



July 2018

News from Kenya

It has been six months since our last newsletter, and a lot has been happening in Kenya. The new building that was completed at the end of last year is in use and the solar panels have been installed and are supplying light and power to equipment. This has been especially timely as the wet season was particularly bad this year and having a dry and inviting school has been incentive enough for the children to continue attending. Georgina reported to us that the children were frequently sick with cold symptoms and at times had to be redirected to the medical clinic. A really challenging time.



Hard to imagine that a walk to kindergarten can look like this...

Georgina welcomes some children to class...



...and helping a neighbour to seek medical attention can look like this...

Then helps out a neighbour...

The terrible weather did not only impact the children and staff at the school. Sadly Peep the calf died during this period. The sorrow was somewhat softened by the acquisition of a new cow and the happy arrival of a cute new bullock to Agneta not long afterwards. This was a source of great joy as the staff and students are now enjoying milk for break time once or twice a week.

Finally, with the wonders of modern technology (and how things have changed in the 11 years since we met Georgina), we are now enjoying video-conferencing communication with Georgina and the teachers.



Here are the kids getting served some milk.



Here is the new bullock.

It makes communication so much easier (compared with email) and issues can be addressed in a more timely manner.

Comedy Night Fundraiser

WOW! what a fantastic night!! Thanks to everyone who came to our fundraising comedy night in February. Over 80 tickets were sold and \$2500 was raised!

Thanks to the fabulous comedians Ben Knight, Danielle Walker, Luka Muller, Joseph Green, Blake Freeman, Adam Knox, Geraldine Hickey and Nick Cody for volunteering their time and providing us all with lots of laughs.

Thanks to Lara for our promotion posters and support. An extra special thanks to Ben Knight who was a hilarious and amazing MC, organised the venue, the comedians and coordinated the whole night. Hopefully we might be able to do it all again next year.



Ben Knight

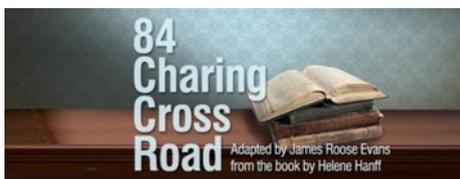


Geraldine Hickey



Some guests enjoying the night

Peridot Theatre Fundraiser



Thank you so much to Forest Hill Rotary and Peridot Theatre Company for hosting a wonderful night of theatre on the 7th of June. The production of 84 Charing Cross Road was fabulous and the theatre was packed.

We are absolutely thrilled that over \$2300 was raised for Hope Katolo at the event. Thank you so much to those who were involved in organising, promoting at other Rotary groups (and donating some of their ticket sales), preparing supper and attending the event. The money that was raised is going to be put towards a new computer for Georgina (also meaning that the out-dated version can be used for some word processing etc, including by the children) and some chairs that will be used for meal times but also for special events such as graduations. Here is a recent photo of the children eating their meal on the ground, which will soon be a thing of the past...



In the last 6 months, approximately \$250 each was also raised by a Quiche and Salad lunch at Lort Smith Animal Hospital and an Essential Oil "Make and Take" evening hosted by the fabulous Melissa Raymond. Thanks so much to all involved.





Olive Oil

We continue to sell Cockatoo Grove Extra Virgin Olive Oil for \$12 for a 500ml bottle. It is perfect at this time of year with your pastas and other comfort food! Get in touch if you would like a bottle or three! Thanks very much to Jane Griffiths from Maroondah Hospital who sold a few boxes of oil within a week after advertising in the physiotherapy department. These efforts make such a big difference! Contact us on hopekatolo@hotmail.com to get oil for yourself or to pick up a box to sell.

Entertainment Books

You can save heaps of money on restaurants and entertainment, but there are also vouchers for accommodation, bakeries, car washes...you name it! It's very easy to save well over the \$70 spend. And the nursery school makes money on every book we sell. You can get yours by following this link: <https://www.entertainmentbook.com.au/orderbooks/193403w>
Or contacting us on 0412 187 353 or hopekatolo@hotmail.com



WATCH THIS SPACE!

A **Movie Night** at Balwyn cinemas is on the cards in the next few months. Keep your eyes peeled!

