

# kivuli NEWS

EDITION 35 – March 2013 *GDG Project J606N Update*



Kivuli Project Inc is proud to be a project partner for J606N with Global Development Group (ABN 57 102 400 993) [www.globaldevelopment.org.au](http://www.globaldevelopment.org.au)



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## jambo friends,

It certainly is a new season for Kivuli as we enter into our 4th year of operation and there is so much to be thankful for - new location, new staff members, new projects, more children, so much development, and so many blessings!

We are happy to announce that we have hired a new Project Manager, Isaac Wairangu, who joined us this month. Isaac was managing a private primary school in a neighboring town prior to joining us, and he also Pastors a Christian Foundation Fellowship (CFF) Church in the nearby town of Ngobit. Isaac, his wife and daughters, have already fit in extremely well and he has done remarkable work in

the short time he has been with us. We are so thankful to God for His faithfulness in always providing for the needs of Kivuli in perfect timing!

Yet again it has been an extremely busy month at Kivuli, lots of planting in preparation for the March rains (which arrived a little later than usual) and lots of development with construction and the chickens and cows. We had several new additions to the Kivuli family and had to say farewell to some also.

We would like to wish you all a Happy Easter! Amongst all the family gatherings, Easter eggs and hot cross buns, we hope

you stopped for a moment to consider and remember at this time, Jesus – the one who came and died so that we live.

We hope you enjoy reading this edition of Kivuli News.

Blessings,  
Dan and Dee



## happy easter

We had a wonderful Easter at Kivuli. It is usually school holidays over Easter and most of the children with relatives, so it was nice to celebrate Easter together with all the children for a change. On Good Friday Aunty Dee made everyone hot-cross buns, which no one had tasted or heard of before. On Easter Sunday we all decided to attend Church and came home to share lunch (chapati and beans – always the favourite meal of the week) and in the afternoon celebrated Easter 'Greek-style' by cracking coloured hard-boiled eggs courtesy of our 197 hens. Everyone had a small block of chocolate (thanks to Dan and Sarah Gibbs) and then at night we shared in a special supper and celebration for Loise's last night with us.



# introducing our new project manager – Isaac Wairangu

I hail from Nyeri county – Mathira division. Born on 10th September 1976.

I struggled in my education due to family separation and I spent many years schooling. I dropped out of school many times – one of the occasions I remember spending 4 years as a grazing boy in our village. Through God's divine ways our family reunited and I was back to school. Any time of separation I used to stay with my father since I am named at my father's side. I ended up attending 5 different primary schools and 2 secondary schools due to family separation and fees. During this time I used to prepare my meals and at times to look for my food since my father was very old and with no job. He again could not allow me to play alone or with other children. This started when I was in standard 3 and I think this made me to be what I am – I feel I should work for children

and allow them to grow in a healthy environment.

After my high school I got a job tutoring two children in a family in Nyandarua-South, Kinangop for two months, then I was employed as a saw-mill clerk. At this time I got married to Esther, then I tried a business in Laikipia which failed after one year. I later got a good job as a pig attendant at Kamuka farm where I was promoted as a farm manager, and following that was employed as nursery teacher at Gilesther preparatory school. This time I got inspired and joined an in-service teaching course as an Early Childhood Development (ECD) teacher, later I was promoted to deputy head teacher and then as the head teacher of the school. I then joined another school – Bekamo School in Laikipia as the head teacher where I worked for 7 years and during this time I did a diploma in ECD.



I managed to cater for my college fees through saving and my earnings and my wife looked for daily wages to cater for us in the house matters – she is a great mother just like Dee and am planning on giving her a special gift, maybe you can help me think of one?

I was then employed as a head teacher in a school at Kieni District called Shalom schools where I worked for one and half years before I was called by my former employer – Gilesther preparatory to re-program the school. This is where I was before meeting Dee – the Kivuli

Project manager, and I joined it as the project manager.

I am proud to be the manager and I feel I am in the right home where God wants me to serve him and see vulnerable children grow in abundance of love and good care for them to make a good human being.

I look forward to being able to share with you over the coming months and years as I deliver the Kivuli News to you.

**“If you want to touch the heart of God touch the heart of other people” – Mother Teresa.**

Isaac Wairangu

## building progress

The ‘fundis’ (meaning ‘fixers’, in this case, fixers of buildings, aka builders or carpenters) have been so busy renovating the existing staff buildings so they can become our permanent buildings. They have completed two rooms now and can finally see the finished product of all their hard work. They have really enjoyed learning how to plaster and tile for the first time (from Dan) and also how to paint (from Dee) and are so proud of the work they've done. They're talking to all their friends and family about the new skills they have learnt, and already have a line of future customers forming so they can build houses for them in the same way.

Once the rooms have been renovated, they will get to work on another staff house for Dan and Dee when they return in 3 months (as Isaac and his family will move into the house they were in) and also start on two permanent child cottages, which will accommodate eight children each plus a housemother. One thing is for sure; these fundi's will have work for at least the rest of this year!



## shamba update

This month we have been extremely busy preparing the soil and planting in preparation for the March rains. The rains arrived, albeit a bit late. The shamba has now been officially divided into two 'sides', the kitchen garden and fodder crops. Anne is responsible for the 'kitchen' side and Isaac is responsible for the 'fodder' side. Needless to say, we have some healthy competition happening for the best shamba!

We have planted much of the food crops for our children such as maize, beans and some potatoes. Several types of vegetables are already available from our shamba - spinach, onions, potatoes etc.

We have our two dairy cows and their calves and we have planted much of the fodder crops like nappier grass, turnips, lucerne, maize, rhodes grass, sunflower and beetroots. These



will provide the roughage needed and other nutrients once it is fully grown and eventually we shall not need to buy supplements from the shop.

Our biogas system is in its final stages of completion. We have stored much of cow manure, which will be used in the digester and are just waiting for the concrete digester to cure. Soon we are expecting to see a gas cooker fitted in our kitchen. The biogas system will reduce our use of firewood and save some time lighting fires in the morning, be good for the environment and make dairy farming more efficient. Excess waste from the biogas will be used as manure which substitutes fertilizer and improves soil texture and fertility.

This month we doubled the size of our dam! The dam is full of water ready to be supplied with tilapia fish – woo! We have a plan of rearing this type of fish which does well in stagnant



water. Tilapia reproduce in large numbers and can be harvested after one year. The water in the dam will also be used to irrigate the shamba during the dry season. With the moneymaker manual machine we are able to pump water wherever it is needed.

Our shamba is currently at risk of flooding during the rainy seasons. Following this history, we have dug a big trench for controlling any water that could otherwise flood. The trench also allowed the down-stream community to get more water running down after clearing a lot of the blockage. The same trench will also collect underground water from higher on the property.

Our chicken-rearing project has turned out to be extremely successful (thanks again to our previous manager, Anyembe,

for getting this project off the ground). We are collecting over 160 eggs per day. We also got a good market for our eggs at a supermarket in the nearby town of Nyahururu, and also local people and the staff buy eggs from us. We have also improved our children's diet by adding egg to the menu. Eggs are giving us good cash after selling which is supplementing our budget.

Our dairy cows are our number two income-generating project. We are able to provide enough milk for our domestic use; the staff get milk from our cows and pay for it at the end month and the surplus is sold to the local dairy cooperative. Our 2 cows are able to produce 16 litres per day. Once we continue improving the cow's diet (when our crops grow) the milk production will go up.

## purity goes home

Many of you will have heard about Purity, a young girl who was found wandering by the roadside in October by a "well-wisher". She was taken to the local police station before joining Kivuli. We struggled for months to find her family, she was very confused and wasn't sure of where she came from. After sharing the story with our builders, they started to ask around in a neighbouring town, using the names Purity had given us. It was successful; we located her Father and his family. They thought she had been with her mother and had no idea she had been with us for so long. It was a wonderful reunion and a great answer to prayer! Thanks to everyone who was praying for our dear girl. She is very happy to be home.



## the boys gain numbers

Four new boys joined Kivuli this month, two into our home-based care program, and two living onsite at the project. Brothers Godfrey and Ngunyi are settling into Kivuli extremely well and keep telling us how 'smart' they look in their new clothes. They are so happy to be in school!

David and Bernard, our home-based care brothers, are living with their elderly Grandmother who struggles financially. The boys had actually been at home for some time due to unpaid school fees. We have provided the boys with a new bed and bedding along with a solar lighting system so they can study at night. We are also going to work with their Grandmother to set up a small income-generating project so she will be able to generate some income for her family.

Thank you to the Moon, Jenkins, U'ren and Salt families for sponsoring these boys.



## Looking for sponsors

We currently have three children without sponsors (two boys and a girl, all in high school) and with three more young girls (primary school) due to join us in a few weeks, that will leave us with even more unsponsored children. If you know anyone who might be interested in sponsoring one of our children, please email [corinna@kivuliproject.org](mailto:corinna@kivuliproject.org). Sponsorship is \$40 per month and is tax deductible in Australia and the U.S.A.

## farewell Loise

After working with us for more than 2 years, we say farewell to Loise, our Social Worker. Loise has decided to take a break from social work for some time and start a new business. We're happy that she won't be far away, in fact she'll be opening a small shop in our town, so we'll still get to see her and her baby boy Levi.

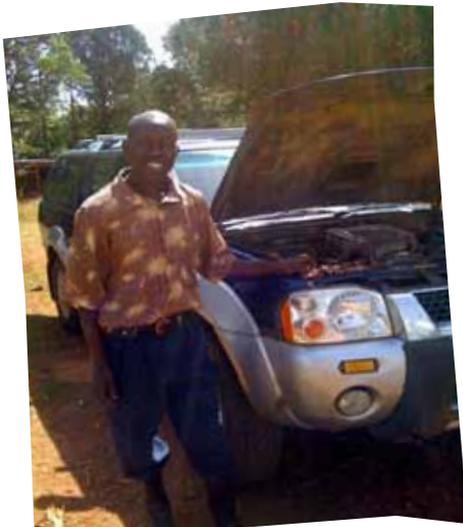
We would like to thank Loise for all of her hard work and dedication to the children of Kivuli for the time she has been here, and wish her all the best in her new business venture. May God bless you!

We have advertised for a new social worker and will be conducting interviews over the next week.

## welcome Joseph

Another staff member joined us this month, Joseph Nderitu. Joseph joins Baba Nancy working on the shamba and looking after the cows and chickens. He is also a driver and a mechanic, which is a huge blessing, as we have another driver onsite, and it means we don't have to hire casual drivers whilst Dan and Dee are away. His mechanic skills have already come in handy this month, when he assisted when our 4WD had problems with the starter motor.

Welcome to the team Joseph!





## the Rutherfords are heading back to Australia

Dan, Dee, Marley and Zoe are heading back to Australia for a few months. As you may have heard, they have been in the process of applying for work permits for some time. Whilst the process is going well, and they expect work permits to come through without any problems, the process is taking a little longer than anticipated. In fact, they have already been granted a fee exemption for the permits from the Department of Treasury, which is a HUGE blessing and answer to prayer. Which means, when the permits come through, they won't have to pay the hefty fee!

It is necessary for the Rutherfords to leave Kenya as their visas expire in early April, so whilst they wait for the work permits to come through, they'll be working for Kivuli from Australia. We thank God for sending Isaac to Kivuli in perfect timing to manage the project (alongside Anne) in Dan and Dee's absence. It is anticipated the Rutherfords will be back in Kenya in early July.

Whilst in Melbourne, Dan and Dee would love the opportunity to speak to any groups, clubs, churches etc. about the work of Kivuli. If you would like to have them speak at your venue, please email [dee@kivuliproject.org](mailto:dee@kivuliproject.org)

## they're both girls!

We welcomed two new baby girls to the Kivuli family this month.

The first birth came from our expectant cow, Milly, earlier in the month. She gave birth to a beautiful baby girl calf called Yvette. Our very own Baba Nancy gave Yvette mouth-to-mouth when she was born to get her breathing, after he saw the labourers do the same thing when our bull calf, Fuzzy, was born earlier in the year. Both Milly and Yvette are doing very well, and we are enjoying the

extra milk we are now getting. Fuzzy is also very happy to have a playmate!

Secondly, we are SO happy to share that Holly and Leigh (the couple who managed Kivuli Kenya for 6 months in 2012) had a baby girl on Easter Saturday, Ava Hope. We praise God for this little treasure and would like to congratulate Holly and Leigh on their new arrival. The Kivuli children are thrilled to have another sister and can't wait for her to come and visit.

## for those that pray

### Praise God for

- Our new Project Manager Isaac
- Holly and Leigh's new baby, Ava Hope Shera-Jones
- Reuniting Purity with her family
- Peace during the elections

### Please pray for

- The Rutherfords as they return to Australia
- God's favour upon Loise as she starts her new business
- More sponsors
- Three young girls who prepare to leave their dying mother and join Kivuli next month

## to donate

Gifts to Global Development Group (ABN 57 102 400 993) with a preference for this approved aid and development project J606N Kivuli Project are tax deductible. Donations over \$2 are tax deductible.

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