

Date: March 2020

Project Information Sheet

Project Name: Variety Village Vocational Training School – Woodworking Facility

Location: Thika, Kenya

Project Cost: £1,000

Project Start Date: January 2020

Project Completion: February 2020



The Rotary Club of Baldock – District 1260, England, invited The Kenya Trust to deliver a presentation at one of their monthly luncheons. Two trustees went to lunch and make the presentation, out of which came the request from The Rotary Club for a project which they could be a part of. This is a result of that meeting.



The school is located in the Town of Thika in Kiambu County, central Kenya about an hour's drive from the Capital, Nairobi.



October 2019: The Variety Village family

Variety Village currently has 93 students and has a capacity for 120. Variety Village is a residential training centre catering for both boys and girls from the ages of 15 to 25. Children with special needs are particularly welcome and these include those with physical, visual, hearing and mental impairments. The students study one particular skill for two years then sit a government trade certificate examination. On passing the certificate the students are then able to apply for jobs within their particular 'trade'.

The Project:

The woodworking shop at Variety Village teaches basic woodworking and carpentry skills as well as cabinet and furniture making. Most of the tools used are hand tools. On graduating from this course the students will be able to apply for jobs in carpentry shops in their local areas.

The furniture and cabinetry that are made by the students are made to order and the funds raised are used to pay for the costs of materials and any profits go to the running costs of the school.

The Superintendent of Variety Village informed The Kenya Trust that they needed a new band saw. In his words:

“Thank you very much for this opportunity. After discussions with my staff, we feel that the best use for this large donation would be to purchase a replacement band saw. The old one is early 80’s vintage and has had numerous alterations made to it to maintain it. It is in regular need of repairs which puts a significant strain on our limited budget.”

The Rotary Club of Baldock provided the funds to allow for the saw to be replaced. The picture to the right shows the new band saw being proudly shown by students of the Woodworking Course. A plaque has been attached to the base of the saw in recognition of this generous donation by The Rotary Club. The plaque was produced by students in the Signwriting Course at Variety Village.



A coffee table with stools/nest of tables under being made by the students



A very substantial solid divan bed with drawers just finished.

For more information on current projects please email us at info@thekenyatrust.org.uk .

You can also visit our website www.thekenyatrust.org.uk or our Facebook page.

Thank you.