



Quicken Trust | PO Box 113 | Hailsham | BN27 4US

☎ & fax: 01323 832361 | Email: contactus@quickentrust.com

Registered Charity No: 1102474 Registered Company No: 5047081

www.quickentrust.com

[www.facebook.com/Quicken Trust](https://www.facebook.com/QuickenTrust)

Join us – 'Like' us



Uganda Update – Spring 2016

Together we have done so much!

Dear Friends,

We received good news in mid-February! The Maize Mill, started by the LASER Girl Guides in Summer 2014 and completed in Spring 2015 has finally been connected to the grid - and power came on! Now maize grown in the village can be milled locally saving both time and money and children don't have to go to bed hungry! Enoch is holding the first handful of maize flour. THANK YOU for supporting this project.



The earth road to Kabubbu from the tarmac road at Manyangwa, 4 miles away, has finally been levelled and given a top surface. Now patients and students can more easily access the health centre and secondary school. Amazing what can be achieved when politicians need votes!



This year we aim to complete all the major infrastructure developments planned including a new toilet block for the primary school (building work pictured in progress), a covered market, extension to the foster home, complete a small shop and equip the operating theatre in the health centre plus build the Community Centre/Church! THANK YOU for enabling us to exceed our target in the 'Hand in Hand' campaign over the winter period and to enable many to enjoy a Christmas dinner and other goodies.



Expectantly waiting ...



Have food – let's cook!



Joy-filled 'Thank You'

For God so loved that he gave – and so often through you!

23 year-old Diana looked stunning as she graduated from Makerere University with a BSc in Computer Software Engineering. It's a big achievement for any student, but in rural Uganda it takes more than hard work to succeed - and it's very, very special when your Mum is also there to support you!

Diana was 7 when her Dad died of AIDS. She was the third child so had little hope of having an education. Her older sister Udiah went to live with her Aunt in order to be educated. Diana's Mum struggled to find some casual work to earn money to send Diana and her three siblings to school. When she did find work Diana went to school, but it was not continuous schooling until she was 10 years old. That's when she got a sponsor! Her hopes were dashed again the following year when Mum was diagnosed with the AIDS virus and nearly died. This time the sponsor of her brother offered to give £28 weekly for the medicine to keep Mum alive so Diana didn't have to give up school to care for her younger siblings.

The family's money problems continued over the next few years, so they had little hope of repairing their home when the roof collapsed. But this time another QT donor came to the rescue and funded a two-room house. Over the next few years Mum's brother defrauded them, Diana's older sister had a serious mental health problem needing money for hospital treatment and then Mum's business failed because she had no money to replenish her stocks. There was a rare moment of joy when her Mum found a new partner - but within a year he died and at the same time Mum had a miscarriage.

Despite all the problems, Diana studied well and was offered a chance to go to University.



But the £156 needed every month for Diana to continue was more than her Mum earned in six months. This also coincided with her two sisters needing funding for further education. Hanifah, an older sister, was training to be a nurse. Allan, a younger sister, was offered a university place to train as a teacher. But at every stage they were provided for through committed QT sponsors who made it possible.

Then last year, just when Diana was about to take her final exams her Mum had a stroke leaving her partially paralysed. This photo of Diana and her Mum at her graduation shows a very special moment for them all!

Now all three girls have graduated with two working on projects with the KDP. Wonderful!

If you are a sponsor could you introduce QT to a friend or relative who could also sponsor?

Education – the ups and downs!

The struggle to improve on the exam results in primary school continues. Children who have several siblings, who live in poor conditions, often with a single parent who had little education are very often deprived and battling against the odds. This reflects in school exam results. In primary school this year 23 students took P7 exams. One student achieved a Grade 1 pass, 7 students achieved Grade 2 and the remaining students achieved Grade 3, 4 or failed.

Often the next generation improves on the level of knowledge and skills achieved by their parents. In Kabubbu many children have a parent who never completed primary school but now 98% of our children are succeeding. At GCSE, 9 out of the 17 students who sat the exams this year are now graduating to 'A' level. That's 53% - and a miracle!

We can't predict how a student may turn out. Sometimes those we think are slow learners suddenly take off towards the end of primary school! Others plod along and shine much later. Edward, Madina and Ruth who each got Grade 2 passes at the end of primary school and Grade 3 passes at GCSE have this year pipped past the post at 'A' level to earn enough points for University with 11, 12 and 10 points respectively. Meanwhile Erik, a Grade 2 in primary school and at GCSE, achieved 16 (out of 20) - our highest 'A' level score!

By the end of 2015, the KDP was supporting 68 students in tertiary education. Following the exam results in February 2016, 14 more will join them. An alumni group has been started to:

- Foster togetherness of sponsored graduates of the KDP
- Spearhead the promotion of the KDP mission and values
- Take part in a marketing role on behalf of the KDP
- Finding out how the graduates can contribute towards the development of the Kabubbu community once they are employed

Some students who are now employed in the community are beginning to support a sibling in a KDP school. We are looking at a system that will track students post-graduation.

We are grateful for our ongoing partnership with Pestalozzi International Village. We have just received news that Marvin (on the right), taking 'A' Level at South Coast College, Hastings this year has been offered a university scholarship.



Marvin was just seven when his Dad died. A year later his Mum died. He went to live with his Uncle but it was often difficult for his Uncle to find the funds to send Marvin to primary school. But when he was at school, Marvin was a bright scholar and became top of his class. He was given a two-year scholarship by a Pastor who had an NGO that was helping some children by providing a home, accommodation, food and some primary education. Marvin was supported there.

The Pastor lacked the funds to build a secondary school. He heard, from a UK contact, of Quicken Trust and Trust High School. Marvin became a boarder at THS and from there he won a full scholarship to Pestalozzi International Village at Sedlescombe in East Sussex.

Marvin, again, excelled. MasterCard have offered him a full scholarship at the University of California, Berkeley, subject to 'A' Level results. He starts in September studying medicine.

Meanwhile Christopher Mujjabi, at Earth University, Costa Rica, started his 3rd year (of 4).

Few charities with a child sponsorship programme in Uganda ensure the children remain in their family home and community. Often at around 7 or 8 years old they are sent to boarding school far away from home. This is often traumatic when they are so young. We take a holistic approach to education and in future will include more support for special needs children.

Some staff spend time encouraging and praying with a child, others visit a home and keep us informed on health and welfare concerns hindering a child.

We also sometimes include anonymous research with older students to identify issues like bullying or staff prejudices that prevail towards children from poor families. We always keep in mind that most mothers don't have regular paid work. They struggle to provide for the daily food for their family and they live in simple conditions.



We are so grateful for 161 sponsors who, over the years, have made an enormous sacrifice to fund building a two-room house, now costing £5,000. Or provided extras like shoes, beds, food and medicine to help a family.

Veronica has a problem! She was second in her P1 primary class of 73 children and has now been promoted to the P2 class. Sadly her sponsor is no longer able to support her as she lost her job. We also have a few other children who have either lost their sponsor or they have started school but have no sponsor. Can you help?

Regular letters and cards from sponsors bring moments of joy and greatly encourage a child who is struggling to succeed. When a sponsor visits, their sponsored child is ecstatic!

Good News in the Health Centre

Several organisations are now partnering with the Kabubbu Parish Health Centre on specific programmes. Mildmay has partnered since 2008 providing ARVS tablets and specialist training for staff working with AIDS patients. PREFA (Protecting Families Against HIV/AIDS) provides medication to prevent mother to baby transmission of the virus. Segal Family Foundation provides support for maternity care and vocational training for some students.



Wakiso District Health Authority recognises the excellent service. They provided 800 mosquito nets for pregnant women and fund the salary for a nurse. Guernsey Overseas Aid Commission and Beatitudes Trust recently agreed grants for surgical equipment for the small operating theatre planned to open in July 2016.

Medical Access has donated two computers and two filing cabinets plus four more drug shelves in addition to the five donated last year for the ARVS drug store, also drug temperature monitors to enhance drug management. Then there's DentaId, a UK charity, which continues to send UK volunteers to work alongside the Ugandan dentist providing a service in Kabubbu and other villages. Friends in St Peter & St Paul's Church Buckingham, Medlock Electrical and Kevin Mayhew Publishing also help fund staff or other health resources. We appreciate all the support our partners offer as QT has only a few regular monthly sponsors supporting the health care programmes that have made such a difference to the community in Kabubbu. To all our partners great and small, THANK YOU!

As a result of the support offered, staff have been able to conduct some reproductive health campaigns at THS and three other secondary schools reaching 1,254 students in the past nine months. Five villages nearby welcomed information on family planning with 273 attendees – but only 21 were men! Kabubbu was the only village with no men attending!

Investment for the Future

Kabubbu SACCO (Savings and Credit Co-operative) is making steady progress. Janet & Paul Rowlinson have been working to help the management committee improve their assessment of loans and ensure repayments are made on time. The aim is to reduce lending rates and to be able to pay interest on the savings of £3,000 accumulated from our generous donors as every loan made puts added money into the village economy.

Janet & Paul visited in October and donated a PC, laptop and a printer/scanner which were enthusiastically received. An updated accounting system has been introduced which is Cloud based so can be accessed both from Uganda and the UK. Constant power cuts are a challenge as more recently are both phone and Internet connectivity. They now hope to solve the power problem by taking a small portable generator to Uganda in March, together with two second-hand smart phones and then assess the signal problems. This has delayed their plans to introduce the new banking software.

The SACCO AGM was held on March 19th and they proposed some new lending products and planned to start paying interest on savings. This will encourage a greater level of commitment to the village SACCO. THANK YOU for your donations.



The KDP also encourages all its staff to save £1 a month. This is used to buy a staff gift when someone gets married – like Elisha, our IT staff in Kabubbu who got married in December – or to fund burials when a staff relative dies. 100+ staff = many weddings or funerals!

There's still work to do!

Education is a life-long process. We encourage ongoing professional training when we can afford it. We also have an annual two-day workshop for KDP staff. This year QT staff didn't attend. The elections were imminent - it's not a good time to visit when this is happening! However, the staff had a useful time to inform, inspire and exchange ideas across departments.

Similarly the KDP invited families from the local community to visit the project for an 'Open Day' in January. Posters were distributed, loud speakers broadcast the event in nearby villages, staff were recalled from holiday, windows were cleaned, equipment put on display, cakes made and soft drinks purchased - but hardly anyone turned up! How disappointing! The comment



we had from our CEO Enoch was *"In our culture they only turn up if it's a free meal or a celebrity visiting"*. It's sad that this is more important than discovering the community services benefitting your family. It's a reminder to us that there is still work to do, or as an old English proverb puts it, *"You can take a horse to water but you can't make it drink."*



A group of six young women in Kabubbu is undergoing training in the manufacture of reusable sanitary pads. The aim is to enable schoolgirls to access affordable, reusable pads. This will improve school attendance levels of teenage girls and in the long run, their school grades. QT began researching this concept over two years ago and we thank both 'Harambee for Kenya' for recently assisting our research to a positive conclusion and the ladies of Welcome Baptist Church, Heathfield (pictured) who made up the early trial pad samples taken to Kabubbu to be copied out there.

We are looking for similar entrepreneurial small rural businesses that can be developed.

Planning for the Future



From time to time we need other help. As we plan for the future we would welcome enquiries from potential Trustees committed to a day a month for networking, fundraising, promoting, researching, applying, writing or advising. For details please contact: geoff@quickentrust.com

We also need committed volunteers for a number of regular tasks. Competent administrators willing to commit one day a week for specific and regular tasks. Or to make coffee, tea or cakes monthly for

coffee mornings. Stuff envelopes for four mailings a year. And so on. Please contact: caroline@quickentrust.com for volunteer opportunities and application form.

Since QT started working in Kabubbu, its aims have always been: *'To show the love of God in action to the Kabubbu community. We aim to demonstrate this through the provision of the resources they lack, to assist the community in training and acquiring the skills they need to sustain the projects commenced and provide for themselves'*. In this letter we have outlined some of the final infrastructure we plan to complete in 2016. We continue to encourage the development of skills through further training both in Uganda and the UK.

We have some organisations partnering with the Health Centre. We have 160 volunteers visiting Kabubbu this year. From July 2017 we will be redefining the volunteer programme, assessing what further resources are needed and how best to enable the staff to acquire the skills they need to eventually sustain projects and provide for themselves.

There are 5,126 people receiving our Newsletter. 624 are regular committed donors who sponsor a child, support healthcare or an elderly person. Regular committed donors help us

to budget and plan ahead. Please contact: gillian@quickentrust.com for more details.

We continue to need 40 new child sponsors every year. Can you help?

DO YOU RUN A COMPANY, AN ATTRACTION OR A GOLF CLUB, OR RUN A RESTAURANT?

Or can you donate a good auction item? On our back page you will see mention of the Rotary Club of the Pantiles, Tunbridge Wells which is holding a Charity Golf Day to purchase a 36 seater bus for Trust High School. They are seeking to raise £20,000+ and are partnering with the Rotary Club of Wiesbaden, Germany & the Rotary Club of Rubaga, Kampala in association with Rotary International. On Thursday 30 June at the Nevill Golf Club, Tunbridge Wells, a day of golf for a team of 4, prizes, two-course lunch and a charity auction will be £200. Can you help with the items for the auction? Items could be a round of golf at another club, a week at a holiday cottage, sporting memorabilia, a case of wine, a meal for two at a classy restaurant – anything which will raise an auction prize worth £100 or more! Please get in touch – we'd love to hear from you! To book a team for the day, go to www.quickentrust.com

Dates for your Diary

Contact caroline@quickentrust.com for information on future travel planning

Coffee Morning dates in 2016 are on Thursdays from 10.30am – 12.00pm:

26 May; 30 June; 6 October; 17 November; 15 December

Afternoon Tea dates in 2016 are on Wednesdays from 3.00pm – 4.30pm:

20 April and 7 September

BRING A FRIEND

Coffee Morning and Afternoon Tea reminders are also sent by email

Last dates for gift envelopes for children/elderly in 2016 are 1 July and 5 October

Bargain hunters

Specific items collected can be delivered to the office at any time. We currently need:

- ➔ Crayons (not 'Felt Tip pens') and geometry sets
- ➔ Packs of girls' knickers or boys' pants (for ages 4 – 16)
- ➔ Small musical instruments
- ➔ Guest soaps, toothpaste and toothbrushes

Other support is always welcome including:

- Fully functioning laptops with operating systems installed but cleansed of your files and information
- Become a monthly donor or sponsor an orphan, granny, nurse or teacher
- Run a fund-raising event or a marathon for QT
- Volunteer a day a week for simple office administration or even an hour a week to clean the QT offices
- Introduce a QT speaker to a Rotary Club, school, church or community group

Finally, a **HUGE THANK YOU** for all you do
Geoff, Geraldine & the Team at QT

How some of YOU raise funds – THANK YOU ALL!

Jane and Steve each had homes when they recently married. They asked guests to contribute to the little girl they support in Kabubbu instead of buying wedding gifts. They raised £2,845. THANK YOU to all those who donate instead of buying wedding gifts or funeral flowers, or celebrate a special birthday or anniversary by sacrificing their gifts to support a child or someone in need in Kabubbu. Some leave a legacy in their Will.



Excitement is mounting as Libby and Charlotte get off their marks for the Bath Half Marathon on 13 March. Libby's sponsor child Yassin, and family, need guttering and a water tank. So far, at the time of writing, they've raised £239.60 of a target of £500. We wish them well. By the time this is published they will have done the run – and raised their funds!

On 17 April Lucia Baumann is running the Brighton Marathon. As part of her fundraising she will be inspiring the ten-year-olds class she teaches through telling them all about the children of Kabubbu. Lucia's fundraising will be supported by a business in Hurstpierpoint that will match-fund up to £250 of what she raises. Wonderful support – and makes so much difference!



More than twenty Uplands Community College students and staff are visiting Kabubbu in March/April. They're working hard at fundraising including a 'charity meal and quiz night' plus a 'street collection' in a shopping mall in Tunbridge Wells, done in fancy dress. So far they have raised £8,306 – with more activity planned. When a group like this works together - the sky's the limit!

Bethany Schiraldi is one of the students at Willingdon Community School visiting Kabubbu in July. The school has held many events including a music evening organised by three other students that raised over £1,000. Bethany has also raised £350, partly by a 13 mile walk in fancy dress!



Hannah Rees-Porter is an 'A' Level student at Hillview School for Girls. She was chosen for the upcoming visit from among over 100 applicants to be part of the team travelling to Kabubbu for 11 days in July. She wants to raise £750. So far she has raised £480. Great job!



Finally, the Rotary Club of the Pantiles, Tunbridge Wells is holding a Charity Golf Day at the Nevill Golf Club, Tunbridge Wells on 30 June. Raising funds for a 36 seater bus for THS students. Details and entry form at www.quickentrust.com. Team of 4 including golf, prizes, charity auction and two course lunch all for £200. A great day out – a great cause, get a great team together and book now!

