

# The Choice

ISSUE 9 AUTUMN EDITION 2008



## Special Interest Articles:

## A word from the MD

As was mentioned in our last newsletter, I have now been to Kenya with 35 other members of my church to run a youth training course and also to work with an organisation which helps orphans and widows. Through fundraising and donations we were able to raise over £18,000 to help these people, and I give my thanks to all of our customers who were kind enough to make donations towards this.

I was expecting poverty and the team had all been prepared for the cultural differences, but I had not expected such obvious tribal and racial issues as exists in Kisumu. Due to decades of underinvestment in Kisumu by the government there is now such widespread poverty that very few young people have any realistic opportunity for valued employment even when they have a decent education. The result is that there are many beggars and drug abuse is widespread as is other forms of escapism.



As a team we still have work to do to provide for a long term legacy, but so far we have achieved the following:

- Trained about 65 young people to be leaders of the Alpha course
- Provided the equipment for a business school
- Provided the bulk of the funding to get clean water available to an orphanage

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**The orphanage where part of the team ran activities, this was taken in their dining room, which has been partially built but is waiting additional funds to complete**

We aim to provide long term support for the orphanage we worked at and commercial sewing machines for a widows group. We are also looking at whether we can help create seed capital and advice for small a number of businesses which vary from poultry farming to internet cafés.



The group that I led for Alpha training together with the oldest member of our team. We had 11 small groups, and a total of about 65 youths.



St Mary's church, where I was asked to preach a sermon with no advanced knowledge and afterwards asked to lead these children for an hour. My youngest daughter and another member of the team are also in the photo.

## Support News



New Starters

ISS welcome the following new team members

Rob Sedgwick  
Simon Jackson

WEDDING – JON KEARSLEY & CHARLOTTE



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Support  
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Forthcoming Events & Exhibitions