

Personal

Since I've been back in the UK it has been so lovely to spend a lot of time with the family, including a family, 12 of us, weekend together at Reeth, in the N. York Dales. Naomi is expecting her second child, towards end Jan; our fourth grandchild.

I am due to return to Kenya Nov 21st but only for 4 weeks getting back to the UK in time for Christmas. I hope to return again to Kenya after the birth of No.4 g/child some time mid or late Feb 2009.

We are hoping that Edris Oloo, our No.1 son out there, will visit the UK in June 2009. If he does then we would like him to be a bit of an ambassador for us getting into schools, churches, groups etc.

Needs

Please continue to pray for the many needs we have, especially for new Sponsors, money to cover the high Jan & Feb educational expenditure, a replacement vehicle and a digital camcorder – could use the latter for recording in Kenya and putting 'up' videos on to U tube etc.

Have a Lovely Christmas and a Very Blessed 2009

By the time we send out another Update I guess it will be into the New Year. For Thelma and me, UK Trustees and I know all the Staff and Children in Kenya we send our loving greetings and THANK YOU'S.

We pray that Christmas will be full of joy and meaning and that in these very uncertain times 2009 will bring you blessing. (On the right Mamboleo's Christmas tree last year 2007, probably a branch one of the boys picked somewhere)



Yours with love and appreciation

Terry

Uhuru Ministries

Terry & Thelma Newton, 10 Beaufront Ave., Hexham, NE46 1JD, England

Tel (01434) 602010; Mobile Thelma 07967 581278, Terry 07854 277143;

E-mail: uhuru.ministries@googlemail.com

Web Page: www.uhuruministries.org.uk

**Registered Charity No. 1089289 England & Wales
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Uhuru Ministries - Email Update - Nov 2008

Tempus Fugit – Time Flies

No questions asked a simple statement 'you'll want a concession fare,' the same weekend in London on the underground a young mother with a baby in a pushchair stands up to offer her seat to me, it says it all, time marches on, tempus fugit. We are all growing older, and that is the case with our youngsters in Kenya, hard to believe 7 this month completing secondary education. We praise God that we have been able to take each one of these youngsters through primary and secondary schooling, but the question is 'what happens to them now?' Kenya Certificate of Secondary Education K.C.S.E. is a very worthwhile achievement but is not really sufficient to gain meaningful employment. Victor (pictured right) is one such youngster but Victor is very fortunate to have good sponsors who have said they will help him through tertiary education. Benter, pictured left, is not so fortunate a total orphan, does not have a sponsor, and a concern I have is that if she does not get to university or college she will be 'married off.'



A recent article in The Economist, dated 11-17th Oct, heading Briefing Africa Prospects, pointed to the large numbers of young angry men, 15-24yrs, in the burgeoning slums and shanty towns of Africa, frustrated and bored, with no hope or prospects, who, in the case of Kenya's electoral violence earlier this year, took to the streets to vent their anger. We currently have two youngsters at university taking degree courses, and eight in college taking various diploma courses. Each of these youngsters on completion should have good job prospects ahead of them. One young man, Karim, who has been with us since the start of the work, last month, October, started a two year diploma course in 'tourism.' Karim tells me he is learning Japanese as part of his course we pray for his success in this. We really need additional sponsorship for Karim, as his course along with any tertiary education or craft course is expensive. I heard on the 'news' this morning that Jonathan Ross earns £16,000 a day, with that amount of money we could get 8 youngsters into University for one year, or it would cover our Mamboleo, Grace Home expenditure for about 3 months.

Kenya Violence

Thankfully the violence that earlier this year killed and displaced so many has all but cleared. The Coalition government seems to be holding; maybe the fact that approx one third of MPs in parliament are either ministers or asst ministers has something



to do with it. We have taken several extra youngsters as a result of the violence earlier this year, one of these is Kevin, 11yrs, (pictured left) whose parents were both killed. Kevin was placed with us by the Courts because the wife of his uncle refused to accept him into their family, sad but sometimes understandable when one already has too many mouths to feed. I have not met Kevin yet but I am told that he has settled in well, and his only concern is to continue his schooling – please help us to help him, he needs a sponsor, hopefully one that will take an interest

in him.

What Happens to YOUR Money

Looking recently through the Argos catalogue I was amazed to see that there are some 268 pages given over to Toys, Games and Nursery. This made me reflect upon little Boaz (pictured right in Nov 2004), now not so little at almost 15yrs and growing up quite quickly, though still small for his age. We tend to call him little Boaz to distinguish him from, guess who, Big Boaz. Big B is a bit of a giant, so the contrast. Little B, on the right to his friend Vincent another of our boys, is proudly playing with a homemade toy car, made from bits of wire, their one and only toy at that time. These homemade toys can often be seen when out and about. What a difference to the many kids in our country who this year at Christmas, in spite of the recession, will be deluged with toys. Little B thankfully has a very good sponsor. He hopes to go on to be a pilot. He is doing incredibly well at Kisumu Boys Secondary School and we just hope and pray that he can go on to realise his dream. I have been to his home where his older brother still lives with its breaking down mud walls; the home is about the size of our garage. If Boaz does make his dream I hope he does not forget where he came from and does not fill his life with just bigger and better material things as seems so common in the West. Somehow I doubt Boaz would do that, as he has over the seven years he has been with us, continued to display a lovely, gentle, humble, non grasping and contented spirit.



Boaz is a typical example of the 23 secondary school children we support.. To keep Boaz at school, just in school expenses alone, fees, uniform, stationery etc is approx £400 a year. We support around 80 boys and girls altogether in one way or another, including 23 boys living in at our Grace Home, Kisumu. Some of highest expenditure is towards sponsoring the 2 at university, 8 at college and 3 undertaking craft training courses. We employ 8 staff at Grace Home and with the recent steep cost of living increases they desperately need pay rises. I would be very happy to provide a breakdown of our expenditure.

THANK YOU AND THANK YOU AGAIN!!

Since I've been back in the UK it has been so lovely to spend a lot of time with the There are just so many I should thank. Thank you Trinity Methodist Church, Hexham that recently hosted our Charity Dinner, a lovely sum of over £2300 was raised, with a tremendous thank you to the many who made this event possible, including the Trinity Youth Group, and also the Two Revs, David and Paul who once again were a perfect comedy act as they ran the 'auction'. I was interested in the bid for a pillion ride on a Harley-Davidson! Many local businesses contributed various items for auction and we are so grateful for the local interest being shown in Uhuru. Before the Charity Dinner several people we met in the town commented that they were really looking forward to the evening; it appears that it is becoming a Tynedale annual event. Thank you to our home church, Stocksfield Baptist, and Haltwhistle Assemblies of God for their continued loving support. We are also very thankful to Nicky Davies-Jones who has designed our latest flyer it is great – please let us know if you would like some. And of course a thank you to our Treasurer Adam Sims, and to all our Trustees who put in so much effort, often behind the scenes to make the work in Kenya possible; Liz Thomas is the newest member. Thelma's behind the scenes contribution is remarkable and not only that but in releasing me for several months a year to go out to Kenya. I mention schools below but a thank you to The King's Academy, Middlesbrough for their care and generous support.

School Links

Since I've been back in the UK it has been so lovely to spend a lot of time with the We are very thankful to Corbridge First, Broomley First, Ovingham Middle and Corbridge Middle Schools for being so enthusiastic to establish links with schools in Kenya; thus far we have got three such links established. Whilst these links do not bring any financial advantage to Uhuru it is good to see the benefit it does and can bring to the schools in Kenya most of whom operate without even the most basic of amenities.