

Join us in Kabubbu in November for the Dedication of the Kabubbu Community Church

Quicken Trust

Changing lives in rural Uganda

by showing the love of God in action

**'The finest example of rural development
I have ever seen or heard of in Uganda'**

Edward Ssekandi – Vice President of Uganda



Uganda Update – Spring 2018

www.quickentrust.com



Unless the Lord builds the house, the builders are working for nothing

Dear Friends,

The quiet of a rural village has been broken by the sound of cement mixers and hammers since November 2017. Building started on six classrooms in Trust High School (THS) 11 years ago. In 2009, Divine intervention through a legacy of £50,000, enabled us to build six more classrooms for students to continue studying up to 'A' level.

More urgent needs took over as Mums and babies were dying needlessly in childbirth. A maternity and delivery suite was built with antenatal and postnatal classes. Recently an operating theatre opened and three houses became three wards.

After 10 years, building work began again at THS on an administration block. Two classrooms that had been used for offices have reverted back to their original use as a music and an art room. At the same time THS now has a superb well-equipped science laboratory, the envy of other schools. An expanded THS library is a quiet space for extra studies. Five classrooms for vocational students are being built bringing further education locally to these students without the extra costs of housing, food and travel by having to study in Kampala.

What a fantastic difference all this will make to our students. The improvements and developments in THS came just at the right time! In February the primary and secondary schools achieved the best exam results ever. The 'A' level results placed THS in the 57th position in Wakiso District (that's up from 123 last year) out of 520+ schools. This year 81% of THS students qualified for a place at University. Yippee!



THS Administration Centre



Science Laboratory



Vocational Training Centre

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Kabubbu Community Church



Meanwhile in the community, other construction is under way. We call it the '*Jewel in the Crown*' but some call it the 'Community Church'. Others see it as a 'Community Centre'. Whatever its name, it's a very large centre right in the heart of the village where real 'community' will be built. Some will come there to sing, some to learn, some to listen or discuss and others to celebrate. For all, it will create unity, friendships and understanding as people develop. Those with faith or no faith will be welcome. Some may even find faith.

Thank you to all our supporters who have donated to make all these developments a reality. We continue in faith for the remaining costs to be met. The story below highlights how someone from outside of Kabubbu, Baguma, experienced 'community' and found faith there.

Building on the right foundation

In 2009 Richard, Martha and their five children moved to Kabubbu from Bushenyi District, 320km from Kabubbu. Some while after arriving, their youngest daughter Rosette was selected for sponsorship in the primary school. Later Rosette's sponsor raised funds to build a two-room brick home (QT has built 167 homes to improve living conditions in the village) and that was when, unknown to us, life began to change and their blessings multiplied.

Martha and Richard began to put down their roots in the community and decided they would go to a 'church' that met weekly in the dining hall of THS. Their faith began to blossom. In 2015 the couple decided to invite their neighbours home to share encouraging stories, pray for each other, to read the Bible and support each other. Now, every Wednesday, over 40 people squeeze into their tiny home and spill out and over the doorstep.



In 2017, with three of their five children now grown up and left home, Richard and Martha decided it was time to get married. They are subsistence farmers who live hand to mouth and with little money for a wedding. Their Christian friends stepped in to decorate the church (in THS) with flowers, to make food, sew dresses and provide other trimmings for their wedding on December 9th to ensure the happy couple would have a wedding ceremony to remember. Relatives from far and

wide were invited. Many hadn't seen them for a long time. Among the guests was Baguma, a young man from Kiboga district, 230km from Kampala.

When he arrived in Kabubbu he was so impressed by the warm welcome he received from the wedding ushers; he was surprised to see the church decorated and shocked by the large number of guests attending the wedding. He didn't know the couple had so many friends. Later Baguma asked Richard and Martha, '*How did things in your life change for the better?*' They simply replied, '*It's Jesus!*'

Baguma decided he would go to the service in the church the following Sunday. He asked if he could say something from the front. *"I have known Richard and Martha for many years. I knew how poor and miserable their lives were. But when I came and saw how they have changed, they now have peace, joy, love and so many friends and I would also like to give my life to the Lord!"* Baguma began a journey of faith. He asked if he could stay in Kabubbu until after he was baptised. Then go back home. A special baptism service was organised for him and five other young people. He vowed to talk to five people about his growing faith. He went back home and passionately told others about his new relationship with Jesus. Immediately after he got back, two people he spoke to came to faith.

Building something of beauty

Phiona was only four when she moved into foster care in 2004. Her Grandfather couldn't care for her (he died 3 months later). She worked her way up through Kabubbu's schools and then went on to vocational college. Recently, on an internship, her boss found she was hardworking, honest and reliable. She offered Phiona a permanent job with seven other girls in her beauty salon in Kampala. In February, Phiona graduated from her studies in cosmetology (beauty and cosmetics).



Building with love

Sometimes love, faith and hope come when you least expect it - when all hope is gone. Paul, aged 10, lost both his parents of AIDS when he was two. He was also HIV positive. Paul lived with his Grandad and Grandma until she died when he was six. Then his Grandad couldn't properly care for him or provide funds for him to go to school. A village volunteer health worker living nearby noted Paul hadn't attended the AIDS clinic recently. Grandad said she could take him there. He was very weak and close to dying.



While in the Health Centre a small group of young UK volunteers met Paul and their hearts went out to him. One volunteer offered to pay for him to go to school. At last he had something to live for. He began to have hope. Slowly, through love, compassion and medication he recovered but he had no home to go back to. Grandad, by now over 80 and in tears, said he couldn't provide for him. Paul was taken to meet Betty the foster mother and the children living there. Plans were made for Paul to move into the home in January just before the start of the new school year. When he moved in with only the clothes he wore, he cried non-stop for two days. On the third day Betty cooked the children fish and rice. For the first time Paul smiled. After this, everywhere he went, he smiled and told people about the fish and rice. Now he is a very happy boy!



He began school in February but despite his age had to start in the nursery class. He didn't mind that. We have ten children like Paul in foster care but we only have support for seven of them. For just an extra £20 a month for each child, on top of their education, they receive a home and love. On special occasions, rice and fish is served - with priceless love and hugs!

Building in a broken world

Mental health issues have recently come to the forefront in the UK because Prince Harry bravely spoke out about the impact of his mother's death. 17 years ago we were shocked when a Professor of Counselling and Guidance in Uganda's Makerere University told us, *'There is not one person in Uganda who doesn't need counselling. The older generation have lived under the terror of the reigns of Presidents Obote and Amin and the younger generation are all living in extended families because they've lost their parents from AIDS'*

Trauma and mental health issues come as a result of many things. Grace walked to Kabubbu five years ago. A widow in the village with six children felt sorry for her and gave her a plate of food. Being desperately poor the widow later asked others in the village to help provide a meal for her. But they were much too frightened because Grace had a mental illness. Without the medication she needs to stabilise her she sometimes became aggressive. Grace continues to live in a mud shack separate from but alongside the family. Without an NHS and free treatment she's unable to get the medication needed. Grace, and others, need regular help.



Seven-year-old Jovia, in Primary 1, frequently had seizures. While unconscious she would often soil herself. Her parents didn't know what to do. At one time they thought she was cursed by witchcraft. When the Health Centre intervened, Jovia was referred to a paediatric psychiatric doctor. She was diagnosed with paediatric epilepsy and ongoing medication began. Now her condition has improved and she is able to attend school regularly. Her parents have been educated on how

to support Jovia. They can now identify when Jovia is about to have a seizure and take measures to prevent her being harmed. Her teachers have also been educated to support her condition and understand her needs. Jovia is now able to complete her education, is happy at school and, if funded to continue on the medication, she can live a successful life.

Many are frightened by mental health issues. Their treatment costs between £5 - £20 a month. Some become violent, depressed or even self harm because they can't access the government mental health hospital. This facility is one part of the health system in Uganda that works extraordinarily well, despite the general hospital being chaotic.

Jennipher suffered terrible traumas as a result of multiple bereavements. In 2009 when she was 16 she missed school for a year as she had mental health issues. She was hospitalised for six months. Through the sacrifice and generosity of her sponsor she received both the medication and the loving counselling she needed before recovering and returning home to her Granny and her education. In 2015, not long after starting in university to study law, she was feeling healthy and positive and decided to stop her medication.

One night she walked in the dark for 25 miles from Kampala to her Granny's home. There she stripped off her clothes and collapsed on the doorstep. Granny found her there the following morning. Resty, our welfare worker, received a phone call from Granny. Transport was arranged to bring Jenipher to Kabubbu Health Centre. From there she was referred on to Butabika Hospital for treatment. Recommencing her drugs, and after being reminded she would need to permanently remain on them, she returned to university. Jenipher is now doing very well. She completes her final year of a law degree in the summer. Then she will go on to law school to become licensed as a solicitor and plans to work on children's and women's rights.



Peruth is mother of two daughters in Kabubbu's Primary School and trained in the Farming God's Way programme through Graze School of Farming. Before training, the maize she produced was eaten by the family. Now she uses the skills she learnt and rents land. This harvest alone she has produced over 1 tonne of maize grain. Last year she sold 3 tonnes to the KDP at premium prices. Now she is able to feed her family, afford school fees and medical care for them and, at the same time, keep investing back in growing maize and potatoes.



Thank you for the generous gifts and donations at Christmas enabling 31 Christmas cakes to be made, 146 sacks of maize to be delivered to sponsored families, £13,530 to be invested in developing the maize mill project, as well as 62 dinners to be provided to those too poor to have a Christmas meal. **Total raised - £29,179!**

By wisdom a house is built, but by understanding it is established

The KDP/QT partnership continues to achieve interesting results reflecting its success in 2017. So, for those who like facts and figures, these are just a few:

Kabubbu Health Centre

12,189	patients treated
967	AIDS victims registered to receive monthly ARVS treatment including 39 children
32	midwives from Kabubbu and other nearby clinics trained to help new born babies who fight to breathe at birth
274	babies born in the sterile environment in Kabubbu Health Centre – none died
7,000	students from Kabubbu and beyond given appropriate age related education on sexual and reproductive health in 10 nearby rural communities
1,197	children under the age of 5 immunised against a range of health issues
864	adults provided with various family planning alternatives
333	patients received surgical interventions including herniographies, orchidectomies, caesareans, circumcisions and so on
351	sacks of maize flour were donated

Out and about in the Kabubbu the following items were donated and distributed in 2017:
43 blankets, 4 houses built, 31 beds, 29 sets of bed sheets, 3 x three-piece suites, 110 received clothes, 82 mosquito nets hung

Adults and children held classes in making re-usable sanitary towels, knitting, sewing and beading

Through education in Kabubbu:

In Primary School - 34 out of 42 achieved a Grade 1 or 2 pass in P7 to graduate to THS

In Trust High School - 46 out of 92 achieved a Grade 1 or 2 at 'O' Level to go on to 'A' Level

In Trust High School - was 57th out of 520+ schools in Wakiso District for 'A' Level passes

As you know, QT never sends begging letters. We bring you honest stories of tragedy and disappointment – and of hope, transformation and provision. We leave the response to you.

Building blocks

Having read the stories of the QT/KDP activities, has Kabubbu now got all it needs? **No!**
We still need regular and ongoing support to continue our work in the following ways:

- **In prayer for 120 KDP staff and a community of around 4,000+**
- **In prayer for the needs of QT's 2 fulltime and 3 part-time staff members in the UK**
- **For 300 children in Kabubbu with a parent paying their school fees, but who struggle to find £10 a month to provide their child with a school lunch of posho & beans**
- **For many patients, with no equivalent of the NHS and no funding, who need pain killers, surgery or other treatment that QT currently seeks to fund**
- **For UK Volunteers willing to regularly help with admin in the QT office, making coffee - and other skills! The more volunteers we can find the more effective we can be**
- **For volunteers to Kabubbu with skills in making greetings cards, jewellery, raffia crafts, secondary level teaching in geography, maths, IT, English and music plus anyone experienced in identifying small businesses for developing countries. All would need to fund travel costs for 1 month in Kabubbu in July 2018 or April 2019**
- **For 'late teens & twenties' volunteers to join the Kabubbu Community Church in July 2019 reaching out to the youth of Kabubbu through music, dance & drama for up to a month, as a means of sharing the Gospel. All would need to fund their travel costs**
- **For opportunities to speak in clubs, pubs, churches, schools; at events or opportunities to write features in newspapers, magazines or other media**

A new way to make a donation or to sponsor

After feedback from some potential donors we are introducing a Direct Debit facility to make it easier to donate. You will be able to access this via the donate buttons on our website's Donate page. If you wish to sponsor a child, an elderly person or nurse, a teacher or to make a general monthly donation, just click on the relevant button and it will take you through to a simple form to set up the Direct Debit via our provider Go Cardless. More functions will be available in the future. We'll update you as they are developed. A direct debit donation will reduce the amount of your donation received by QT as a percentage is taken by the provider.

If you already have a Standing Order in place, you don't need to do anything. We continue to encourage sponsorship and donations by Standing Order as we receive the full amount.

Building the future through a Legacy

Leaving a Legacy

It's always wonderful when we receive an unexpected gift. Recently, Trish sent a cheque for £600 from a legacy from her Mum, whom we had never met. Some families donate money collected by asking for 'no flowers or wreaths' at a funeral in memory of a loved one.

All gifts are a lovely surprise and we thank you for considering us in your Will.

QT has a small leaflet '*Leave a Gift in your Will*' which gives advice on how you can set up a legacy for the future of Kabubbu while ensuring your loved ones are cared for through your Will. 100% of your legacy will be used for the benefit of QT's work to change the lives of many in Kabubbu. Thank you

Building your own QT fundraising programme

Can you or your family set up a fundraising project in the coming months? Maybe walk together, cycle together, sail together or celebrate a 'high spot' in your lives? Any ideas?

email: sarah@quickentrust.com

THANKS to our 2017 special **Fundraisers** who have white-water rafted down the River Nile, climbed Three Peaks, had their 15" long hair cut off, cycled many miles, walked from pier-to-pier, opened their gardens, held quizzes, baked cakes, held cream teas, held fashion shows and packed goods for supermarket customers – and so much more. **THANK YOU**

And so what of 2018? We have two running the Brighton Marathon on 15 April – why not join them by running a local marathon down your way? Summer is on it's way – why not start planning for a 'Chari-Tea Party' or similar funtime among your friends or family?

We'd love to have you or a friend run a Marathon - or hold any other event

Interested? Email enquiries and details of your event to: sarah@quickentrust.com

Dates for your diary

News of planned QT **Coffee Morning** and **Afternoon Tea** plus special events in 2018

We are going out and about to share the message of what God is doing in Kabubbu. We're also holding Coffee Morning and Afternoon Tea slots at our Herstmonceux office. We look forward to greeting you at any (or many) of these events – *bring a friend and share the message...*

25 April	Afternoon Tea @ QT offices (3.00pm – 4.30pm)
15 June	QT Quiz Night + Fish & Chips Supper @ Herstmonceux Village Hall (7.00pm – 9.30 ish!)
4 July	Coffee Morning @ Union Church, Heathfield (10.30am – midday)
19 Sept	QT Awards Ceremony (venue & time to be confirmed)
12 Oct	Coffee Morning @ Victoria Baptist Church, Eastbourne (10.30am – midday)
15 Nov	Coffee Morning @ QT offices (10.30am – midday)
27 Nov	Curry Evening (venue & time to be confirmed)
13 Dec	Coffee Morning @ QT offices (10.30am – midday)

Reminders and up-to-date information will be sent by email



Last date for receipt of Gift Envelopes for children/elderly this year is **22 June, 2018**. This is the only parcel deadline for 2018 as at Christmas there are not enough people planning to travel with sufficient suitcases. For Christmas 2018 we will only be able to take out a letter and Christmas card for your sponsored child, elderly or family. With limited numbers we just don't have the capacity to take out the usual A5 package. Instead, we currently plan to offer you the opportunity to make a donation towards a fun-filled day out for your child or a gift for a special treat for your elderly or family.

Kabubbu Community Church Dedication Service in November 2018



Architect's drawing

Wonderful news! We have just been advised the Kabubbu Community Church will hold its Service of Dedication in early November 2018. This will be a time of great rejoicing. We'd love to have you join with us as Kabubbu's 'Jewel in the Crown' becomes a reality! **Start planning your travel to be with us!**

Contact caroline@quickentrust.com for information on the next travel planning meeting on **13 May 2018** and for planning arrangements for volunteer visits during 2018 and 2019

Please note an important change of email address

A note from Geraldine: For many years sponsors, donors and grant-making trusts have communicated with Geraldine and QT in general on 'contactus@quickentrust.com'. Pete Everett will be taking over sole responsibility for this email address in the next month or so, as QT's general email address. Geraldine's address will be geraldine@quickentrust.com. *Please amend your email address for Geraldine now* to ensure she receives your important information on developments and other Kabubbu matters directly into her mailbox.

Feedback

We always welcome comments or feedback to our QT newsletter. We send it to you so that you can keep up-to-date with what is happening in Kabubbu. Are we giving you the right information? What more could we do better? Please feel free to contact us on:

geoff@quickentrust.com or geraldine@quickentrust.com

Thank you for your love and generosity for the Kabubbu Kids
Geoff, Geraldine, Pete & all of us at QT

It is our policy to send Newsletters only to those who wish to receive them. Please let us know if you no longer wish to receive these by mailing: **Newsletter, Quicken Trust, PO Box 113, Hailsham, BN27 4US** or by email: contactus@quickentrust.com or by phone: **01323 832361** and we'll remove your details from our Newsletter listing. Quicken Trust will not sell, share or loan your address or other details with any other organisation.

NB: If you would prefer to receive our Newsletter by mail or email in A4 large print format please tell us using the above contact details