason mid-week

I thank God every time I remember you. In all my prayers for all of you, I always pray with joy because of your partnership in the gospel" (Philippians 1 v3-5)

Having reconnected with Nsau and Esther in November 2018 on our visit to Wamba Children's Home, it was a lovely experience for Hazel and I to welcome them to our part of the world and have the privilege and joy of spending quality time in fellowship with them.

Magheramason Presbyterian Church was really looking forward to hearing from Kenyan Kindfund personnel during our mid week fellowship, as they had been following with interest the work of Kindfund and had remembered them regularly in their prayers.

Hazel and I shared briefly what our November outreach to Kindfund involved and then we handed the rest of the evening over to Nsau and Esther. Nsau enthusiastically shared his love of the Lord Jesus and how he came to be involved in the role as manager of Wamba Children's Home.

He explained how some of the cultural practices in Northern Kenya among the tribes lead to a lot of children needing to be placed in the care of Kindfund. He also shared about the challenges he faces, but also the rewards in serving the Lord in this work.



Nsau took great delight in explaining the water project which he was largely involved in setting up and plumbing and how successful it has been to the water supply in the home.

Esther also shared with us her role in caring for the young children, gave us an insight into the cost of education for a Kenyan family and the sacrifice and struggle to achieve a basic education. They enjoyed fellowship later over supper with everyone and everyone was so blessed by the evening.

The next day brought a little rain in the morning but this didn't dampen the enthusiasm of Nsau and Esther to walk Derry's walls and visit St. Columba's Cathedral. The ancient Bible scriptures, so beautifully preserved, really impressed them especially as they were able to read some of the ancient, yet so familiar words from God's word for themselves. "Wow! Wow! Wow!" was the exclamation they regularly used.

After such vigorous walking on the walls of "The Maiden City" a lunch break was required

and we were treated to a delicious lunch at the North West Catering College, courtesy of a family from our church.

We finished off our afternoon at our son David's dairy farm where Nsau expressed more "Wow Wow Wows" as, to his delight, he examined the plumbing and pipe systems in the milking parlour.

Meanwhile Esther enjoyed a hot cup of tea while watching my grandchildren do their homework. She was keen to photocopy samples of their work to share with the children in Wamba.

Sally

Esther with a new baby



Daphne's Report

We were very pleased to have the opportunity to act as hosts for Nzau and his wife Esther at our home in Co. Antrim for a few days in early May. They had been attending the BES (Bible Educational Services) International Conference in Enniskillen and their extended visit meant they could see a little of Northern Ireland and meet up with Kindfund supporters at this end. Nzau has been manager of Kindfund's children's home in Wamba, Kenya for the past ten years. My daughter Catherine, her husband Andrew and I had last met Nzau in 2011 while visiting Kindfund Kenya, so it was great to have a chance to catch up and chat about the children who we remember so well from that visit.

We had the heating well turned up as we were a bit concerned how they would feel in our cold Northern Irish climate. After 2 hours in the warm house Nzau managed to take off his woolly hat but kept his scarf and layers of coats and jumpers on! Nzau and Esther had spent the afternoon with another committee member, Alastair Beacom, Principal of Dunclug Primary, Ballymena.

We had planned a few trips, so we were delighted to see the sun was shining the next morning for our trip to the North Coast.

Catherine did the driving and brought her little baby daughter Jessica with us as well. We had a lovely guided tour of the Giant's Causeway and a good look around the visitor's centre. This was the first time Nzau had ever seen the sea, so it was a very exciting and memorable experience.

He kept saying "so beautiful and so big, God's amazing creation!" We had a great time at the Causeway and they loved climbing over the basalt columns and watching the waves crash against the rocks.



Nzau, Esther and Catherine visit the Giant's Causeway

After lunch we went for a brisk walk in the fresh sea air at Portstewart Strand. Unfortunately, Nzau and Esther didn't have their swimming costumes with them so weren't able to go for a swim in the sea!! But we enjoyed a nice walk followed by a flask of tea on the beach!

We had some Kindfund supporters round to the house the next morning for coffee and a chat. It gave Nzau a chance to tell us how he came to faith and became

involved with Kindfund. His love and compassion for the children shone through as he spoke.

The ladies had lots of questions for Nzau and Esther and they all enjoyed meeting each other and learning more about Kindfund and their Kenyan lifestyle. The afternoon was rounded off with a lovely walk at Clotworthy and Antrim Castle Gardens and a relaxing evening in the house.

Daphne

Young children modelling clothes from Northern Ireland



Dunclug Primary Ballymena / Hope Primary Kenya



Nzau and Esther visit Dunclug

CONNECTING CLASSROOMS: SCIENCE INVESTIGATION

It was great to have Nzau and Esther visit Dunclug Primary School recently as part of their stay in Northern Ireland. They stayed for an afternoon, taking a tour of the school and spending some time with the staff and pupils. It turned out to be a great opportunity for the P6 and P7 pupils to find out about the work of Kindfund.

The P6/7 class are currently partnered with Shalline's Standard 5 class at Kindfund Hope Primary School through the British Council 'Connecting Classrooms' programme.

Throughout the year both classes have been looking at various topics together such as global learning and the importance of education.

Nzau and Esther very kindly took part in a questions and answers session with the pupils and were able to give them a fantastic insight into daily life in Kenya and also the work of Kindfund.

Another project that Kindfund Hope Primary School and Dunclug Primary School have been taking part in is a fun science investigation.

The P7 pupils from Dunclug Primary and Standard 5 from Kindfund Hope have been comparing the diversity of bird life in their school grounds.

For one week, both classes went out each morning to complete a bird survey.

The pupils took it seriously and even completed at the same time each day to ensure it was a fair test! They then shared the results and photographs of their survey online. The investigation was such a success that the P7s from Dunclug Primary shared the investigation at the recent RDS Science Fair at the Waterfront in Belfast. The investigation really captured the imagination of the judges and visitors.

Several pupils were even invited onto the Q Radio Breakfast Show earlier in the day to discuss the investigation. Global learning at its best!

Alastair



Hope kids bird spotting

Kindfund

Be kind to one another Eph 4:32

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

For more information visit our website www.kindfund.com

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Hosts Heather and Kim



Kim and I were thrilled to have Esther and Nzau staying in Bangor for a couple of days. Having arrived at West Church on the Friday morning we had coffee in the Welcome area while being greeted by many of those present, and then joined the Men's Fellowship, where they were very warmly received, and Nzau invited to the front to answer some questions about his work in Kindfund.

Friday afternoon found us going around Bangor Museum and finding out about the three hundred years of 24/7 prayer by the monks in the Abbey during 6th C. Nzau tried on a monk's habit while we looked on laughing! We then examined the Viking display before going down to Pickie for a cup of tea. Once again they entered into the fun by climbing up on a swan (not real!) to have photoshoots!

On Saturday we planned more museums, partly to give Nzau and Esther a taste of life in Ireland long ago and because Nzau was keen to see the early aeroplane in the transport museum. It seemed preferable to being caught up in the bank holiday traffic!

I think they were a little surprised at the poverty evidenced in the dwellings and Nzau spent ages examining the aeroplane. I think he could hardly believe it had lifted off

the ground!

We then went to Donaghadee for ice cream but were so cold that we opted to come back to the heat in my house. And was it hot! We did everything we could to keep them warm giving them blankets as well as plenty of heat!

On Sunday morning we went to church where again they received a big welcome followed by many coming to speak to them and showing interest in them and their work.

After the service we went to the Missionary Interest Group where once again they shared about the Kindfund homes in Kenya and were prayed with. Pamela then took them back to Kesh. I think they enjoyed the time here and, certainly, we did!

Gillian with a new baby



Kindfund

Be kind to one another Eph 4:32

Editorial

The Sower, The Weeds and The Mustard Seed are farming parables of Jesus so full of meaning to all who invest their time and energy in the work God gives.

Recently while preparing the garden for new fruit bushes the dull damp and cold weather of late November in Fermanagh reminded me that we are asked to labour if we are to enjoy the harvest.

Despite the conditions I have enjoyed preparing the ground and planting in all weathers. My heart thrilled as I picture the fun my grandchildren will have next summer helping Papa to collect the fruit and fill their tummies and pockets with some for later.

A small insight into the preparatory 'labour' we engage ourselves in here (UK, Ireland, Netherlands, USA and Canada) and in Kenya with the promise of fruit in the form of new life for children lifted and empowered to achieve their potential. Gillian has caught something of this in her article.

It is 12 months since our last letter and a lot has happened. We have continued to receive a flow of new children. Wamba Manager Nzau and his wife Esther visited NI in April/May, Paul and Andrew returned again this year in August to run bible camp, Lauren a teacher at Dunclug Primary Ballymena visited Hope Primary as part of British Council Connecting Classrooms programme, plus the visits to Kindfund Kenya by Pamela, Gillian and myself throughout the year.

In Kenya for most of the year two of our homes struggled with water supply. We are thankful in the last few weeks to be faced with an abundance. At Wamba we arranged for the extension of our water catchment to include another large roof which was not being harvested.

Thank you for all who have been praying. We encourage you to continue as we are encouraged by the children. We have just had the results of the Government end Primary exam and four of our eight who sat will be going to Secondary.

A good result for us. The other four are not academic and will be directed towards other skills. Please pray for wisdom for Government Education Officers that they will see that our school is producing results both academic and behavioural.

Ken

Prayer Letter December 2019

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

Nursery boys uniform



A child's first day at school is a proud moment for any parent. Our wee angels are growing up, looking cute in their uniform and the first day of school photographs taken.

For me, this year was a proud moment. Four of my children, Joy, Alan, Diana and Gideon, whose arrival as babies in Kindfund, coincided closely with my own and who I have had the pleasure of watching grow up, have now reached the age for Nursery. To see and hear them in class reciting their numbers, singing songs and all the other new things they are learning brings the proud smile of a parent to my face.

Along with the more humorous antics of asking out of class for the toilet more often than is necessary!! They are learning fast. The others, who have started a new year at nursery or school, looking very smart in their uniforms until the inevitable first break time on the first day and their black shorts have turned to various shades of grey or white from playing in the dusty Kenyan soil.

Boys will be boys. The older children who have moved on to their first day at secondary school or polytechnic. Even though they are older, life still presents new experiences, and for some this now means boarding school. I was able to call in to the school and see how they were settling in, as this was an adjustment for me as well as them.

I don't see them on a day to day basis anymore. It is such a privilege to be able to help, in some small way at least, to give these children a start in life and a chance they most likely would not have had.

Both in this practical way with education, food, clothes and shelter and more

importantly through Spiritual teaching.

But I'm also learning pretty quickly that it's not all me, and never will be, that no matter how much we worry about our children we have to trust them into Gods hands and His care. As Proverbs 22 v6 tells us, "start children off on the way they should go and even when they are old, they will not turn from it."

At mid-term we were able to take some of the children on outreach to local churches in our area and introduce the Bible Education Services (BES) literature to them that they themselves use. The churches now plan to use this superb resource with their Sunday School as well. The children took part in Sunday morning services and this I believe was as much a blessing to the children as it was to the locals.

As you'd expect with so many children, sickness happens. I spent quite a lot of time visiting the hospital with some of the children both at outpatient and inpatient appointments.

Illnesses ranging from TB, malaria and pneumonia to the more minor infections, sicknesses and scrapes. This was difficult at times as it is not easy watching a small child sick and in pain, but we thank God for His protection and healing on them.

I want to thank you all for your prayers for Kindfund and me as we continue to share Gods love with the children, staff of Kindfund and our neighbours in the surrounding areas. Some things we had planned, like endless administration but there were also lots of situations that arose unexpectedly.

In and through it all God has been faithful and has been our strength.

Gillian

Let us not become weary in doing good ... we will reap a harvest if we do not give up...

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

Kindfund

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