



UK Charity No. 1119126

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January 2008 Newsletter

**To all friends and supporters of the Tumaini Children's Home, Mombasa
A VERY HAPPY, HEALTHY, & PEACEFUL 2008!**

I am sure many of you have been looking at the devastating news on what is happening in Kenya right now. It is a very tragic time for that country and we all hope that tensions will ease and a settlement can take place for long-term security and peace. We all know that, without tourists visiting the country, many Kenyans will suffer economically, so let's hope that peace will be restored soon.

The children have been unaffected by these events. The cupboards had been well stocked with provisions and Joan still manages to get fresh food for the children. The gate has been locked night and day with extra security hired for around the Home. Mary was hoping to get out there early January but all flights had been cancelled, so she hopes to visit at the end of the month. The streets are very quiet and many of the hotels are half empty - Joan says it's quite eerie! Let's hope that soon Bamburi will be buzzing again.

Some of you may visit the Trip Advisor site to get information on Mombasa and the hotels there. One of our strongest supporters Jason Lang has been writing about Joan's recent illness. She has been hospitalised with a severe stomach complaint and been on drips and transfusions. However, she is feeling better now and is home, resting, we hope! She was overwhelmed with the emails and phone calls concerning her health and delighted to receive a huge bunch of flowers from the Jeremy Kyle crew. She wishes to convey her grateful thanks for your concern.

A VERY BIG THANK YOU to all the supporters who have given so generously over the years and particularly over the Christmas period. Without this help from the UK, Joan would not be able to keep the Home going and she sends love and thanks to all of us.

The children have all received many Christmas cards and presents from friends in the UK and happily share their toys and laughter! They had a wonderful Christmas and our thanks to the crew of 1st Choice who spent every possible spare moment with the children and had prepared individualised gifts for them.

You will notice that we have a "Just Giving" facility on our website. "Just Giving" is an online site that allows individuals to enter their own fundraising information, allowing people to sponsor and make contributions and give supporting comments (these can be anonymous) and the money is forwarded as they collect. The donations are forwarded direct to our Bank, and if they are UK Taxpayers, the Tax authority add 28 pence for each £1.

This is in addition to sending cheques to us through our PO Box account. Some of our supporters have opened up fundraising sites for their friends and others to donate as they wish.

To see an example, either follow the Just Giving link <http://www.justgiving.com/tumaini> (also on our website), or look at one of those who already have set up their own site.

The sites we have at present are:

<http://www.justgiving.com/roark-grindrodregistry>

www.justgiving.com/clairemuge

<http://www.justgiving.com/lyndajohnson1>

<http://www.justgiving.com/colleensmith1>

So if you feel like running an event that enables people from afar to donate, this is a good way of doing it.

A young couple, Sarah and Steve Turner have visited the Home and were so impressed with all that is going on out there they are returning again soon to offer help. Steve is a landscaper and he has two colleagues who are all-round builders. They will be visiting soon (we hope) to give assistance and oversee the Kenyan construction crew to help them complete the building of the school. Steve has other friends who are highly skilled in their trades (one of them a lecturer at a construction college) and they are now starting to fundraise in order to visit the Home to offer their expertise. Thank you. Tenders are also going out for the second storey of the main Home; things are moving at quite a pace now.

We send thank you letters to everyone that sends us a donation. We also send a "Certificate of Thanks" to those who have done a fundraising event. Although we know what is going on when people write to us, it is important that we know who is fundraising through the "Just Giving" site so that we can acknowledge and thank them for their efforts. Please just drop us an email to let us know that you are 'up and running'. Thank you.

We shall be sending out another newsletter after Mary's visit to Kenya when she can bring you up to date news on the children and the on-going building of the school and second storey.

To all our supporters and friends thank you for your on-going support.

Mary Leadbetter: Michael O'Leary: Bronwyn May: Susan Filby
TRUSTEES of Tumaini Children's Home, Mombasa, Kenya