

The Giraffe Project: Who we are

UK registered charity no 1116675

Founded in 2005 by Richard and Denise Baines, British teachers in International schools and colleges in Belgium, the Giraffe Project is a UK registered charity providing educational opportunities for children and young people from extremely deprived areas of Nairobi, Kenya. It works closely with 2 schools in the slums, and provides further support for teenagers to finish their studies in boarding schools outside. Graduates from secondary schools are sometimes offered places in vocational training colleges. All the schools are managed and run by local people.

The charity operates as a Trust under the charity law of England and Wales, and has its official residence in Maidstone, Kent. 5 trustees are currently on the Board, 2 residing in the UK, 2 in Belgium and the fifth in the US. The accounts are monitored by an independent examiner before being submitted to the Charities Commission annually. Bank accounts in Belgium, the UK, the USA, and Kenya are all managed on-line with dual signatories.



In Europe... Denise Baines (left) is the European Executive, responsible for running the sponsorship programme. Richard as Treasurer manages the accounts, and together they carry much of the responsibility for managing the projects and for communication with the Kenyan partners. Stuart and Helen Bailey, as Chairman and Secretary of the Board, also carry an executive role and pay annual visits to Kenya.

In Kenya... The Kenyan Executive is **Japheth Mutinda**, Director of one of the primary schools (pictured right with Richard). He is second signatory to the Kenyan account and carries responsibility for the day-to-day running of the project, including placing students in boarding schools, establishing fees contracts with their administrations, overseeing building projects, and managing the Counsellor/ Administrator.

Johnstone Ndunde is Chairman of the Tumaini School board, and is managing the building programme. He also carries primary responsibility for the development of Neema Secondary School.



Eunice Mutua (pictured right in Green Pastures School library) is our Counsellor/Administrator. She follows the students' progress and oversees their welfare, with special attention to the teenagers. She arranges accommodation for the college students, distributes pocket money, ensures the students have the materials they need and accompanies girls on doctor's visits. She advises on choice of courses, and is the collecting point for application forms, letters and reports.



The charity has grown steadily since its inception in 2005: last year's turnover was 189,000GBP and this year's will be higher. The Trustees are committed to grow the charity in keeping with its stated objects, with the help of a staff of expert volunteers, and to ensure that at least 95% of all funds raised reach the projects in Kenya. In the case of sponsorships, 100% is committed to the schooling and wellbeing of each individual student sponsored.

More information is available at www.giraffeproject.org. For information on sponsorship contact Denise at sponsors@giraffeproject.org.