



Sunshine Borehole Project Naivasha, Kenya



Progress Report – May 2015

In January 2010, the Sunshine Borehole came on stream. The project was initiated by the President of the Rotary Club Bromley Ivan Chapman who worked hard to raise funds and then secured a matching grant from Rotary International. The total of over \$20,000 that was donated enabled a borehole to be sunk in Naivasha, Kenya which has provided water to local people and an income stream to support the rehabilitation of Naivasha's street children.

Background

There is no piped water in Naivasha, so local people have to make arrangements to collect water from public sources or buy from water sellers. For poor people, buying water is expensive and collecting it is time-consuming. Lack of readily available clean water is a major source of ill-health.

Drilling commenced in January 2010 at a site owned by the Sunshine Rehabilitation Centre. The Centre offers a home to young boys who are living on the street and transforms their lives by providing food, education, a home and loving care. The drilling was a success and the borehole immediately yielded a high volume of clean water. The borehole was officially opened in 2011 by a party of Rotarians from RC Bromley including the new president Adrian Lawrence, and representatives from the partner Rotary Club of Nakuru, Kenya



Top right: water gushes from the borehole on completion of drilling; bottom left: Rev Simon Kinyanjui and Rotarian Onono draw a bucket of fresh water; Bottom right: The opening ceremony in 2011

Beneficiaries

The quality and quantity of water from the borehole has been consistently good, and apart from a couple of incidences of silting and pump breakdowns, it has provided a consistent supply of water to the local community since it opened.

Although when it was drilled the borehole was situated on an out-of-town plot, the town has grown steadily and buildings have now grown up all around the site.

Water is supplied to a range of beneficiaries ranging from single individuals living in the immediate vicinity who collect water in jerry cans, to the wider community who are served by bulk deliveries by truck. In between these two groups are the families who live too far to walk to the borehole or who need more water than they can carry who are served by donkey cart vendors.



Customers at the Sunshine borehole: Left: a young girl collecting by jerry can for her family; Middle: donkey carts bring water to families; Right: bulk tankers deliver to outlying communities

In times of drought, the borehole has also supplied water to the Sunshine Rehabilitation Centre to provide water for washing, cooking and irrigation which means that the former street boys stay clean and healthy and crops continue to grow even in a time of crisis. All of these community groups are served by the ever-smiling Kamura who is employed to manage and maintain the borehole.

Income

The water is sold at the local rate which depends on the amount being bought:

- A jerry can of 20 litres is sold at 5 KShs (4 pence) or just under 1p per litre;
- A 200 litre container (on a donkey cart) is sold for 20 KShs (15 p) or 0.075p per litre;
- Trucks that have tanks of 10, 000 litres buy at 400 KShs 400 (£3) or 0.03p per litre.

The income pays for power, maintenance and the water licence. Sales vary during the year, and depending on rainfall (in the rainy season, sales drop because local people can collect rainwater from their roofs).

In 2014, the borehole provided an income of 858,000 Kenya Shillings (£6,100) and a net contribution of 518,000 Kenya Shillings (£3,700).

Income in previous years has typically been at the same level, so over the four years the borehole has been operating, it has contributed nearly £15,000 to the Sunshine Rehabilitation Centre, as well as providing fresh water to the community.

Future development

Earlier this year an entrepreneur approached the borehole management to ask if he could purchase water to supply to a chain of water shops that he was establishing in Naivasha town.

This businessman buys water, purifies it at source, then delivers it to small shops in the main streets in the town where it is again filtered before being sold to the local community in bottles and jerry cans. The price is kept as low as possible to ensure that local people can afford to buy it.

Footsteps trustees Martin and Mary Print, together with retired water engineer Barrie Francis visited the existing process plant in February 2015 and were impressed with its cleanliness and efficiency.

The plan is for the businessman to install his processing equipment at the Sunshine Borehole site and then to draw water and process it for sale in his shops. This expansion will widen the number of people in the local community who benefit from the water and will provide income which will benefit the Borehole project and the Sunshine Rehabilitation Centre.



Left: Barrie Francis with businessman Anthony inspecting the water processing plant; Middle: the water is filtered again before it is dispensed. Right: customers can buy pure water in bottles or bring their own cans for filling.

Conclusion

The Sunshine Borehole project has been a blessing, not only to the local community in Naivasha which has benefitted from a reliable source of fresh water, but has also provided a significant amount of income which has allowed the Sunshine Rehabilitation Centre to continue its excellent work rehabilitating Naivasha's street boys.

Rev. Simon Kinyanjui wrote to express his deep appreciation for the support the project received: *"On behalf of Sunshine Rehabilitation, I would want to extend our sincere gratitude to Rotary Club of Bromley and to Ivan Chapman in particular for facilitating the sinking of the borehole for our project. It has continued to supply water to the community and even to Sunshine home when we run short of water during the dry season. Extend our thanks to them."*