

Quicken Trust

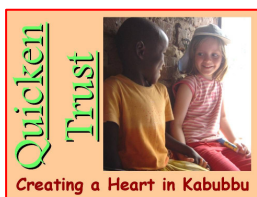
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Uganda Update – Spring 2008

Quicken Trust is supported by



Change
for
Good



Partnering with the future of Others

Dear Friends,

On February 3rd in Kampala, Enoch (Kabubbu Development Project CEO) and Lillian had a very special celebration - a Christian wedding ceremony with a dazzle of colour. The church in Uganda doesn't recognise the civil ceremony the couple had years ago and insist on a church wedding with all the trimmings that most people cannot afford. The wedding, paid for by friends and volunteers, included 14 invited guests from the UK who shared the special day with 500 other guests. The bride sparkled in her dress. Her eight bridesmaids, two from the UK, were in bright pink and black. The happy couple then went for a 5 day honeymoon but this was abruptly interrupted 24 hours later at 2.00am when they received a text message informing them that their house had mysteriously caught fire. All their clothes and furniture in their locked room had been destroyed. The children in the house might have been overcome by fumes and died but for the prompt action of volunteers who used the fire extinguishers from the tourism site to put out the flames. Please continue to support Enoch and Lilian as life is not always easy for them and they work extremely hard on behalf of the community. They will visit the UK in May and enjoy a delayed honeymoon week before taking some speaking engagements in the second week. Their only son Eric aged 10 will accompany them. As part of a large extended family, this is probably the first time he has ever had his parents alone! **Their programme is on the back of this newsletter – please come and meet them.**



Partnering with the future of the Orphans

Quicken Trust has now reached 400 child sponsors! Many sponsors send extra money for shoes and clothes and many write and pray. 128 sponsors have asked us to visit the family and report on their circumstances. This has resulted in other support for the family. Sometimes through these visits we learn about a mother who is sick or a child who has been bereaved and a sponsor may be moved to raise funds for health treatment,

household items, food or foster care. As a result over 50 sponsors have raised money to build a new brick house for a family living in appalling conditions in a derelict mud hut.



Sometimes a sponsor travels with us to meet their child. This is always a special occasion and we learn interesting things from them of their culture and may receive a welcome we had not expected. In October a sponsor, whose family had provided funds two years ago to build a house, visited the child and Grandma (Ja Ja) living on the fringe of the village. Ja Ja proudly showed us her one acre garden full of tomatoes and pumpkins. She is a hard working

responsible lady who has benefited from the investment made in her family. She invited us inside her house. As honoured guests we were provided with a bottled drink (a rare event) and some homemade potato crisps all served on china plates. We are unable to speak Lugandan but the language of joy reflected her inner faith. Ja Ja who is a Catholic told us that talking with God twice a day gave her hope even though she is rarely able to attend church because it is too far from home.

We went to visit Enid and Elizabeth whose story we featured in the Autumn 2007 newsletter. They have now moved into their new house and Enid showed us around her two rooms without beds, blankets, tables, nets or any items that we would call a 'home'. But to Enid this is her palace! There was a pig in her garden. Enid told us that Elizabeth had been one of 90 students in her school that had, the previous year, received an investment of 1,000 Shillings equivalent to 30 pence. In the school assembly the Bible story of the talents was re-told and students were invited to think how they might individually or in groups invest the 30p to make a profit. They started a chicken project and the total of 90,000 Shillings in six months became 150,000 Shillings. Some dropped out but 20 continued to individually re-invest the profits in other projects. Elizabeth had 1,000 Shillings to invest and she purchased cassava (a root vegetable) which she made into small chips and fried and sold to her friends in school. From this she made 10,000 Shillings (lots of chips at 100 Shillings a bag!!) and she bought a piglet which she is fattening to sell in three months for 70,000 Shillings. Seeing budding entrepreneurs in action gives us hope that Kabubbu will overcome poverty as young people learn to apply new skills and education to old problems.

Partnering with the future of Social Needs

We thank all our regular sponsors and new partners for the items donated over the Christmas season. This year we sold Christmas cards designed by the children and calendars. Donors sent funds on behalf of friends and selected items in the Alternative Gift Catalogue for families in Kabubbu. Funds were used to buy blankets, beds and bikes worth £780; the Health Centre received £600+ and families received 2 cows, 3 pigs and two families also received a new house! The 'Feed a Kid for a Quid' campaign promoted through the Eastbourne Herald, Sussex Express and 14 of the primary schools visited by Gillian our Schools and Youth Co-ordinator raised £6,200. Orphan sponsors enabled each child in school to receive a mosquito net, a hoe and jerry can for their guardian and 223 sponsors also donated money for their child and family to have a Christmas meal. To avoid families in Kabubbu becoming dependent on aid at Christmas the community leaders selected 75 of the neediest families to each receive meat, rice, vegetables and soft drinks. This was given to families on receipt of a prepared budget.

The 65 staff members of the Kabubbu Development Project (the NGO with whom Quicken Trust works) and their partners had a memorable Christmas celebration. Large metal vats over a log fuelled fire were used to cook rice and chicken curry, cooked and served by UK volunteers. This was followed by trifle, banoffi pie, mince pies and Christmas cake (from the UK). The room was decorated with balloons and each person had a party popper and cracker. Volunteers entertained the staff with card tricks, clowning, juggling and dancing.

Earlier in the day Geraldine and Lilian (the wife of our CEO) travelled to town to visit Lilian's brother Joseph 26 who was in hospital with cancer. If you ever feel like complaining about the NHS a visit to a cancer ward in Uganda may cure you. Dying patients all grouped together in beds only inches apart and with no privacy as relatives of the patient sleep under the bed to care and cook for the sick patient. Two hours after leaving the hospital Joseph died and Enoch and Lilian had to hastily make funeral arrangements and organise the burial. In Uganda this takes place within 24 hours back in the village of your birth, so they were unable to join in the Christmas celebrations.



Partnering with the future of the Global Citizenship Project

For all sorts of legal reasons the Tourism project has been renamed to encourage our educational work. This means that visitors are welcome in Kabubbu but as Quicken Trust is a charity and not a tour company we will place more focus on 'groups' from schools, churches, youth groups, corporate teams and so on who will all travel together with their own group supervision reducing our administrative load.

Those who are not part of a group will be welcome for 'themed' weeks for example for sponsors, retreats, volunteers or as guests. These will also be standardised for all travelling to depart and return on the same dates and either QT or the traveller can book their air ticket. Guests must stay in Kabubbu first for 5-7 days before travelling onto other destinations and transport can be provided for locations you select. These include the Nile (2 hours drive east) with water sports or Queen Elizabeth Park (8 hours drive west) for a safari experience or to the Rwanda border to visit the gorillas. School groups travel in the school holidays and dates for others travellers can be provided at a travel information meeting. These are held in East Sussex three or four times a year and give an opportunity to learn about the charity, the village, the culture, accommodation, health needs and assess the costs without obligation to travel. Please telephone for a brochure or for dates for travel information meetings. Three scheduled meetings, all from 3.00pm – 6.00pm, are planned for Sunday 18th May; 7th September and 30th November.

Since 2000 many volunteers, guests and friends have travelled with us. Initially we stayed in simple local homes. Later we stayed in a brick house under a tin roof and volunteers shared the chores. Now volunteers enjoy the semi-detached round thatched bandas with (cold) showers and enjoy good food in the restaurant. Guests aged from 7 to 81 have travelled to Kabubbu and in 2008 over 100 UK visitors will visit! It's a rewarding experience and provides some understanding of the needs of the developing world. *Volunteer plumbers, electricians, IT experience or musicians are now needed.*

Some groups travelling in 2008 include students from The Glasgow School of Music, William Parker School in Hastings, Ratton School and the Devonshire Nursing Home

both in Eastbourne. The School of Music donated guitars and keyboards and other student groups raise money and help build a home for a family in great need. Thank you to all who donate time, skills or money.



Dates for group travel are:

13th ~ 22nd Jul 2008

31st Jul ~ 8th Aug 2008

23rd Oct ~ 3rd Nov 2008

Volunteers or sponsors

Guests or Retreat

Volunteers or sponsors
(a week or ten days)

Possibly 11th December 2008 for 10 days

Heathfield Community College recently partnered through the British Council with Trust High School in Kabubbu and Mayfield Primary School has partnered with Kabubbu Community Primary School. Heathfield College had a mufti day and funds were allocated for a satellite link for communication to encourage cross curriculum studies between schools in the UK and Kabubbu and live contact and lessons between students.

Partnering with the future of Kabubbu Schools

We are delighted that all the students in Kabubbu's primary school who sat exams in November 2007 passed. Although the grades were lower than in previous years probably due to the increase in class sizes. 2 students achieved Grade 1, 38 students achieved Grade 2 and 2 students achieved Grade 3. All 50 graduated to secondary school. Year 4 of secondary education began in February and in November some students will take their 'O' level examinations.

As a result of the £13,500 raised by 'Bike Ride for Uganda 2007', five students will now receive a free secondary education. The students selected have different circumstances and stories to tell, one student contracted HIV/AIDS while in the womb, two students have a parent who is terminally ill and all the children come from families that are poor and would probably not complete their education.

Siyama aged 16 has lived with her aunt and three cousins since her father died of malaria in 2007. She wants to be a doctor but it will be at least another 10 years before this ambition can be realised. Her aunt grows cassava, sweet potatoes, bananas and beans to feed her family. As her aunt completed GCSE at 'O' level she occasionally works as a licensed (not qualified) supply teacher and earns a little money that she uses to pay school fees for her own children.

Alice 16 is one of 10 children who live with her mother as her father died of malaria. Her brother Patrick is sponsored in his 5th year of his primary education. Alice and family were living in a mud and bamboo house with a straw roof but this was collapsing around them. Patrick's sponsors came to their rescue and raised £1,250 to build a two roomed brick house for the family and provided them with beds and mattresses. This has made a radical difference to their daily lives. When Alice heard the news of her sponsorship she said "This is the happiest day of my life. I can't believe I have been chosen for a free education."

Juliet is 16 and the only student in the group with both parents. When we gave her the good news she said "I am so excited and joyful". Her father Joseph is 65 and the lay worker in the local Catholic Church but because of his age it is now difficult for him to earn any money from gardening. She is the youngest member of her large extended family that includes her older sister Prossy and her four children. Her favourite subjects

are biology, physics, chemistry and maths and she is always in the top three in every subject in school. She wants to be a doctor.

Eseri age 14 is the youngest student in the group selected and has already completed one year in Trust High School. Her mum has struggled to support her four children since their father died in 2001. Her mother's struggles have been rewarded as each of her children works hard at school and they have excelled. Eseri's brother David 16 is now awaiting the results of the 'O' level examinations he took in November. Her sister Grace 18 has just sat her 'A' level exams and her sister Evelyne 15 is now in the third year of secondary education. Eseri said "I want to be a teacher and I'm very surprised to know I've been selected for secondary education."

Fred is 19 and the oldest member of the selected students as he started school late. His mother is unable to earn any money so he has taken the initiative to grow some cassava, spinach, tomatoes, cucumber and cabbage to sell in the local market towards his school fees. He walks 4 miles to school each day and his studies include history, geography, commerce and Greek. His ambition is to be a car mechanic. If he is successful and later gets paid work he will be expected to contribute towards the school fees for a sibling. Fred said "This is a wonderful opportunity that will change my life."



Partnering with the future of Adult Literacy

This continues to make an effective impact in the community. One family with three adult sons recently received a new house. This gift made a big impact on them and transformed their lives lifting their self esteem so they decided independently to enrol on the literacy programmes. These programmes are a vital tool for their future.

Partnering with the future of Primary Healthcare

In November 2007 we were delighted to have the Director of Mildmay Hospital, Dr Emmanuel Luyirika visit Kabubbu to assess if the Health Centre could become an AIDS outpost. He was very impressed by the unique project covering healthcare, education, spiritual and welfare needs providing foster care, AIDS support and help for the elderly.

As a result of this on 29th January two Nurses and a psychologist from Mildmay came to conduct a two-day AIDS sensitisation workshop in the community. They were amazed by the community spirit and enthusiasm of those attending but had only prepared for 60 delegates. Over 100 attended. A second group was hastily convened for a further workshop later in the year. 28 nurses, counsellors, technicians and admin workers from the hospital arrived on 31st January to conduct the test needed to confirm if a patient was HIV/AIDS positive. 150 people had pre-registered for testing and the staff was overwhelmed by the 502 that attended. They had to return the following day to complete the tests. Patients queued to register their names and then moved to another queue to have a blood test. These were then analysed and the patients moved to a





counsellor who spent up to 30 minutes with each, giving their results. 50+ were confirmed positive including two children. If Mildmay adopts Kabubbu Health Centre as an outpost they will provide the free antiretroviral drugs thus reducing the cost of transport to the hospital (this costs the equivalent of a days wage). To ensure effective treatment the patients need improved nutrition to improve their immune system. For many this is a financial challenge as they exist on posho (porridge) or matooke (plantain bananas). Long term we want to make this and other projects self sufficient by planting up the fruits and vegetables needed, adding more small farms to provide protein.

Regular child sponsors pay £20 or £30 a month for a child in primary or secondary school. The 'Adopt a Granny' scheme is £12 a month and we are also introducing a regular sponsorship for general health needs of £12 a month. This includes treatment for victims of malaria, blood tests and medications for AIDS victims or life saving surgery for those who

may have been in a road accident or need some other form of surgery to restore health.

Partnering with the future of Welfare

The Welfare programme includes 'Adopt a Granny' as well as bereaved children who are without relatives now being provided with foster care. We also supply mosquito nets, toilets, and the food support for HIV/AIDS mothers, children and lone guardians. The whole community is an integral part of this programme initially funded by Unicef.

Partnering with the future of the Church

An early memory we have in Uganda was walking along a footpath on a sunny day with tall vegetation on both sides and looking at a beautiful butterfly that had little impact on our Ugandan companions. It then dawned on us that a Ugandan may have little interest in the natural world when daily preoccupied with meeting the most basic needs of shelter, food and work.

We have recently reflected on the journey within our lives and some of the people, circumstances or the 'God instances' that may have moved us in a direction we had not planned or to achieve goals we might not have imagined possible. Similarly reflecting on the changes in our own society can sometimes provide us with clues on the next steps needed to enable a rural community in Uganda to move towards becoming sustainable.

We have remembered some of the developmental heritage we have in the UK that began 150-300 years ago with the infrastructure for hospitals and schools. Laws were introduced to protect children or vulnerable groups. Much of the social fabric of UK society that we take for granted was often introduced by people with Christian convictions. When we look at Uganda we realise that similar developments only began 70+ years ago. Many of these developments in schools and hospitals were also founded by those with Christian principles.

Many family businesses that began in Victorian England were businesses into which sons were coerced at a time when they were given little choice about a career. Palmer (of Huntley and Palmer) Cadbury, Lever, Rowntree, Colman (mustard) and Boot (chemist) were some of the entrepreneurs in Victorian Britain who, enlightened and inspired by their faith, introduced social reforms, adult education, housing, healthcare and pensions for many of their employees who lived in poverty. These entrepreneurs produced high quality items and demonstrated commitment, discipline, perseverance, fairness, justice and generosity. They worked with partners with similar values often from their own faith communities and they lived simply. Even when honoured for their achievements later in life they continued to socialise with and work on behalf of the less fortunate. A book entitled 'The Enlightened Victorian Entrepreneurs' by Ian Bradley is currently being circulated among the staff in Kabubbu.

While entrepreneurs from the UK may not yet have seen the potential of investing in business in Uganda, both China and India with their fast growing economies are investing in the infrastructure and in the future needs of Uganda. We remain hopeful that entrepreneurs from the UK, inspired by their faith, may yet invest to develop and ensure that a generation educated in Kabubbu have sustainable work opportunities.

A new church located in Trust High School has started to meet the spiritual needs of the boarding students. This church group will also learn life related Bible teaching as many of the local Pastors have very limited education or understanding. Budallah, the Head Boy of Trust High School has recently taken the initiative to start a prayer group among his peers. This sort of local initiative is to be applauded and encouraged.

Who does what in our office?

All our office staff can be contacted by phone (01323 832361) or email:

David: Adopt a Granny david@quickentrust.com or adoptagranny@quickentrust.com

Geoff: Development, marketing, legal and financial geoff@quickentrust.com

Geraldine: Development, travel & donor co-ordinator geraldine@quickentrust.com

Gillian: School assemblies & global citizenship lessons schools@quickentrust.com

Paul: Bookkeeping contactus@quickentrust.com

Sue: Orphan sponsorship, finance sue@quickentrust.com or orphans@quickentrust.com

Tracey: Administration and travel tracey@quickentrust.com

ADMINISTRATION - HELP!

We always write and thank donors who often sacrifice time to organise events or send gifts in memory of a loved one or as an alternative gift to celebrate a happy occasion. To reduce administration costs we are happy to send a 'thank you' by email if possible but need your contact details. *We guarantee not to pass your information to anyone.*

Bike Ride For Uganda 2008

The Bike Ride for Uganda held in July 2007 raised £13,700 for secondary school bursaries. We are 'biking' again in 2008 on Friday, Saturday & Sunday July 25th, 26th and 27th ~ and YES, we are seeking teams of four again and volunteers in the Hailsham/Eastbourne area to cycle and 'man' the stand. This is our major annual fundraising activity. Please, can YOU help?

Don't live in the Hailsham/Eastbourne area? – Don't worry

Family and friends teams of cyclists across the country can get together to go for a ride along a former railway track, nature trail or similar route 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'll get some healthy exercise!

Dates for letters and gifts for your sponsored child

Cards and small gifts for sponsored children must be delivered to us by these dates:

Friday 21st March, Friday 30th June and Friday October 10th (for Christmas)

Small gift envelopes should be no larger than A5 size with 'your' child's name written in large capital letters using a black marker pen on the front. If your child is in Trust High School please put 'S' in the top right corner. If you want your child to write back to you please enclose a folded envelope with your name (NO address) in capital letters written with a black marker pen and enclose it in your letter to 'your' child as this will help reduce the administration time it takes to sort out 'your' letter from 'your' child to you from among the 400 we bring back!

To keep luggage transported by air to a minimum we can organise for items like bikes, clothes, shoes and so on to be purchased in the village. This has the added advantage of reducing the amount we have to try to carry and provides a local income, plus money donated against a signed Gift Aid Form attracts a further 25 pence for every £1 given.

The programme for Enoch and Lilian's visit in May

Saturday 10th May 6.30pm King's Centre, Eastbourne (Open to all) for sponsors, donors and friends – **bring someone who doesn't know about Kabubbu – contact us for tickets – 01323 832361**

Monday 12th May 12.00pm Business Lunch in London (By invitation only)

Wednesday 14th May 1.30pm Christian Resources Exhibition at Sandown Race Course Seminar: 'Creating a Heart in Kabubbu' (Open to all)

Friday 16th May 7.30am Breakfast meeting in the Hydro Hotel, Eastbourne Business & Church leaders, Rotary Clubs, Head Teachers and so on (By invitation only)

Sunday 18th May 10.30am Welcome Baptist Church, Heathfield (Open to all)

Gift Aid Donations

We are grateful to many of you who make your donation to Quicken Trust by Gift Aid. This enables us to reclaim, from the revenue authorities, 25p for every £1 donated. This was 28p until April 2007, but with the reduction of the rate of income tax to 25p we can only claim the new rate of tax. 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 the Trust will reclaim. We continue to guarantee that 100% of the donation you make to Quicken Trust will be used in full in Kabubbu with any tax reclaimed being used to help fund the whole of Quicken Trust's work. If you do not make donations through Gift Aid you are able to do so if you pay tax. Please contact us for a form.

Feed a Kid for a Quid



Our Christmas 2008 project had an amazing response with donations totalling over £6,300. Our thanks to you and also to the Eastbourne Herald, Sussex Express and Sovereign Radio plus 14 local schools. For your information the 'Porridge Kitchen' was under construction in early February when we last visited and by now will be helping many children who don't go to the two KDP schools (where the children get breakfast and lunch as part of their sponsorship) to now go to other schools around Kabubbu having had a nourishing breakfast.

Our special thanks go to organisations that continue to partner with us in special ways:

Advantage Technologies	Technology infrastructure
British Airways	Travel and freight
Cheshire Homes	Surgical interventions and disability support
Christian Book Promotion Trust	Literature for libraries and Pastor training
David Reddington Memorial Fund	Life-saving support for children
Halcyon	Print and publicity materials
LabAid	Science equipment for Trust High School
Mildmay Hospital	AIDS education and antiretroviral therapy
Philip Henman Trust	Practical support for AIDS/HIV virus victims
Samaritans Purse International	Assisting farming initiatives
Trusthouse Charitable Foundation	School infrastructure

And finally, 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 and we could not assist them without your help. Thank you.

Geoff & Geraldine Booker

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The Quicken Trust newsletter is sponsored by Halcyon, 87 High Street, Heathfield, TN21 8JA Tel: (01435) 868890