

SASA

Sasa means **NOW** or **WHAT'S UP** in Kiswahili

every child deserves an opportunity.

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LEAF LINKS UP WITH LOCAL SCHOOL

It's a good effort and has been a truly worthwhile exercise for us, and hopefully the money will help in a small way

LEAF Director Eva Schaefer and admin assistant Susan Hayward recently visited Byron Community School to share with the children photographs and stories about life in the slums of Kenya and the difficulties faced by Kenyan children. The children were also shown drawings done by the LEAF children, some of which were to be used on LEAF gift cards.

Inspired by that visit, the Seahorse Class (grade 1/2) worked on a number of initiatives, including donations and cake-

stalls and raised \$186.50 to donate to African LEAF, a great achievement from one class. Teacher Luke Nicholson said "It's a good effort and has been a truly worthwhile exercise for us, and hopefully the money will help in a small way" The students were excited to present LEAF with the money.

The money was handed to LEAF on Monday 27th August and Eva told the children that, as the African LEAF girls love bead-making and the boys love football,

some of the money will be used to buy beading materials and footballs. In return Eva presented the class with a Certificate of Appreciation.

Eva and Susan were advised that some of the children's drawings will shortly be given to send to the LEAF children which could result in an ongoing exchange of letters and drawings between the two schools.

Jamal & Gigi class SRC (School representative Council) reps receive their Certificate of Appreciation from LEAF Director Eva & Admin Assistant Susan

KALAMA KINDERGARTEN RECEIVES SUPPORT FROM LEAF

LEAF's new project, Kalama Kindergarten, recently received knitted jumpers donated through LEAF sponsor, Angela Ahern. The kindergarten also received the first of many items donated by LEAF to the school, which is in much need of assistance.



The children at Kalama Kindergarten were happily wearing their new jumpers and beanies at a celebration at the kindergarten last week. Teacher Rosalia is extremely happy!



African LEAF also supplied crayons, drawing paper and play equipment, as well as juice and biscuits for the event.



The Headmaster of the adjoining Primary School chaired the get together for the children and parents and thanked African LEAF for its support of Kalama.

Discussions and negotiations are now underway for a sand pit, some paint for the walls and roof, and fencing for the playground, which will enable the garden to be expanded. **THANK YOU** to DHL, whose continued support of African LEAF gets the goods over to Kenya and delivered free of charge.

LEAF CHILDREN SUBMIT THEIR ARTWORK



Love : Annet



Educate : Diana



Acknowledge : Faith



Feed : Patrick

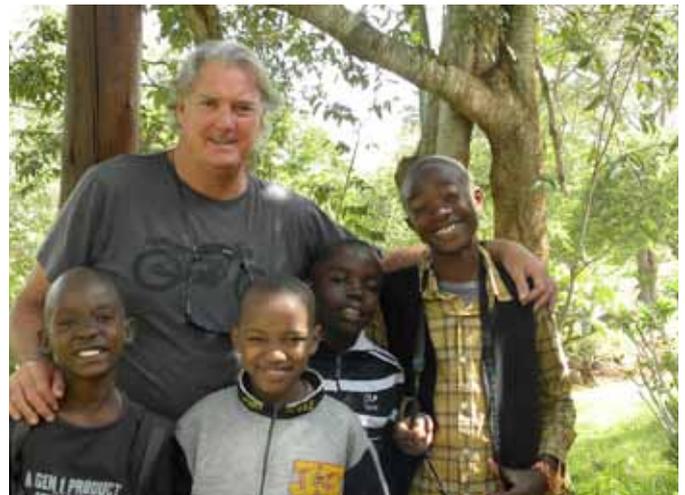
For those of you who may not know, we sell gift cards using drawings done by the LEAF children. These are very popular and are sold locally in shops in Byron Bay as well as on our website. See below for details.

Our admin assistant Susan decided recently that we needed to update the pictures on the gift cards we have been selling for a few years so she contacted Judith, the Mbagathi School principal to request that the children each submit a drawing with an African theme. We were very impressed by the artwork submitted and the choice was very difficult but eventually four were chosen. Each of the four cards includes the name of the artist. One of the messages of Love, Educate, Acknowledge and Feed appears on each card. Here are the four final choices.

You can buy the cards for \$3.00 each or \$10 for a 4-pack from Byron Bay stores Green Garage and Byron Bay Trading Co (Reject Shop) or online at <http://www.africanleaf.org.au/how-you-can-help/> (online prices include postage).



Ready for an adrenaline rush - LEAF director Ed Ahern with (from left to right) Lincoln, Kevin, Jim Chapman, Charlie Chapman, Eugene and Patrick.



In more normal mode - LEAF director Ed Ahern with Patrick, Lincoln, Kevin & Brian

LEAF BOYS ARE TREATED TO A GAME OF PAINTBALL

We received some photos and an email from one of our Sponsors, Craig Chapman. Craig owns land outside Nairobi on which he is building a tourist resort. LEAF director Ed Ahern, on a recent visit to Kenya, took all the LEAF children to a special dinner out ... but some of the boys had an additional treat when Ed took them to join up with Craig and other boys to a game of Paintball. Craig writes

After the end of the school term last December we took the local Morans Rugby kids for a day of paintball at a place in Karen. Ed brought a few of the LEAF kids along. Paintball is where two teams battle it out for victory by advancing towards a flag, retrieving it and placing it in a drum. If someone is 'hit' then they have to retreat before they can resume in the battle. This is an adrenaline filled activity but I can assure the LEAF sponsors that none of our

kids were killed in action and no animals were harmed! After several rounds of battle, we were treated to a BBQ chicken lunch prepared by the Moran's coach Manasses and Betty. A great time was had by all. The kids asked when we can do it again. We all had a lot of fun. Cheers, Craig Chapman (Major General, retired and sponsor of Faulat)



Boarding parent Peter Karanja

PETER'S VIEWS ON BEING A BOARDING PARENT

In our last two newsletters, we've featured a report from two of the boarding mothers at the Rudolf Steiner Mbagathi School where our sponsored children board. This time we thought we'd include the view of being a boarding father. Below Peter shares his thoughts.

When I joined the Steiner School as a boarding father in the year 2007, I was received with gratitude, and glimpses of happy and chummy faces. That's when I knew I was in a 'home away from home'. I met loving and caring children who I always remember and miss when we are on holidays. The kids are very cooperative and most of the times when

they are free we do crafts, and play different kinds of games and storytelling.

No-one can truly rob you of your self-respect because it's simply not to another to give or to take away and this is the challenge that I face as a boarding father. That's why, as a boarding father, I teach children certain behaviours that are widely considered worthy of respect

such as honesty, kindness, consideration, responsibility and a sense of duty.

It's also my hope that the Steiner School Mbagathi will continue to be a good source of knowledge, interesting, enjoyable and educative to the children and the entire community.

Peter Karanja.

LESSON 9 LEARNING KISWAHILI

nurse/nurses
muuguzi/wauguzi

doctor/doctors
daktari/wadaktari

taxi driver
dereva wa teksa

teacher/teachers
mwalimu/walimu

journalist/ journalists
mwandishi wa habari/
waandishi wa habari

engineer/engineers
mhandisi/wahandisi

builder/builders
mjenzi/wajenzi

worker/workers
mfanyakazi/wafanyakazi

fisherman/men
mvuvi/wavuvi

farmer/farmers
mkulima/wakulima

computer technician
fundi wa kompyuta

businessman/men
mfanyabiashara/
wafanyabiashara

police officer/officers
polisi/polisi

FUNDRAISING UPDATE

GIVER OF HOPE UPDATE

Financial Statements for 2011-2012 contributions and letters of thanks were sent out to all our Givers of Hope at the end of the financial year.

We now have 15 Givers of Hope and this is an important source of our overall fundraising and enables us to assist desperately needy preschool and kindergarten projects in Kenya, such as the Kalama Kindergarten in a small rural village out of Nairobi.

If you would like to help us by making a regular monthly donation, please go to our website www.africanleaf.org.au/donate-today/ or contact Susan on admin@africanleaf.org.au for details on how you can help.

UPCOMING FUNDRAISERS

Melbourne Cup Lunch

The first Tuesday in November is fast approaching and plans are now in place to hold our 3rd Melbourne Cup Lunch Fundraiser. The previous two, in conjunction with the Byron Bay Golf Club were outstanding successes so make a note in your diary. Details will be sent out by email in late September/early October, with our valued Givers of Hope getting first option on seat bookings.

FUNDRAISING UPDATE CONT ...

TRIVIA NIGHT SUCCESS

The atmosphere was buzzing at the Byron Bay Golf Club on Friday 20th July as 19 teams of 8 came together to test their trivia knowledge on what proved to be a wonderful, fun-filled night raising a grand total of \$3,183 after costs. Our thanks to all who attended and made it such a successful night.

Thanks also go to Byron Bay Golf Club, our wonderful MC Mick O'Regan and Queen of Trivia - quiz mistress Alison McKay. Our grateful thanks to those who donated prizes: Buddha Gardens Day Spa, Northern Rivers Writers Centre, Byron Bay Handimarket, Balcony Bar & Restaurant, Mokha Cafe, Orient Express, Belongil Bistro, Harvest Cafe Newrybar, Dr Chris Ingall, Dendy Cinema, Denise Stoddart, Glen Jules, Helena Norbert-Hodge, Lucy Foster Massage Therapy, Lynda & Christopher Dean, Pighthouse Flicks and Red Ginger. Thanks also to Suffolk Park Bakery, Byron Cakes, Kristina's Tasty Kitchen and others who baked and donated delicious food to sell and to those who helped on the night.

The feedback from attendees was very positive with requests to do it again so it could become an annual event.

A SHORT HISTORY OF KENYA PART 2

COMPILED BY JOHN ADAM

The Uganda Railway better known as The Lunatic Express

In 1896 the British Colonial Government brought 32,000 labourers from what was then British India and started the construction of a railway line from the Port city and then capital of British East Africa, Mombasa, to what is now Kisumu, on the eastern shores of Lake Victoria.

Due to the shaky-looking wooden trestle bridges, enormous chasms, prohibitive cost, hostile tribes, men by the hundreds infected by diseases, and man-eating lions pulling railway workers out of carriages at night, the name "Lunatic Express" certainly seemed to fit.

Officially the idea was to open up East Africa and allow the transport of the expanding crops of tea and coffee to the

Port, and convey the ever growing numbers of white settlers to the inland. The reality was the British Government cementing its colonial power on the area, with the easy movement of troops.

In addition, the Germans had started building a line from Dare Salam in neighbouring German East Africa, or Tanganyika to the South, and the British did not want the Germans to have easy access to the centre of Africa on their own, so the race was on.

During the seven years of construction of the railway 2,498 workers died, over a hundred of them killed by the famous Lions of Tsavo, and to this day the narrow gauge single line train still runs from Nairobi to Mombasa twice a week – an ageing relic of past colonial life and one of the great train journeys of the world.

Draining a large swamp at a watering place for the Maasai and their cattle, the British engineers established a yard and control point for the crossing of the

Rift Valley at a place the Maasai called Nyrobi. Settlers, hunters and adventurers arrived in droves, enjoying the climate and taking advantage of land grants and the huge herds of game, and Nairobi quickly developed into the capitol of Kenya that we know today.

It is interesting to note that many of the Indian labourers remained after completion of the line, and their descendants now form a large part of the population of Kenya. Many are successful businessmen and women, and they arguably own a large proportion of the businesses in Kenya.

To be continued.

