

The Friends of Kadzinuni

Hon. Patron Joanna Lumley OBE

Registered Charity No. 1098881
56 Ashley Road
Keyworth
Nottingham

Autumn Newsletter 2006

Half Marathon Success

Sunday 10th September saw our latest major fund raising effort as 11 keen volunteers headed for the start line of the Robin Hood Half Marathon and Fun Run. Nottingham was shrouded in damp and chilly mist until the sun broke through at start time. Temperatures rose to an unseasonably warm 25 degrees centigrade making life especially hard as the day wore on.

On page 2 you can see more photos of our heroes, who between them will have helped us gather in something over £2,500 for Kadzinuni. You can also see how they finished. Nearly 8,000 people entered the Half Marathon (that is just over 13 miles) with another 1,000 or more completing the Fun Run.

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Since 2003 we have raised
£60,000



Vanessa (left) and Eloise approach the finish at nearly 13 miles!
.....and they're still smiling!

Clinic update

A few weeks ago we suffered a minor setback as we move forward to get the clinic fully up and running. By law in Kenya, before we can gain official permission to receive our government-supplied nurse, watchman, cleaner and starter medical kit the clinic site must pass a formal inspection. National officials from Nairobi carry out these inspections and they travel the country visiting each area every few months. When they undertook the inspection they had a concern over the toilet facilities, not that the new block we had built was at fault, but the provision was not enough. They indicated that an additional pit latrine toilet block would have to be built. This work is now underway with the men of the Rotary Community Corps digging the massive pit. Once this is done the contractor that built the clinic will complete the job above ground. The good news is that this will not cost any more money, as the contractor is a good friend to our partners in Mombasa.

After that, we will request a fresh inspection. We may have to wait some time (maybe some months) for that so patience is needed. On the advice of Daniel Gikonyo from Rotary we have therefore delayed any work on the clinic fit out and installation of the solar power units until we have jumped this final hurdle. We have taken this decision so that we do not have to worry about the security of the equipment until the nurse, watchman and cleaner are in occupation.

In the meantime we are accumulating funds for equipment and medication stocks so that when the funds are needed we will be able to respond quickly. It is not unusual for delays to affect life in Kenya, as we saw with the textbooks project where the government took a long time to publish the new curriculum. However, we got there in due course and without any additional costs, and we will do the same with the clinic.

Our Robin Hood Marathon heroes!

Many would say that those who take the longest actually achieve a lot as they are on their feet for so much longer than the fastest and fittest, so here is our roll of honour.

Half Marathon (13.1 miles)

Eloise Dobson	2h 40 mins 16 secs
Vanessa Baines	2h 40 mins 15 secs
Beth Sealey	2h 31 mins 41 secs
Joanna McGarva	2h 23 mins 41 secs
Richard Bailey	1h 58 mins 57 secs
James McGarva	1h 54 mins 56 secs
Stuart Blacklock	1h 51 mins 48 secs
Keith Jamieson	1h 34 mins 24 secs
Ben Waite	1h 34 mins
Karl Marshall	1h 32 mins 07 secs

In addition Daisy Seller (without any training) other than a summer spent partying after her 21st birthday “danced” her way around the 2.5 mile Fun Run Course in just 30mins 24 secs!



Some of our team; back row from left to right, James McGarva, Ben Waite, Richard Bailey, Keith Jamieson, Stuart Blacklock. Front row, Beth Sealey, Joanna McGarva, Daisy Seller.



Eloise, Vanessa and chief canine cheerleader, Scruffy!

Hot and bothered, James approaches the finish!



Daisy, rest and relaxation at the end!

News from our Sponsored Students

Since Daisy's visit in June when the Class of 2006 were presented with their communication packs we have received a good number of letters from the students, giving us an initial insight into life at secondary school in Kenya. The students have all to some extent been fighting homesickness as for all of them this is the first time they have been away from Kadzinuni for any length of time. Their diets have changed and in some cases the climate of the areas that their school is in is very different from the hot and humid coastal lands. All these changes are quite hard for them on top of the challenging new lessons they attend. So far all are doing well at school and they like to tell us about their teachers many of whom they find kind and understanding. Some of their writing is quite beautiful in a quirky sort of way, there is clearly both emotion and formality in their letters.

We have set up a page on the website where we load extracts from the letters more or less as soon as they arrive, so it's always worth a look perhaps once a week. We have however included in this edition below is a lovely letter we recently received from Onesmus Munga. (His name is pronounced On-eh-muss). We appreciate it is quite small print, but it is well worth reading!

MARIAKANI SEC. SCHOOL,
BOX 34,
MARIKANI.
D.D. 2006.
REF: APPRECIATION FOR YOUR SPONSORSHIP.

It's my great pleasure that you are getting on well. To me here in Kenya I am as fit as a fiddle, just breathing in the oxygen of Mariakani Secondary School. Things are just getting on well here as far as education is concerned.

The place sometimes is cold and warm since it is different from my home. The distance from my home to school is more than two hundred and fifty kilometres away.

That's why it differs in climatic condition. It is well organised either

the buildings or the teachers are really working hard in hand to achieve the goal of life that is success.

Success in education is success in life. At first I found to be difficult for me to be a boarder because I thought that I would miss my comrades, Mum and Daddy with their charming stories. Also missing my grandparents with their interesting myths and riddles which are getting rusty with age.



Onesmus Munga

The first week of my boarding I found it hard for me to wake up at four it was away that I was not used to. We wake up at four when we brush our teeth and go for prep until six when we go and take our breakfast.

In a day we are taught at least nine subjects. After all the subjects are over at five we go for physical

education. My best subjects at school are mathematics and English. Because I would like to learn new ideas from story books and friends as I know that it is widely spoken.

Finally I am thanking you for your support of my secondary education. May God be granting you with his endless blessings in everything you will be doing and your life to prolong in this planet earth.

Hoping to see you then!

Bye.

ONESMUS MUNGA

Onesmus Munga

Student Sponsorship Scheme Update

In January 2007 our first individually sponsored students will be selected after the Grade 8 exam results. The Class of 2007! Our campaign to find individual sponsors has been successful and we expect 10 or 11 students to be supported for their four-year courses from next January.

As we need to accumulate about one year's costs per student in advance we are now focussing on finding sponsors for the class of 2008! We already think that we have 7 or 8 students sponsored, so in less than a year we have managed to provide for nearly 30 Kadzinuni children! This will undoubtedly help bring about the sort of change in Kadzinuni that will increase the community's levels of self-sufficiency and ability to create wealth.

If you want to support a student at Kadzinuni please contact us via email at friends@kadzinuni.org.uk or by telephone on 07931 323613.

Business Friends of Kadzinuni

Our latest scheme to encourage a greater sense of community involvement from our home village of Keyworth was launched on 1st July. We have added a new page to our website called "Business Friends of Kadzinuni". A simple red brick wall appears on the page and on each space is room for the name of a local business that has made a donation to the Friends. A single large brick sits atop the wall and this shows, in random order, a larger version of all the businesses details. Where the business has a website a live link to their site is included. Several businesses have already signed up.

To take up your place on our business friends wall contact us by email at friends@kadzinuni.org.uk or ring Nic on 07931 323613

If you want to know more about supporting the Friends of Kadzinuni you can contact us by telephone on 0115 914 9535 or 07931 323613 or e-mail to friends@kadzinuni.org.uk

alternatively contact us by snail mail to
56 Ashley Road,
Keyworth, Nottingham,
NG12 5FH.



We are now seeking individual sponsors for students starting at Secondary School in January 2008. £10 a month, if Gift Aided, will fully support a Kadzinuni student for their 4-year course. Contact us for more details.

Coming in 2007...

**Walk on Hot
Coals for
Kadzinuni!**

This newsletter is published by the Friends of Kadzinuni
Copies can be downloaded from our website at www.kadzinuni.org.uk

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