

Quicken Trust

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Uganda Update – Spring 2006

Quicken Trust is supported by



Partnering with the future of Others

Dear Friends,

Christmas may seem a long time ago as Easter fast approaches but for some in Kabubbu Christmas 2005 will always live in their hearts.

A group of 11 children from the Kabubbu Community Primary School visited the UK in December and were treated like celebrities. On arrival at Heathrow airport they were greeted by Juliette Parkin of the *BBC South East Today* programme with her camera and she captured the images of their arrival in the cold!



A Celebration of Life with the Orphans of Kabubbu



featuring the orphans from the
Kabubbu Community Primary School, Uganda

Over 850 people enjoyed three concerts at Heathfield Community College, Hailsham Pavilion and Victoria Baptist Church. More than 10,000 heard them sing at school assemblies, concerts, open-air events and the British Airways Community Open Day with Chief Executive, Willie Walsh, on the drums (*above right*).

The quality of their singing was so good that many people asked if a CD recording was available. ICC Recording Studios in Eastbourne offered the services of their technicians and recorded and donated 500 CD's to be sold at the events. Songs in Lugandan and in English

included the African drums, and the children sang so well that only two of the 11 songs had to be re-recorded. CD's are now available at a reduced price of £5 (normally £7.50) on the Order Form at the end of the Newsletter).

Fun times for the children included a visit to Eastbourne Miniature Steam Railway hosted and donated by Eastbourne Rotary AM where they met Father Christmas. A visit to the zoo, including tea, donated by Drusillas. Ten-pin bowling at Lloyds Lanes hosted by Burgess Hill School for Girls (including a crafts afternoon) and a visit to the cinema donated by Cineworld to see the Chronicles of Narnia.



Some may say the children were spoilt or overworked – that's a **“myth”**!
We avoided the excesses of shopping malls, bright lights and loud music.
We were sensitive to their cultural needs and created lots of space for play.

Members of the Welcome Baptist Church, Heathfield; St Wilfrid's Church, Willingdon and Ratton School Eastbourne and many sponsors made lunch or tea for the children during their 10 day visit. They discovered all sorts of new food!

Some special volunteers helped us cope. Pauline and Paul Carter, Yann Huet and David Upfield drove the mini bus, organised venues and provided support & non-stop snacks! The Headmaster, Steve Cole, and many staff members including Lou and Cherie of St Bede's School, The Dicker provided wonderful hospitality and without their help we might not have survived! To all who organised venues, welcomed us or donated clothing and time, THANK YOU

Partnering with the future of the Orphans

Sales from tickets, the children's CD, a raffle and CD's donated by Graham Kendrick when he and Jill were our special guests at the Eastbourne concert were added to the funds raised at the concerts and the special Christmas envelope appeal 'Feed a Family for a Fiver' (a small gift, Christmas card and donation). This appeal was taken up by students at Bishop Bell School, Eastbourne; Willingdon County Primary School and Maids Moreton Primary School in Buckinghamshire along with readers of the Herald and Gazette newspapers in Eastbourne and surrounding area ... and this was the result!

The feeding of the 4,000

A recent survey designed by Quicken Trust and carried out in Kabubbu by members of the Kabubbu Development Project (the local N.G.O. we work with) revealed that 3,936 people were living within a square mile of the school. This study helped us to plan the correct quantity of food needed to provide Christmas Dinner, initially for 2,000 people. However, generous donors enabled us to feed 4,000.

It's a **“myth”** that Quicken Trust only helps some people. Quicken Trust seeks to be fair to all irrespective of their age, religion or need!



They came with their bags, buckets and any container they could find to collect the food. A member from each family in Kabubbu queued from 7.00am to 5.00pm on Christmas Eve to receive gifts of beef, chicken, rice, a drink and a small gift and Christmas card. The community was amazed at the love shown.

Feeding the 4,000 people took 7 carcasses of beef, 120 chicken, 33 x 50kg sacks of rice and 472 one litre bottles of squash from three collection points in the village.

One man, Ahamada, aged 70, met Geoff in Kabubbu in February and said *“Who are these people who care so much for us - it's a God send, thank you, thank you, thank you”*. He went on to say he was orphaned as a



baby so he never knew a father's love. But when he was given the gifts he went home and wept because he now experienced love. He knew, because of the drought this year, he had no hope of a Christmas meal! Later he opened his gifts and found he had a biro and a toothbrush, the only toothbrush he has ever owned. Now the pen travels everywhere with him. He said to Geoff, *"For the first time in my life I have experienced the love of a father for a son, where he gives freely to his son asking for nothing in return"*. No matter how small your gift, it makes a real difference. We also thank you. Some comments on the 'Feeding of the 4,000' include:

Enoch Kagoda (Executive Director, KDP) *"The experience was incredible because I have never seen the whole community in Kabubbu so happy"*.

Joyce Kintu (Welfare) who did an amazing job ordering food and its distribution. *"It was amazing! At first many people never believed that someone was going to give them a free Christmas lunch. They were sceptical ... but when they saw the food ... they laughed and clapped and danced"*.

The local butcher was unable to sell his meat in the village that day so took it to a nearby market and said *"God bless whoever sent this, they must be angels"*.

Partnering with the future of Social Needs

Occasions like this, when food is distributed, football matches organised, and information provided, are opportunities for the community to come together.

The survey we conducted in each family home helps us to get to know individual people better, understand their needs and helps us to plan the future for education, health, welfare and social and community development with them.

The survey was a useful tool in assessing the welfare needs in Kabubbu. This enabled us to make an application and receive a grant through the British Airways / Change for Good / UNICEF partnership and will now enable us to extend the bed net project, provide transport in the village and extend the adult learning initiatives to provide more health education on malaria, AIDS prevention and treatment, childbirth and counselling. Some agriculture seminars on keeping goats, cows, and bees and so on will also be introduced to ensure that the items or animals provided by donors from England are cared for correctly.



It's a **"myth"** that Quicken Trust enforces western ideas on Kabubbu. Volunteers with specific skills or qualifications provide Kabubbu adults with some information or skills. But it is the KDP who employ suitably qualified and skilled Ugandan personnel for developments as they understand their own culture and needs more than we do!

Adequate water supply is a vital social need! Since 2001 Quicken Trust put three water boreholes with pumps in Kabubbu. The first, on the primary school site was funded by British Airways and constructed in 2001. Following this, another was installed on the community housing site in 2004 and a new borehole was put on the secondary school



site in 2005. These three boreholes are within a quarter of a mile of each other and have been very useful. Recently there has been a drought (you may have heard or seen this on the BBC reports from East Africa where they highlighted Kenya). The people in villages around Kabubbu have been walking 4 to 5 miles each way, twice daily, to the Kabubbu boreholes because they were the only source of water left. All other streams, shallow wells and boreholes in the area have dried up.

We had hydrologist's reports that carefully identified suitable locations to site the boreholes and drilled to the correct depth to ensure their success. Can you imagine walking 4 to 5 miles twice a day carrying all the water you need for washing, cooking, cleaning for yourself your wife and seven children?



We would like to extend this vital supply to other parts of Kabubbu. To drill a borehole and install a new pump will cost £5,000. We would like to drill two more boreholes in 2006. We already have £2,500 towards this project.

Some in the community do what they can in an attempt to catch and store rainwater. We consider it vital to assist and provide guttering and water storage tanks on concrete plinths to some buildings and homes in Kabubbu that already have a corrugated tin roof. The cost is

£120 for a 500 litre tank for a house and £1,000 for a 10,000 litre tank for a building.

Partnering with the future of Tourism

A mother and daughter will be the first guests in the tourism project. This is a gift to Mum from her relatives and friends for her 80th birthday! Happy birthday Joyce!

This visit to Kabubbu will coincide with the church wedding in Kampala of Joyce and John Kintu. They have been married in a civil ceremony and have four teenage children but have not been able to afford "Holy Matrimony" (as they call it) in church.

We seek to dispel the "myth" that a Christian wedding must be an elaborate, costly affair



The 'born again' church doesn't recognise the civil arrangement and the financial burden to conform to a white wedding and all the trimmings is beyond the reach of most people! However, Joyce's wedding dress; the dresses for the bridesmaids plus the wedding cake are all being made here in England by volunteers.

During the first two weeks in April a team of volunteers will put the final touches to internal decoration, furnishings for the round houses and provide the equipment needed to run the restaurant and kitchen.

In November a group of six Ugandan ladies took it in turn to audition for the job of catering/housekeeping. They shopped, cooked and provided food for the team of volunteers who travelled there with us. After sampling the treats they provided, even with a limited availability of items, we selected two girls. One has completed a catering course and work placement in an hotel, and the other has worked as a cook for an Indian family - so we might be in for some spicy treats!

Partnering with the future of Kabubbu Schools

Monday February 6th was a very special day for 60 children in Kabubbu. It was the day Kabubbu's new Secondary School, Trust High School, opened with Mr Enoch Kagoda as acting Head Teacher with eleven teaching staff. The pupil/teacher ratio is high as the curriculum demands a wide range of subjects regardless of the number of initial students. We are just £3,100 short of the target of £85,000 that was needed to build the first six classrooms, equip the school and teachers accommodation. More construction will be needed.



Providing for the curriculum needs specified by the Ministry of Education in Uganda is a different challenge. Sustaining a project is not for the faint hearted. For the primary school in Kabubbu with 400 children the budget is £43,200 a year. 80% of children that start in fee paying schools in Uganda are not able to complete their studies. Some children lack the school fees because of poverty but many abandon their studies because they cannot afford the text books, exam fees or other items needed for their education.



Even if a 'school' has adequate facilities the teachers must be scrutinised. Teachers in some schools may be 'licensed' but not qualified. They may have only been educated to 'O' level standards and their 'certificates' can be photocopies or forged!



The primary school has a new Head teacher, Mr Eliot Musobya. He, his wife and family, have moved into the village and will continue to build on the excellent work started by Enoch Kagoda where 45% of our pupils achieved the highest grades for their exams to go to High School with all the others at the second highest grade.

When students don't pay their school fees then teachers aren't paid. Teachers may be keen to get a job but may not have budgeted or thought through travel costs to work, or where to find suitable affordable rented accommodation in a village. Some teachers later become disgruntled as transport costs to rural areas are high (it takes £7, or a third of a weekly wage, to travel from Kampala to Kabubbu) and teachers' houses are vital to

ensure high teaching standards. Quicken Trust believes it is vital to show respect and value those that work with us and so we provide housing, two meals a day and, to comply with government requirements, we will soon be providing a pension scheme.

A “myth” on education includes the idea that a school under trees or in a shack is all you need to educate children in Africa. True this will provide some learning in numeracy and literacy but, despite enthusiasm, these projects may not give an education leading to qualifications that may lead to work and an end to poverty!

Partnering with the future of Primary Healthcare

At 5.05pm on Monday January 30th a loud cry was heard from the Health Centre. Two years after the Health Centre opened the first baby, a girl, was born. She weighed in at 6lb 10oz and is named Amina. Without a midwife on hand her Mum may not have lived because of complications during labour.



In rural Uganda it is traditional for babies to be born at home, usually on the earth floor, in poor unhygienic surroundings. Recently a mother haemorrhaged and died in the night giving birth to her sixth child. She lived only 300 yards from the Health Centre but would not go there. Antenatal classes and health education have now been introduced. Ten ‘Mums-to-be’ are now attending classes as we seek to overcome myths and create confidence in the use of the maternity facilities.

There is a “myth” that if you immediately bury the placenta in your garden the child will return to their parents in old age. As a result only 15% of babies are born in rural Health Centres and infant mortality is high and health education is now a priority.

Partnering with the future of the Church



Pastor George has sadly moved out of Kabubbu into Manyangwa, nearby. For many years he has had two homes. One home was in Kabubbu, where his wife Sarah and their young children lived, and a rented a house in Bulumu where he lived with his older children who needed access to schools nearby for their education.

Pastor George says he has moved house because he ‘fears for his life’ since the community knows that he has been supported by donors in England and was not self supporting as he had led them to believe. Witchdoctors abound and they have many occult powers. However, sometimes the ‘fear’ and ‘superstition’ outweigh reality.

A concrete floor has been completed in the Kabubbu Church making the surface more stable ensuring that when you sit on a long wooden bench it won’t tip up!

There are “myths” in Uganda about many things. A Pastor is often held in high respect because he is a ‘Pastor’. Little consideration may be given to his educational ability or theological training. Sometimes godly qualities are sadly lacking but ordinary people ‘fear’ to ask questions of any authority figure.

Myths about Quicken Trust

'Happy Christmas to all the staff at Quicken Trust' - A lovely wish to us – Thank you! 'All the staff' is Geoff (recently taken early retirement to cope with the growing work) and Geraldine, with Sue who works 12 hours a week ~ plus a few special friends who volunteer and work very hard to help with special events. Seems like it should be more!

'I couldn't find the Quicken Trust Office in Hailsham High Street' - You won't! Quicken Trust does not pay rent for an office ~ it's a bedroom in our home that looks like a warehouse for two months before any visit!

'Charities the size of Quicken Trust usually fail after 10 years' - Well, possibly! If QT is still operating in 10 years time we may well have failed in enabling Kabubbu towards self-sufficiency. Our aim is to help Kabubbu achieve dignity through self-sufficiency.

'Kabubbu isn't as poor as other places in Africa' - Great! It was!! Kabubbu isn't as poor, isolated or desperate as it was five years ago. Praise God for transforming the 'Forgotten People' of Kabubbu! And for your part in the transformation. There's still a way to go!

'How can you be Christians if you don't preach to the people' - Is *that* the qualification! On every visit we share our experience of God in the Church. We also share our faith when asked by others who have experienced a miraculous provision or felt God's love personally. ***'Wherever you go, preach the Gospel – and only, if necessary, use words'*** – St Augustine. There are thousands of Ugandans able to preach the Gospel in their local language and in their local context, with words. They don't need us to do it! We are called to be the arms of love around the people from which they may see God.

Bike Ride For Uganda 2006

The Bike Ride for Uganda held in July 2005 raised £14,000 for Secondary Education. We are 'biking' again in 2006 on Friday, Saturday & Sunday 7th, 8th & 9th July ~ and YES, we are seeking 48 teams of four again and volunteers in the Hailsham/Eastbourne area to cycle. Can YOU help? This is our major annual fundraising activity.

We are looking at a new idea for 2006 with the concept of family and friends teams of cyclists across the country getting together to go for a ride along a former railway track, nature trail or similar route and generating sponsorship for their ride – however long or short that may be! With orphan sponsors across the country, everyone could be involved. Just think, 100 teams each raising £150 would add £15,000 to a project in Kabubbu – and you would get some healthy exercise!

Please see the enclosed Information Response Form

A Celebration of Life with the Orphans of Kabubbu



featuring the orphans from the
Kabubbu Community Primary School, Uganda

Kabubbu Orphan Choir CD

This special recording was made while the children from the Kabubbu Community Primary School were in the UK in mid-December. It features some of the songs they sang during their concerts and also a collection of songs they sing at school assembly back home. The songs are in Lugandan and English.

We normally sell the CD for £7.50 but are offering a 'Spring Special' at only £5 including post & packing. To get your copy please complete the Information Response Form that came with this Newsletter.

Alternative Gift Catalogue

A number of people chose to avoid the shopping frenzy last Christmas and, instead, chose to donate a gift to someone in Kabubbu from our Alternative Gift Catalogue.

The Dewis family from Hampshire and the Pawley family in East Sussex selected items from a course of malaria treatment (£2) to a pair of breeding pigs (£120) for friends, relatives and neighbours. These and other generous donations resulted in us now having 6 Bee Hives, 4 orchards, 3 pairs of breeding pigs, 20 beds and mattresses, 30 nets, 9 blankets, 3 Bikes, Shoes for 13 children and 7 adults to place with families on the visit to Kabubbu in April.

This allows Quicken Trust to extend loving arms to other families or people in need in Kabubbu. They might not be included on occasions when gifts are especially for specifically named children and their Guardians. With this scheme maybe an old lady might get a bed and mattress. A man needing to earn an income and transport produce to market might receive a Bike.

The scheme works throughout the year like this

- 1 Request a gift catalogue, or from the catalogue you received last autumn, select your gift.
- 2 Send a cheque for the amount that the gift costs to Quicken Trust. For example if you (Jane Smith) decide to select a mosquito net at £7 from the catalogue you would then send a cheque for the £7 donation to Quicken Trust. You then add the name and address of the person to whom you are donating the gift, like this:
To Fred Jones, 46 Anywhere Street' Somewhere. I am donating £7 for a mosquito net. Please send my friend Fred Jones a card for his birthday/anniversary/ or whatever occasion. Please add to the card "Happy Birthday Fred, we hope your day is as special as you are! We have decided this year not to send you a gift but we are sending a donation to Quicken Trust. The donation will provide a life saving mosquito net to a child in Kabubbu, Uganda. Love from Jane and the Kids!"
- 3 Quicken Trust will send one of its special cards linked to the appropriate gift and include your greeting. Our cards cover 'Health', 'Education', 'Family Support', 'Farming', 'Tourism' and 'Work'

Packages, Letters & Cards

We hope to be travelling to Kabubbu for a week in July. Please ensure any gifts, cards or packages are at the Quicken Trust office by June 30th 2006. We regret, that with 400 sponsored children, we are only able to take gifts up to 400 grams each and a maximum A4 size envelope (12" x 9"). Thank you for your gifts that make such a difference.

Gift Aid

We are grateful to so many of you who make all your donations to Quicken Trust by Gift Aid. This enables Quicken Trust to reclaim, from the revenue authorities, 28p for every £1 donated. The person making the donation must have paid income tax or capital gains tax during the relevant tax year equal to or greater than the amount that Quicken Trust will reclaim. Tax reclaimed will be used to help fund the whole of Quicken Trust's work. If you do not make donations through Gift Aid, please ask us to send you a form.

With our personal thanks for everything you do to help the orphan children and community in Kabubbu. Your support makes such a difference to their lives.

Geoff & Geraldine Booker

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