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Uganda Update – Autumn 2014

Partnering with the future of Others

Dear Friends,

In a world with donor fatigue some people question the wisdom on funding an overseas project. They ask if we should all now batten down the hatches and look after the UK. In this letter we want to highlight that development is not a quick fix. It's an ongoing process and in just 6 months these are just some of the amazing things that your long term support plus Divine interventions have achieved.

Graduates prepare for their amazing future

Budallah's mum died when he was very small. Budallah part paid for his education until his money ran out. He had to give up school and started growing vegetables. He cycled 20 km to market in Kampala each day at 3.00am to sell them. One day a teacher spotted him working hard and, knowing he was a bright student, offered to pay his fees for one term. Later QT found a sponsor for Budallah. He finished his secondary education and went to University to study accountancy for three years. At the end of his course he had a three month internship in Luwero Hospital. Because he was popular he had further opportunities to work there but Budallah was passionate about returning to his home village to help others to succeed. He applied for a job in Kabubbu. But four other well qualified young people also applied. The competition was stiff. On September 6th he learnt he had the job he dreamed of. Two days later he began work assisting Enoch, the director of the KDP (they partner with QT in Kabubbu), on bookkeeping and accounts.



Christine was also in our first group of eight university students to graduate in July. She completed a Bachelor of Education degree and is now a volunteer teacher at THS. Later, if she succeeds, and when THS has a vacancy, she may take up a permanent position. So that's two of our eight graduates already returning to benefit their home community.

Mariam's story was very different! Her mum died when she was just five but we didn't meet her until she was 12. By then her skin had 'erupted'. She was emaciated, lethargic and suffering from the HIV/AIDS virus. We immediately arranged for her to get the ARVS drugs to extend her life. Shortly afterwards she disappeared from the village. We were anxious if she could survive without medication. We searched in vain before discovering



she had moved far away from Kabubbu because her father was, by then, in Police custody. A year passed. We were talking to a crowd in the village and noticed someone had fixed their eyes on us! Mariam was in the crowd. We broke off our discussions to go and hug her. She was found a sponsor and was then able to attend school regularly. In 2013 she completed her 'O' level exams. Mariam was determined to go to college and wanted to study procurement but her sponsor wasn't able to increase her support to £85 a month. We asked Mariam to choose a less expensive course. She chose counselling. As part of this course, students are asked to find clients or a group through which they could begin to practice their skills. Mariam's only aim was to return to

her secondary school in Kabubbu and help students to make life choices that could also extend their lives. She had been a victim of the HIV/AIDS virus transmitted to her at birth. Now she wanted to prevent others from suffering the same perils!

We thank all our sponsors so committed to our student's success - the best is yet to be!

Partnering with the future of Healthcare in Kabubbu

Amazing partner donors extend the lives of others



A new well-equipped ambulance is on its way to Kabubbu funded by a concerned donor. Our old one has reached the end of its working life.

Better maternal care and enhanced maternal health education have meant good things are happening in Kabubbu. No mother has died in childbirth for four years and none have passed the HIV/AIDS virus to their baby since 2011.

Last month 31 mums who had never attended

family planning began using contraception. You may think that's a very small statistic and hardly worth noting but for us it's a major achievement. Why? Because we know each mum who limits her family size has a greater chance to find money to educate her children, pay for medicine when they are sick and improve the quality of their lives.

Zulaiki was 8 and in her first year of primary education when she heard news that made her so happy - she had a sponsor! But a month later we learnt from a text message that her future was in the balance. She needed a lifesaving emergency operation for appendicitis. Her mum didn't have the £375 needed for the op - all she would earn in 9-12 months! A quick email to her sponsor



and a text message back to Uganda and she was in our ambulance on her way to hospital in Kampala. Without the support of her sponsor or others who raise funds for healthcare in Kabubbu, lives would be lost. For many of you reading, it's just another story. For many sponsors their child is precious and the relationship is personal.

Partnering with the future of a Child in Kabubbu

Sponsoring a child makes a lifetime of difference for both child and sponsor. Sarah (right) meets Adam, her sponsored child for the first time in July.

In March, Michelle visited the QT offices looking for an office to rent. She asked Caroline what we did. Caroline explained how Kabubbu had developed over 12 years from a muddy stream without healthcare or education to a thriving community where lives are extended, students are graduating and faith is developing as people change.

Despite having just started a new small business Michelle immediately decided to sponsor two children. A few weeks later she returned to donate funds for the children to have beds and bedding and bought crafts from our African shop. Later we received this email - *"One of the reasons Quicken Trust is so amazingly special is the way you are so personal with donors, you make us feel known and appreciated ... the progress reports remind us how important our sponsorship really is, and that it truly goes to support the individuals (unlike huge charities where you become one of a million donors and have no idea where the money really goes). Finding Quicken Trust was one of the best things to happen to me. I was merely looking for an office to rent, and instead I found something more important. It has opened my eyes to how fortunate we really are in the UK ... I think I was a little lost before, but I seem to have found a new faith, even though I am not entirely sure of what that is."*



Without a sponsor's love, Doreen would have been forced into early marriage – now she is fulfilling her dreams as a nurse.

Without a sponsor's love, Scovia would never have had the amputation and prosthesis she needed.

Primary education is £24 a month, secondary school £34. College or University fees are £80 to £120.



More sponsors are always needed to share their love – maybe you can act as an Ambassador for Quicken Trust to encourage others to sponsor and support a child.

It's amazing that with so little you can change a life, a family, a community and a society!

Partnering with the future of schools in Kabubbu

Amazing children succeeding against the odds!

Finding ways to ensure children from impoverished homes can succeed requires a number of measures. 62 pre-school children who started in an interactive storytelling programme in February to stimulate their learning have now completed the programme. And what fun they had! The children were shy and withdrawn at the beginning but through just two short sessions a week over 6 months they have emerged as confident and eager little kids ready for school. QT holds data on the homes and families of 29 of these children, including data on their family income, work, health, welfare, relationships and other social and environmental influences that may determine some outcomes in their education. Two areas of concern that have been noted from the research in Kabubbu include:

1. the impact that grief has on all the children in a family in which a child has died
2. the high levels of violence in almost every home in Kabubbu

Five women who had violent partners have recently taken the courageous step of leaving their partner and to live independently with their children. Some may question if we are not supportive of long term committed or marital relationships. We are. But we also need to help the community break the cycle of violence to ensure our children's education and future is not spoilt through generational violence.

Despite the undercurrents threatening a child's success amazing things happen in our little rural school. For the first time a choir from Kabubbu primary school participated in national competitions to find the children's choir of the year. Kabubbu emerged as third in the District just missing the national finals. But without your fundraising for instruments and costumes they wouldn't have competed. So thank you! Through other activities our children are exploring a world beyond Kabubbu. They are learning to have fun, be a member of a team, how to deal with conflict and how to succeed despite living in circumstances that you have to experience to believe!

In Trust High School (THS) the volleyball team were national champions for the fourth year running and participated in the East Africa finals in Tanzania in August reaching the semi-finals out of 24 teams taking part.



Also in THS we now have a Girl Guide Group. A team of specially selected Guides from the London and South East Region (LASER) visited Kabubbu in July and invited Kabubbu students to learn about Guiding. Our girls were very enthusiastic. It will open up a whole new world of interactive learning, communication and

discussion way beyond Kabubbu.

Students are amazed to learn from others' experiences

In July we met with 51 students who were either in further education or about to start

college or university. It's a daunting experience in any culture to move into a strange location learning to live independently. The aim was to encourage students in college to share their experiences with those just starting. Many students have unrealistic ideas about studying, unrealistic expectations about their future - and no idea how to budget! It was a fun afternoon. We met up with some students from colleges far away whom we hadn't met for over a year. In small groups they laughed, chatted and learnt from each other's experiences.



Of course not all students go to university and from time to time other opportunities present themselves. A group of ladies in Surrey set up a project for some primary and 'O' level graduates from THS to learn to make simple small wooden toys that can be sold in local markets. They also organised fundraising in memory of a dear friend, Jan Stirling. Over 18 months they baked cakes and organised other activities and raised an amazing total £2,601. With this they purchased some early learning toys for use in the Library.



Thank you ladies!
Good fund raisers
with creative and
unusual ideas are
always welcome!

What ideas do you
have? Let us know!



Partnering with the future of Social needs

Amazing how a change in perspective can change a life

Sometimes life doesn't go as we plan and we are disappointed. Two years ago we had a student expelled from the college he attended because he tried setting fire to his classroom. He returned to Kabubbu with little purpose or aim in his life. We sadly learnt, a few months ago, that he was then taking drugs (which are available at next to nothing in Kampala). More recently we heard he had repeatedly raped a 12 year-old girl living with her grandma nearby. Today this young man is in prison. How very sad!

The last time someone from Kabubbu was in prison, it was life changing. You may remember the lady who attacked another with an axe and left her for dead. In prison she heard that Jesus could change hearts and began a new purpose for her life. She became a Christian. Two year later she is gentle, quiet, responsible, hardworking and a supportive member of the ancillary staff in the KDP. Let's trust a miracle occurs for the young man!

Partnering with the future of the Church community

80 staff members from all or no faith backgrounds chose to attend an Alpha Course in Kabubbu aimed at exploring the meaning of life. Alpha has been enjoyed by 2 million people in the UK and 11 million worldwide in more than 84 countries. In Kabubbu it

made an impact as several staff members said, "I never knew...." They enjoyed working in an interactive group where their ideas were respected and listened to, where together they could discuss without any tribe, gender or professional class divide.

QT tries to report the realities to you - our frustrations as well as our successes! It's a rollercoaster ride of emotions for all the QT staff. It's our faith in Jesus that inspires us and gives assurance that the best is yet to be!

Partnering with the future of Agriculture

Amaizing progress in agriculture

Two or three years ago squatters were growing their vegetables on land that didn't belong to them. They were evicted. Tenants were threatened with eviction. Land changed hands fast and land prices soared in the village.

As the result of a generous donation QT/KDP were able to buy the title deeds for some tenants and purchase some land on which crops could grow. Around the same time GRAZE approached us about supporting the horticultural project aimed at training people to be more productive through using different methods for growing familiar crops. Now we have 390 either trained or being trained in the GRAZE funded project. That's *amaizing*! 150 adults, 160 Trust High School students and 80 children in primary school are now growing maize on any small piece of land they can find in or around their homes.

A huge thank you to GRAZE in the UK and their partners 'Nature Delivered' in the USA for funding and maintaining this project.

Because the yields have increased we now need something special in the village. Volunteers from the Girl Guide Group in July raised some funds towards this project and together with other volunteers laid the foundations of the building. GRAZE will continue to fund the building's construction over the next year.

Christmas Dinner and the potential of food all year round

Over the past few years you have kindly donated funds at Christmas for a Community Christmas Dinner that included meat. We are making this available again this year



Last year you also helped us provide a special playground for the children of Kabubbu. You were magnificent in your support. The playground is up and running and giving hours of joy to hundreds of children. Thank you. [see Uganda Update - Spring 2014].

This year we would like to make a special gift to the whole community especially for the children - something that will give great joy and enhance the future for everyone - a Maize Mill! Why a Maize Mill? The farming programme has trained hundreds of locals in maize production - giving up to 10 times the normal crop yield. Yes, 10 times! This has helped provide food for their families plus some crops to sell helping the move towards self-sufficiency. But there is a key element that is missing. A Maize Mill to turn their crops into maize flour, a staple food throughout Uganda. Not only have the farmers provided for their families, this year they have provided 3,600kg of maize sold to Kabubbu schools

to feed the children. The schools need lots more - but it's a start! It means local people are providing local food for local schoolchildren. What is called a 'win, win, win' situation! The challenge is to mill the maize to provide flour. Maize has to be transported miles to the nearest mill, milled and transported back. This all costs vital resources. The answer?

Mill the maize in Kabubbu - this removes transport costs and provides extra work within the village as surrounding farmers will use the mill and a huller (removes husks!) - providing greater income into Kabubbu to help it grow and become self-sufficient.

Will you help us provide this special gift to Kabubbu? The total cost to include transport and installation will be our target - £6,700. Any remaining funds will be used to provide additional equipment and board games for THS.

Any gift you can make would be a wonderful contribution to a long-lasting Christmas present to the whole of Kabubbu - especially to feeding the children. **To support this special gift, please see the enclosed Christmas Order Form.** Thank you.

Special Charity Dinner Event on October 24th 2014

By the time you receive this newsletter (around October 17th) some of you will have attended one of a number of charity events to meet Enoch Kagoda (the KDP Executive Director) at Ashburnham Place or the Boship Lions Farm Hotel near Hailsham.

However, we have just 10 remaining tickets @ £50 per person for a 3 course dinner to include pre-dinner drink, table wine, tea/coffee and lots of entertainment and fun at the Boship Lions Farm Hotel on Friday 24th October at 7.00pm. Contact: ali@quickentrust.com.

A flyer for a charity dinner event. At the top left is the Quickentrust logo with the tagline 'Creating a Heart in Kabubbu'. The main title is 'Charity Dinner' in large, elegant font. Below it, the text reads 'with Enoch Kagoda', '3 course with pre-dinner drink & table wine', '+ Live Music + Table Magic', '+ Mini Charity Auction + Raffle', and '+ Marie Stone'. A note in parentheses says '(Photographer for Madame Tussauds)'. Below that, it says '- Stars I have Snapped! -'. The venue is 'Oak Room, Boship Lions Farm Hotel, Hailsham BN27 4AT' and the date is 'Friday 24th October 2014' at '7.00pm for 7.30pm'. A yellow box says 'Black Tie or Lounge Suit'. At the bottom left, it says 'Supporting Quickentrust initiatives in Kabubbu'. On the right, there is a portrait of Enoch Kagoda, with his name and title 'Executive Director, Kabubbu Development Project' below it. Further down, it says 'Special thanks to: Marie Stone: Marie Stone Photography, Chris Nicholls: Call Me, The Hot Club of Jonington & The Happy Day Band'. At the bottom right, there is a yellow circle with 'Admit One' and a box for 'Ticket No:'. The Quickentrust contact information is at the bottom right: 'Quickentrust, PO Box 115, Hailsham, BN27 4LJ, Charity No: 1100294, Company No: 5910181, www.quickentrust.com'.

Equipping Trust High School

Burgess Hill School for Girls have a fourth group of volunteers travelling in July 2015. The school is organising a container to be filled and shipping has been funded by the Fonthill Trust. Thank you. We are now looking to equip and resource Trust High School which needs specific donated items like book cases (preferably matching) for the library; science, maths and biology text books; science equipment; printers; photocopiers; snooker and table tennis tables and other equipment. For an up to date list please email: contactus@quickentrust.com and we can also give details on how, when and where to get your items to Burgess Hill School.

The work continues as you creatively fundraise

You have read some of the amazing/amaizing progress made by QT/KDP in the past six months. You may think Kabubbu has everything it needs. The infrastructure is almost completed but many families still live hand-to-mouth. You would cry if you visited their homes as most families live on £1 - £2 a day. To pay proper wages for up to 100 staff, maintain 1,000 children in education and 16,000 patients annually at the Health Centre + all the other projects, QT continues to need £500,000pa. Without your continuing ongoing sponsorship and support we can't complete the vision to bring Kabubbu to a

point where the people are free from the injustice of poverty imposed by others. Thank you for what you have helped achieve - the work continues as you creatively fundraise!

And now for news from the QT office

Dates for your diary

Contact caroline@quickentrust.com for information on 2015 travel planning meetings on Sunday 11 January; 10 May & 13 September from 3.00pm - 6.00pm in East Sussex

Coffee Morning dates in 2015 are on Thursdays at 10.30am – 12.00pm:

19 February; 26 March; 28 May; 25 June; 8 October; 5 November; 10 December

Afternoon Tea dates in 2015 are on Wednesdays from 3.00pm – 4.30pm:

29 April and 9 September

Coffee Morning and Afternoon Tea reminders are sent by email

Last dates for gift envelopes in 2015 are 30 June and 8 October

We don't have a trip planned for March 2015 so won't be sending orphan parcels then. If you wish to send a gift to your sponsored child, please use the envelope enclosed to send a cheque (payable to Quicken Trust) for your chosen amount, by March 25th 2015

Other support is always welcome including:

- Donate an unwanted and unused gift for a QT raffle prize
- Buy a Christmas gift or item for yourself from the QT on-line shop
- Organise a Christmas event to raise funds
- Borrow QT display stands, literature and 'Shop-in-a-Box' to exhibit at an event
- If you are an experienced fund raiser you could help QT make a grant application
- Shop on eBay for specific items QT needs for education, healthcare or for families in Kabubbu
- Bring a friend or group to a QT Coffee Morning or Afternoon Tea
- Become a monthly donor or sponsor an orphan, grannie, nurse or teacher
- Run in a marathon or organise a sponsored event for QT
- Volunteer an hour a week to clean QT offices
- Introduce a friend to a QT event or sponsoring a child
- Knit blankets or clothes for new born babies or cut large bed sheets and sew to cot size sheets
- Search charity shops, spring clean at home and collect good board games or DVDs
- Invite a QT team member to take a school assembly, church service or speak at a club or dinner
- Nominate QT or a staff member for an award and help raise QT's profile

We are increasing our use of email. To help us succeed please ensure *we have your correct email address* and you are *allowing receipt of emails from our email address* mailers@quickentrust.com. Some email programs place 'mass mailings' into 'Junk Mail'. If you've given us your email address but aren't receiving information, please check your Junk email box. If an email from mailers@quickentrust.com is there, right click on it and choose 'add to safe senders list' from the options under Junk Email. Please **don't reply** to 'mailers' emails, instead please send responses to caroline@quickentrust.com

EXTRA FUNDS FOR SPONSORED CHILDREN, ELDERLY & GENERAL DONATIONS ATTRACT GIFT AID

To keep luggage weight by air to a minimum we can organise to buy items in Kabubbu like bikes, clothes, and shoes etc. This reduces the weight we carry and provides extra income. All financial donations with a signed Gift Aid Form for any fund or project from an individual who pays income or capital gains tax enables the charity to reclaim from the HMRC a further 25p in every £1 donated

Happy Christmas and thanks for all you do, Geoff, Geraldine & Team