

Uganda Update - Spring 2020



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Thank you for Christmas

We thank all Quicken Trust supporters for their Christmas gifts that brought great joy. This Christmas you provided 69 cakes, 87 dinners, and a party for 47 elderly people, a Mindset Workshop for 15 students, an outing for 40 children (QT topped up with funds to make up the numbers needed) and an incredible 1,205 solar lights. Brilliant! One lady told us her solar light was the best thing she had ever received through QT.



Kabubbu women with their new solar lights, which bring hope and increased security to their lives.

And the Kabubbu community adds their own letter of thanks:

Dear Sir/Madam,

THANKING YOU FOR THE SUPPORT YOU OFFER IN KABUBBU VILLAGE.

I greet you all in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. I thank you for the great work you do and have done in Kabubbu. As head of welfare I'm so glad for the care and love you show us in the Community.

Achievements:

I really thank you so much for the food you are providing in many families. They have been suffering a lot with food expenses these days due to the lack of land. I flash back and I think about some families with many children and grandchildren like Gertrude Nakku, or Tereza Nanyonjo who have lost all their own children and were left caring for grandchildren. Then Remejio Kijjo a man with no job, no hope and many children and grandchildren but no funds to construct a house as had many other families. I glorify God who enabled you and gave you strength, provided for you in many ways, you have been a blessing to our community.



Jonah can now do homework at night - this is lifechanging for his education!

I thank you so much for all the beddings, pigs, goats, treatment, regular nutrition/care you always provide for children with special needs like Adam Kaggwa, Sarah Zziwa, Marvin Sentongo and Marvis Nakungu. The needs of children in special care is too expensive to cater for, but through you and with God's mercy everything has been possible.

Thank you very much for the seminars you have conducted since Quicken Trust came to Kabubbu. Those seminars helped me a lot as an individual and many mothers and guardians of Kabubbu who are now transformed. Some are now healthy, clean, hard-working and budget well. Some go to church/became Christians, they value education, courses on parenting skills that help them relate better with their children.

Since KDP/QT started, 400 students have all completed their courses in different levels that is certificates, diplomas and degree level. Out of 300 students in further education 38 are now on degree level, and many of them are working. I remember very well that when KDP/Quicken Trust started we only had 7 students on these courses.

Many people are using the Kabubbu Health Centre due it being well equipped with everything and with good services.

60 acres of land have been provided to KDP and we have a grain mill machine. Many houses have been built for homeless families, water tanks, good pit latrines and safe water in the community through bore holes. All the above have been achieved because of you. You are really our bridge from God to Kabubbu Community. I glorify and thank God who brought you to our village.

Be blessed in whatever you do and lots of love from

Resty

Head of Welfare



We also thank...

...our regular monthly donors who educate a child and develop a country.



In 2019, we made a short film on the sexual reproductive health programme reaching 35,000 students in 15 schools, reducing teenage pregnancies and empowering girls to complete their education - with the added benefit of reducing the birth rate!

This year we have a film with students telling their own journeys to complete education. It includes some lovely aerial shots of Kabubbu and the developments, but bears no resemblance to Kabubbu in the year 2000. We will show this at any Quickten Trust event we are invited to speak at during 2020.

By the end of 2020

Quicken Trust will be moving on from the infrastructure development phase, to a maintenance and sustainability phase. Over the next three years this will include investing further funding to upgrade staff qualifications to ensure the KDP has all the expertise, small resources and equipment to be even more efficient.

Susan Babirye, Nurse-in-Charge of the Kabubbu Health Centre since 2008, was appointed as Deputy Executive Director at a recent KDP Board meeting to work alongside Enoch Kagoda.

Susan's appointment coincided with her selection, by the Segal Family Foundation, for the prestigious African Visionary Fellowship award. This identifies visionary leaders and offers capacity building designed for and by local visionaries. Fellows receive mentorship, exposure and the support of a community of like-minded change makers across the whole of Africa. It selects only 15 Fellows each year. This includes 6 x 3-week leadership/mentorship gatherings in different African nations over two years, plus networking and promoting KDP.



Since the October 2019 QT newsletter, we have had many joyful moments, including:

- When the KDP Board added 5 more highly qualified and experienced professional Ugandans.
- A grant-making Trust adding a further 16% to our request for funding.
- When 700 people came to church for 12-hour overnight Prayer Meeting at New Year's Eve to thank God and pray for Kabubbu.
- When the school bus finally arrived, thanks to two Christian Trusts + a Rotary Club
- The day when we received the 'A' level results. These placed Trust High School in the top 10% of schools in Uganda. 1 student got 18 out of 20 points in science subjects.



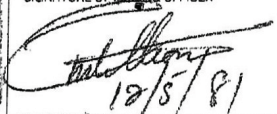
Justice is needed

There are still plenty of things to do in Kabubbu and acquiring justice is just one of them!

Philip's Story

Philip is now 80 and bedridden from a stroke that caused him to fall and break his hip and thighbone. A few years ago, he donated part of his garden and further money to build a church. But no one visits him from that church now. He asks Geoff, "Why have all my friends deserted me. Why?" The answer is that with money, friends came, but without money, he's alone. A familiar story?

But his life didn't start like that! As a young man, Philip gained a scholarship to study hydrology in Germany. In 1959 he began work as a Mechanical Assistant in the Ministry of Commerce as a public servant. In 1960 he was seconded to the Ministry of Lands, Mineral and Water Resources as a Hydrological Inspector and a trainer. By 1980 he was promoted to Superintendent in that department.

REPUBLIC OF KENYA				REFUGEE IDENTITY CARD	
ISSUED UNDER THE UNITED NATIONS CONVENTION OF 28TH JULY 1951 RELATING TO THE STATUS OF REFUGEES					
	CARD NUMBER		RIC 6540		
	SIGNATURE OF ISSUING OFFICER  12/5/81				

NAME WAKIDA NAMPELIDA PHILIP		SEX MALE
PLACE AND DATE OF BIRTH MEALE 1939	COUNTRY OF ORIGIN UGANDA	
PLACE AND DATE OF ISSUE NAIROBI 12/5/81	SIGNATURE 	
REGISTRATION NUMBER Imm 10/12/1564		
DEPENDANTS 1 FEMALE		

By then the brutal oppression of President Milton Obote was underway and the leader of the National Resistance Movement (NRM) Yoweri Museveni was fighting a 'bush war' against Obote. As Museveni united the rebel factions into a single army, he began to win the war. Philip became a go-between for the NRM emissaries to the UK and USA governments. Later Obote thought Philip knew where the emissaries were hiding, so his life was in danger. In December 1980 he fled for his life with his wife to Kenya and gained refugee status there in May 1981. Later as Museveni's army was winning the war Philip returned to Uganda and on 26 January 1986 Museveni was sworn in as President gaining the approval of both the UK and USA governments through the NRM emissaries.

But, then, tragedy struck! His brother died and left 12 children. Philip took them into his home. He paid for their education with his own two children. Now, 30+ years later the adult stepchildren he educated and cared for have taken advantage of his health restrictions and stolen his land in eastern Uganda. They stripped him of all he owned!

Philip was a hard-working man. When we started in Uganda 20 years ago and first met him, he was a busy and successful rice farmer, but he always found time to help others. He donated papyrus reeds for the Banda roofs at the Resort Centre and served on the KDP Board.



Today he has no money and no monthly pension as the pension officers believe he only worked for 19 years and 9 months. The policy states that an employee must serve 20 years. They believe he absconded from work in 1980 so isn't entitled to a government pension. But he actually fled for his life. By then he had worked for 21 years, from 1959. He supported the President's rise to power by risking torture and death. Philip has sent many copies of his public service documents to

government offices – but each time they seem to lose them. So they won't give him a pension or free access to medical care.

His medical bills are now very high. His left leg hangs loosely, and it's too late for surgery. Like others, we pray for justice.

The next General Election in Uganda is February 2021. President Museveni has overseen a period of peace and brought development for 35 years. He will be seeking re-election. The opposition leader lives only seven miles from Kabubbu, so we will not travel then! There could be disturbances. Will Philip get justice?

Erick Mbalaga

QT supporters have educated several students studying law in university. Eric will complete his course in July 2020. He lives alone in a quieter part of Kampala walking across town to lectures every day. One morning recently, he woke to the sound of thieves searching in his room. He laid motionless as they scrambled under his bed to steal his computer and wallet. When they banged the front door behind them as they fled, he looked out of the window and saw their three masked faces Will Erick get justice?

Patience's Mum

We were surprised and delighted the mum of Patience, a little girl dying of malaria, (see our last Newsletter) did get justice! She is the victim of domestic violence and, with her children was evicted by the children's father from their part-built two room family home.

Mum went to the Police, but they usually only caution the perpetrator. Possibly the perpetrator bribes them. However, on this occasion the Police sent for her ex-partner. He arrived and after discussing the case, he admitted he hadn't paid support for his four children and did not plan to do so. In a society with no welfare state, their mum was penniless apart from a few Shillings she earns through cooking and selling pork. The Police demanded he hand over the land title deed to his wife – and he did!

With some funding provided from the UK sponsor of Brian (pictured, one of the children), the KDP builders are now laying a concrete floor to make the place habitable. We were delighted that after the last newsletter someone also offered to sponsor Patience to go to school - another step out of poverty!



Maybe Brian will find 'the Father for the fatherless' in Psalms 68 v 5

What is truth?

A secondary school near Kabubbu packs their students in overcrowded classrooms. Their students appear to achieve fantastic results at 'O' and 'A' Level.

However, only if you understand the culture and how things 'tick' do you discover the scam behind their results. The school busses their top 20% of students to an exam centre 40 miles away in Mukono, at a 'sister' exam centre under their name. They only publish the results from this centre where all students pass with good grades as their headline achievements.

In the local school, which has a 'Junior School' on the campus with a slightly different name, their other 80% of students sit their exams. By only registering a small percent of students in their 'top' group, the poor results of the majority of their students do not appear under the same name. In this way, the school can claim some of the best results in the country. 'Streaming' students is illegal. Seemingly, splitting them into a 'top group' and 'the rest', and sending them to different exam centres, isn't!

Happy Birthday Quicken Trust!

Will you help us celebrate?

Most of the 60 children that began school in 2002 have now graduated from university or further education. Some are qualified professionals working back in Kabubbu, like Kate and Budala, both university graduates in Accountancy and Finance, who are now taking further studies to qualify as Certified Public Accountants.

In the last two years, instead of 40 children a year receiving sponsorship, QT has only managed to provide 10 a year. Regular support for the next generation of children is vital to provide education and employment for these future graduates.

Some infrastructure is also needed, including some teacher's houses, extending the foster home to meet new government requirements to provide a separate boys and girls home, tiling for classroom floors, a back-up generator to provide electricity for a fridge to store blood for surgery.

If you have read our Newsletter, if you have followed our success, if you have visited Kabubbu as a school volunteer - can you now help celebrate our birthday by becoming a **second-generation donor**? We need regular:

- **Monthly donors for our health programme @ £5**
That's just £60 a year to save a life!
- **Monthly donors to help mums @ £15**
She pays the school fees; you buy the school lunch
- **Monthly donors for a child's primary education @ £30**
including breakfast and lunch, uniform and primary health care.
- **Monthly donors for a secondary education @ £50**
including boarding, all meals, uniforms and primary health care
- **Monthly donors @ £5 for small items** like balls, bandages, beans, bicycles, Bibles, books and bricks.
- **A year's education for a university student @ £150/month or £1,800/year**
This could coincide with an annual dividend or an investment maturing.

If you would like to become a second generation donor, you can visit quickentrust.com, or contact us at our office by phone: 01323 832361 or by post: Quicken Trust, PO Box 113, Hailsham, BN27 4US

For those who love to shop we welcome:

- Donations for mums delivering a baby, including guest soaps, razor blades and nightdresses. Clean sheets that are cut and hemmed to 3ft x 3ft to wrap a newborn baby
- Poster paints, paint brushes, crayons, geometry sets, calculators, Lego kits, wooden jig saws
- Painting by numbers, simple cross-stitch embroidery picture kits for teenagers
- Good second hand musical instruments and laptop computers - but they must be in good working order

In view of the current Covid-19 pandemic, we want to assure you of your importance to us. We have contingency plans in place to ensure we can continue to offer the best service possible, even if social isolation and home working becomes necessary.

We are set up for remote working and will be able to take phone calls and online meetings during any interruption. We plan to continue to operate business as usual, but in the event we do have to self-isolate we are fully prepared.

If we are forced to self-isolate the delivery of items by post may be affected. This is of course a moving picture and we will continue to keep you updated. We will potentially have to postpone face-to-face meeting. However, we can hold meetings via Skype and WhatsApp.

During any period of self-isolation, we will still be responding to calls and emails as usual. We are sure you are putting similar measures in place and are confident we can continue to provide contact with you through this challenging situation.

In order to be responsible to ourselves, our family, friends, sponsors, supporters and the public at large, we are keeping up to date with all the guidelines recommended by the government and WHO and making sure we follow the recommended regulations.

Last dates for filled envelopes with letters, small gifts, donations for children and elderly are 21st June and 6th October. Please only hand deliver gifts to QT office from 08.30 -16.30 Monday to Thursday.

As postage charges have risen again, sometimes the cost of posting the filled envelope for a child or granny exceeds the value of the gift in the envelope.

For value for money, you can, instead, make a BACS transfer or cheque to QT for the child or elderly you support. As the QT bank statement has 37 pages please help us identify the correct beneficiary by adding their name to the BACS payment or send us an e-mail to contactus@quickentrust.com

QT continues at PO Box 113, Hailsham BN27 4US, or Lark Rise, Cowbeech, Hailsham BN27 4JJ but look at the QT website at quickentrust.com and our Facebook page for a new change of address and opening hours in the coming months.

You were invited!

This year QT is celebrating its **20th Anniversary!**

The main event was to be a Service of Celebration on 26th April 2020 at the church where we are members. But, because of the current situation over the Covid-19 pandemic hitting the UK, our church has closed all activities in-line with government advice concerning places where people gather for meetings.

It is hoped that this can be re-arranged for later in the year when the Covid-19 situation has turned around. We will advise on this on our Facebook page during the year. So, keep checking: Facebook/QuickenTrust.

Our planned visit to Kabubbu in July is under scrutiny. A party of students are only three months away from travel and are trusting there will be no restrictions then. Our October group should/could be OK. But we will keep checking the situation. We have a few places available on visits.

The next **Coffee morning** is Thursday 18th June at 10.30 at St Wilfrid's Church Hall, 90 Broad Road, Lower Willingdon, Eastbourne BN20 9RA.

The Autumn coffee morning will be on Wednesday 7th October at 10.30 at All Saints' Church, 21a Grange Road, Eastbourne, BN21 4HE.

Please note that all planned activities are subject to the effect of the Covid-19 virus in both the UK, Uganda and other parts of the world depending on where the activity will take place. Please regularly check our Facebook page where we will post updates.

Please keep donating!

The Covid-19 virus is threatening our way of life and spreading worldwide. But in many sub-Saharan countries like Uganda the people in rural areas cannot respond in the way we can with so many different aspects of government financial support. In Kabubbu they rely on us for their salaries and livelihoods.

So much of their healthcare has to be funded and, with the welfare programme, has saved many lives. Please don't forget 'the forgotten people' – they will never forget how you have helped them live lives of greater self-respect and dignity than they lived before. Please continue to help them and, if in no other way, can you help provide some antibacterial soap through our Shop - details on back page. Thank you.

Coronavirus (COVID-19) in Uganda

Apart from South Africa and Nigeria there are currently only a few cases of Covid-19 in sub-Saharan Africa. But imagine the devastation in rural Africa if the pandemic spread? And those who carry heavy containers of water home just to wash their hands, and for whom soap is a luxury. Their decision is between buying soap to help save their lives or buying food!

Countries bordering Uganda are reporting incidents of Covid-19. It will soon hit Kabubbu.

Bring hope and provide soap!

In the UK:

- We can wash our hands for 20 seconds every time we need to
- We can buy as much soap as we need – along with anti-bacterial sprays and wipes
- We can turn 'on the tap' and instantly get water for our 20-second handwashing

In Kabubbu:

- We have to walk a mile to a hand pump and carry 25kg containers of water home
- Our incomes don't allow buying antibacterial soap or stockpiling it
- Antibacterial wipes and sprays are non-existent (except in the Health Centre)

Just **£5** buys antibacterial soap for families in Kabubbu so we can help minimise people getting Covid-19.

Visit [quickentrust.com/shop](https://www.quickentrust.com/shop) then select 'Stay Well' and look for the bars of soap.

We may also consider other ways to assist them.

