

COME Uganda

Newsletter August 2009
Christian Outreach Mission & Evangelism

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Welcome to the new format of our Newsletter.

Hands on experience is important for young children to learn. Juliet recently had some willing helpers when she demonstrated how to make peanut biscuits (pronounced "bisquits" by most Ugandans) to the HOPE Nursery children in their new classroom. When the men took the oven into the classroom the children thought they were going to watch television. Most had not seen an oven before!



Moses and Samuel shaping the dough. Annette is dancing behind them



Shiba is very happy with the finished product

As of 31st December 2009 we will not be able to accept gift parcels for sponsored children. In the past, some of the parcels have been opened in transit, inappropriate items have been sent, siblings and neighbouring children have become jealous, and sometimes older siblings or parents take the items for themselves. As we have little or no control over these areas, and taking into consideration that we have to pay for the collection from the PO, distribute, and report/record on the delivery, we have decided to take this step. We appreciate the satisfaction for the sender and the joy for the children receiving, but it has become too difficult to continue. Letters and cards will still be ok though.

Brenda Navugga must be one of the most lovable kids in Uganda! She is 10 years old, an orphan and HIV+ with a hearing problem. Brenda was in HOPE Schools for 3 years before she went to a school for the deaf. Unfortunately she didn't fit in too well, so we now have her back again. One ear is completely deaf but the other has some hearing capability – for which we would like to purchase a hearing aid. The quoted price is \$700AuD - can you help? The hearing aid would make a marked difference in Brenda's ability to learn. Brenda, plus 116 other children, are still in need of a sponsor.



Some excitement in Igoma village last week when Frank and the team went for a crusade and seminar. The local bars had been ordered to close by 10pm, but were still open when the police came to check shortly before midnight. The drinkers were arrested, but refused to go to the station and instead they commenced shouting at the police and had a sit down strike. When other people arrived and became rowdy the police feared a riot so they fired 3 rounds into the air – 5 meters from our bedroom doors! After an hour the police beat a few of the men and then left the crowd to continue their shouting. Apart from that excitement, the church is growing and they have even planted another church in the neighbouring village. At the crusade 20 people (including some men from the bar) became Christians. On the Sunday more than 140 people attended the lively service, but were too many to fit inside the church, so we had to move outdoors under the gum tree! The community have banded together to start a school on the church property, but it is lacking facilities as can be seen in the photos. The school caters for over 100 children who wouldn't otherwise go to school, because the nearest neighbouring school is about 4km away.



A big thank you to all who donated for the flood relief, especially Australia Hope International. In the haste to get the newsletter out I inadvertently gave the impression that the staff houses which were damaged belonged to COME, but they are rented, and the owner has indicated that he will repair the rear wall himself. Many people have suffered greatly, particularly in the swampy areas which were totally flooded. We have given emergency beds, bedding and some cash to the neediest, and are in the process of rebuilding several mud houses. During our assessment a partly paralysed and malnourished 78 old man was found stuck in a shanty where he had lived for a number of years. The neighbours had passed him food through a crack in the door because he didn't want to come out. He is now in COME care where he will hopefully regain health and then return to his ancestral village.

Jude Simpkins, who has come from Australia to work with us for a year in the HOPE Schools Program, recently received a donation from friends in Australia. She decided to spend the money on beds and bedding for the needy, some of whom were sleeping on a dirt floor using their clothes as a blanket. The photo opposite shows one of these needy families.



Ps Annette trying to coerce the man out of his partly flooded "house"



Our mission: "To foster abundant life centred on Christ"

We bring hope through the generosity of Australian businesses, individuals, and churches.

COME Uganda Development Projects - empowered through...

HOPE Schools; Child education sponsorship; Adult education; Medical Relief; Hospital care and counselling; Infectious disease sensitisation

COME Uganda Missions...

Supporting open air evangelism, building churches, welfare gifts, supplying bibles, pastor sponsorship, and ministry training.

Internet donations: Commonwealth Bank BSB: 065-522 Account No. 10065094

Together we can!