



Mind your business!

Dear Friends,

After 20 years the infrastructure is complete. In February we made a short visit to the village to follow up on some developments and prepare our friends for some changes.

Early on we started a few small business initiatives in Kabubbu with chicken and cows. The chicken project was successful for four years until fowlpest wreaked havoc in the countryside. Later a small citrus fruit project was developed and grew but it needed investment and more experienced staff to have made it commercially viable.

On this visit we wanted to learn about developments in the Street Business School. In 2018 Faridah and Resty had attended a weeks training in Kampala. In the past six months they have been passing on this knowledge to 45 women. The programme provided information on starting a business without borrowing money, identifying the gaps in the market, project planning and using whatever resources were available at home. It also included time management, book-keeping, reinvesting profits, selling techniques and so on.

The report back meeting organised ahead of our visit to Kabubbu provided an opportunity to encourage the ladies. We knew most ladies in the group, having visited them many times. Some had attended parenting or domestic violence groups.

We usually arrive early for a meeting, but the ladies always arrive late. So 45 minutes after the start time a group usually begins. Ambling slowly up the path towards the conference room at 8.58am there no one was in sight! Gently pushing open the door, an enormous cheer erupted. Amazed, we found the room was full of ladies eagerly waiting to start. Faridah introduced everyone and later translated while the women competed to be first to tell their story. Juliet began. *'I have never had success in any business I tried... but now I've learnt to never give up'*.



Street Business School graduates celebrating their success

Hadijah then jumped up. *'I had nothing with which to start a business so I started visiting some new homes here with working people, and I offered a baby sitting service. Then I saved and bought a chicken and I slowly added more and now I have 20 chickens and 1 goat.'*

Teddy was next up. She said, *'I have struggled to get out of poverty. What I learnt changed my thinking. I didn't know I had to plan, now I know I have to give attention to my work.'* Gloria, who had a primary education and is hard working, said, *'I didn't know how to budget. I sold my milk cheap! I was being lazy! I knew I had to get out of my comfort zone. I was given a cow and it has since had a calf. I used to sell a cup of milk for 450 shillings (10 pence) but now I sell it for 800 shillings. I needed to find my market but I couldn't do this by waiting for people to come to my home. I learnt that if I wanted to sell my milk I had to go and knock on doors. Now I have used my profit to build a good new toilet near our house.'*

Susan then stood to her feet and we couldn't believe what we saw. She spoke in Luganda but, with her head held high, she looked directly at the room of ladies as she spoke clearly and confidently. This lady, for many years, lived in a two-roomed home with her children and a polygamous husband. Living in the other room in the house was his other partner with her five children. Susan was very unhappy. She couldn't escape from her violent partner because she had nine children and no money. Susan would always avoid eye contact and look at the floor and mumble. Now her message about reinvesting the profit from her tomatoes was simple. But her body language conveyed more than her words.

Six other ladies in the room shared their stories. Olive, a newcomer in Kabubbu, said she had a house with her three children but couldn't work as they were too small to leave and there was no work locally with her skills. She has a degree in business computing. *'I was at home and my husband only gave me money for food. After the training I knew I needed to wake up and learn to save because whatever money I had, I spent on food. I talked to my husband and he agreed I could save 2,000 shillings (45p) from my food budget. Our house has piped water, so I'm now selling jerry cans of water to my neighbours. My husband is so proud of me! Although I learnt these things at university I never had the chance to put them into practice.'*

Maureen is 27. Her husband is not very supportive and so like many women she toils alone



at home in Kabubbu. Maureen had a vegetable stall but wasn't sure how much income she made from her business because she didn't keep any records. She thought she made about £2.20 a week/£9.00 per month. Her household bills were £1.70 a week but by half way through the training Maureen had added sugarcane and banana fingers. And so her income increased. She then bought a pregnant goat from the money she saved. By the end of the training she was rearing chicken, ducks and selling charcoal. Her monthly income

earnings had increased to £213.00 and her daily household bills were reduced from £1.70 to £1.52. Maureen is now paying her children's school fees without struggling and has connected electricity at her home. As a result of the training, Maureen is a competent business lady and making a profit and no longer worries if her husband will support her.

Other businesses

With the infrastructure now completed we are seeking ways of reducing KDP dependence and investing in some KDP business projects. Vaccines are now available against fowlpest

and, as we have two graduates from agriculture college back in the village, it's time to develop another chicken farm. We'll start with 200 chicks and scale this up to 1,000 chickens over the next 3-5 years.



A garden of bean plants



A maize garden

One example of a successful KDP business is the maize project. In 2018, farmers were empowered to procure good seeds and fertilizers. To improve their yield, crop rotation was introduced. The farmers were in two groups this year. The first group grew maize in the first season. The second group grew beans. The next season they swapped crops and finally exchanged ideas from their experience. As a result, each farmer recorded a bumper harvest of between 1,000kg - 2,000kg of maize and 100kg - 500kg of beans in just one season. The community harvested and milled maize to feed all 1,000 children in both schools every day. Some delighted farmers even had maize left over to sell locally. That's a big achievement for the KDP which only started milling three years ago. It's also a success for those who donated and invested in the 'Santa's Sack' project at Christmas 2017. Thank you!

In our last newsletter we enclosed a questionnaire for donors. We had some passionate, enthusiastic and glowing responses from all who completed a form. Wow! We were blown away by your nice comments and together we have come a long way. We still need you and others to help us because despite our regular donations we annually have a shortfall of £60,000 on the running costs just to keep 120 staff employed in Kabubbu. The deficit is in the Health Centre because, just like the NHS, there are always sick people. But many have no income for health care. They have no pensions, no sickness benefit, no housing benefit and no Universal Credit. So when you're down - you're out!



Sacks of maize made into maize flour

News in brief from the Health Centre

- 10 schools (that's six secondary and four primary) with 10,379 students received information on sexual reproductive health - and teenage pregnancies decreased to nil
- Malaria numbers drop in Uganda - that's amazing! It's not because of more bed nets or better medication, but simply because patients have been incorrectly diagnosed in the

past. The MoH has now advised all Ugandan health staff that suspected malaria cases should only be treated after a blood test has confirmed the patient actually has malaria!

- 22 caesareans were performed in Kabubbu - and 301 babies delivered in 2018
- 26 small children are among the 1,015 AIDS victims registered locally for ARVS treatment
- 268 males were circumcised in 2018 - *ouch!*
- 1,241 mums-to-be attended antenatal sessions
- 1,384 are registered on family planning programmes - so the birth rate is dropping
- 6,392 children aged 0-5 years of age were immunised in 2018
- ... and 25,435 patients were treated by Health Centre staff



**Refurbished equipment from the
Gould Foundation**



**Now, which bit connects with what?
Putting the equipment together**

News in brief from the Schools

This year Trust High School partnered students achieved their best 'O' level exam results with 41% gaining a Grade 1 or Grade 2 pass. Recent improvements to the school included admin offices and a staff room, an improved science laboratory and a fully equipped library.

- 19 students graduated from university and vocational training courses
- 82 students continued in further education in 2018
- 349 pupils and students were partnered in the primary and secondary school (that's down by 12% on the previous year)
- 545 students were enrolled in Trust High School. Only 83 are partnered

Our partnered students at 'A' level also did very well with 76% gaining a result high enough to graduate to university if their UK partner or another QT supporter is able to fund them at £150 a month, or £1,800 a year or £5,400 for the three years. That's another amazing achievement for the QT/KDP partnership and incredible in a rural location in Africa where many students never get a chance to move beyond primary education. So, although they may read and write they'll never get regular paid work and will probably never graduate beyond subsistence farming.

We have seen a drop in the number of new child partners (sponsors) over the last 2/3 years. QT needs 30 new donors annually to partner with a small child in primary school @ £30 a

month so, as students graduate and their partnership ceases, they are replaced by a new partner for a small child in need who is starting in primary school.

We also need 100 new School Meal Appeal donors annually who pledge £10 a month for a child's lunch. Their mum pays for education. In the UK that means sacrificing just one cup of coffee in a coffee shop each week! We were surprised recently to learn that although QT has 4,600 people on its mailing list. Only 30% - that's 1,400 have ever donated. We have enclosed a **School Meal Appeal** leaflet. Can you can regularly donate £10/month?



The completed THS library

We have had over 1,100 UK Volunteers visit Kabubbu. They loved their work with children and all are greatly moved by the Development Challenge. However only a small fraction partner with a child. Maybe you have questions you need answering first before becoming a regular donor. If so contact: geraldine@quickentrust.com or geoff@quickentrust.com

If you are unable to be a regular supporter there are other ways you may help us including holding a coffee morning/afternoon tea, introducing a QT speaker to a club, church or community group you attend, or taking a school assembly. Networking, passing on a QT leaflet to a friend, praying, organising a sponsored fund raising event or participating in a marathon. Recommending QT to a Grant funder or volunteering for a regular half day a week.

70% of people do not make a Will. However, 70% of people regularly support a charity in their lifetime – but only 4% of those leave a gift to a charity in their Will. We have a leaflet, 'Leave a Gift in your Will' which you may like to receive and/or pass on to your friends.

One day we asked a partner from Leicestershire how she first heard of QT. She said she found a few leaflets sitting on the side in the ladies cloakroom of a restaurant in Leicestershire! Wow! We can't remember having eaten in a Leicestershire restaurant!

We are constantly stunned when we see how God supplies the funding for our friends in need in Kabubbu. Two very recent examples left us in awe! Below is a news feature that appeared on Burgess Hill School for Girls website and on our Facebook page.

When co-incidences become God-incidences!

While in Uganda in November we agreed with Enoch (KDP Executive Director) that after the Church/Community centre was completed in 2019, the QT/KDP partnership would move from *fundraising* for infrastructure development to a *maintenance* phase.

Then three weeks later he sent QT an e-mail request for funding for a half acre of land located alongside the gate to Trust High School. He was concerned that if someone else bought this it might hinder the work at the school. The cost was a cool 42,000,000 Shillings. As we were not inclined to raise further money for infrastructure, we didn't respond!

Three hours later the Head at Burgess Hill School for Girls unexpectedly sent an e-mail to us because she had found a bank account that had funding earmarked for QT from over four

years ago. The Head suggested we outline three small educational funding proposals for the staff in the school so they could choose the best use for the money. But before preparing the proposals we needed to have an indication of how much money was available! We were amazed to learn it was a whopping £9,600!

Later that day we checked Enoch's email again. We found the 42,000,000 Shillings the KDP needed was actually £9,130! A few weeks later we visited the school to talk to the Head and find out which of the three proposals the staff had chosen. Again we were surprised as they had unanimously decided to invest their funding in the half acre of land. Before we ask – we have the answer!

And now the second example of Divine provision in February. While in Kabubbu we received an email from our UK office saying that QT had been left a legacy in a Will. We checked our mailing lists. There was no record of the late donor. We read through the copy of the Will sent by her solicitor. But we didn't know any of her named relatives. The lady had lived in east London but we've never spoken in that part of the capital. We haven't been able to track down how she heard of QT! We just know God hears and answers our cries.

Leave a Gift in your Will
to help the orphans in
Kabubbu

Partnering with the future of others

Quicken Trust
PO Box 113 | Hallsham | BN27 4US
Tel: 01323 832361 | Email: contactus@quickentrust.com
Website: www.quickentrust.com

Quicken Trust
Registered Charity: 1102474 Registered Company: 5047083
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Thank you for your love at Christmas



Cake distribution day

As a result of your very generous donations over Christmas, loads of excited children went to 'Freedom City' to have a great time dipping and diving and having fun.

You donated 102 cakes to the families of your Kabubbu child or Granny – simply wonderful!

Your total donations for the 'Gift of Life' healthcare programme at Christmas raised £19,702.

70 families who can't afford meat were provided with meat and veg for a Christmas dinner.

Teenagers experienced outdoor chess, table tennis and other games at a beach BBQ at Lake Victoria.

Older students began to develop 'out of the box' thinking and became confident as a result of the MindSet programme.

The elderly were gently transported to their party.

Thank you, thank you, thank you!

It's not my fault ...



We wrote earlier in our newsletter about the funding shortfall. This isn't because we don't calculate our budgets carefully, but simply because we often get information on children 'at risk' or some who are very sick and needing life-saving surgery. Here is a story of a little girl in desperate need. Featured on our Facebook page in January - she is still without support. What can she do?

It's not my fault ...

... that I contracted HIV/AIDS when my Mum gave birth to me
... it's not my fault that my Mum then died a few months later
... it's not my fault my Dad has now died and left me alone
... it's not my fault that my relatives now don't want me 'cos they don't have enough money to feed their own kids

... it's not my fault that the kind lady down the road can't let me stay any longer, but I really tried so hard to be good

... it's not even my fault that I didn't do well in school, it's just that I'm so frightened that I can't think straight there

... it's not my fault that I'm sick and weak but I try to walk 3 miles to get my medicine, 'cos if I don't have it I will die

... it's not my fault that I'm not in school now but it's because I don't have the £7.50 a week for fees

... it's not my fault I can't even go to the kind foster mum named Betty living nearby. She said she will love me, give me a bed, a blanket and a bowl of porridge twice a day, but I can't go there either 'cos I don't have £5.00 a week for my food

... **it's not my fault ... what shall I do?**

To help, contact: geraldine@quickenrust.com

These were some of the items Partners provided in 2018 for a child or granny they support:

25 beds (@ £25)

25 school bags (@ £10)

68 blankets (@ £6)

5 water tanks (@ £300)

65 mattresses (@ £25)

1 house for a destitute family (@ £5,000)

4 x 3 piece suites (@ £120)

20 provide food for families (@ £20/mth)

34 pairs of shoes (@ £15)

8 staff houses for teachers built

7 Partners each rent a two-room house for a family (@£10/month)

Coffee Mornings and other events

Out and About

Sunday 24th March @ 10.00am Holy Trinity Church, South Wimbledon

Tuesday 26th March @ 3.00pm Battle Baptist Church, Mount Street, Battle

Friday 10th May @ 1.00pm Padbury Primary School, Buckinghamshire

Saturday 15th June @ 3.00pm onwards @ St Laurence Church, Winslow, Bucks

Last date for receipt of **Christmas** Gift Envelopes for children/elderly is 28^h June 2019

**Thursday April 4th @ 10.30am – Noon
Coffee Morning**

**Herstmonceux Free Church
Chapel Row, Herstmonceux, BN27 1RE
also**

**Thursday June 6th @ 10.30am – Noon
Coffee Morning
Venue to be arranged**

**Other Fundraising events from
September 2019 will be on the QT
website: www.quickentrust.com
We also send an email blast.
If you live in East Sussex and wish
to be kept informed by post or
phone then please let us know**

**Travel Planning Meeting, Sunday 19th May 2019 @ 3.00pm
Find out about future travelling and volunteering opportunities
with groups travelling in October 2019 and October 2020
email: geoff@quickentrust.com**



Do you hop, skip, walk, run, swim, parachute jump or do any other exciting but exhausting activity? Do you do any of these for charity? Why not use your efforts this year to raise funds for the #KabubbuKids? Take part in the 'Kabubbu Challenge' where we want to cover the distance between the UK and Uganda – 5,745 miles – following the Trans Saharan Highway.

Maybe you are involved in a Walking Club or a Sports Club where there are lots of you who walk distances or run Marathons or Half Marathons. Can you organise a group?

Maybe you are a school teacher and your pupils are involved in the 'Daily Mile' programme. Why not organise a special 'mile' event for all your pupils - each donating £1 – under the slogan: **'Make Your Mile Worthwhile'**.

Please see our enclosed 'Kabubbu Challenge' leaflet for more details.

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 & all of us at QT**

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