



## Abundant Life Living Hope International Missions

NEWSLETTER  
MAY 2015

### ANNUAL EASTER MISSION TRIP

The annual visit to Uganda by Charity members took place between 29<sup>th</sup> March and 20<sup>th</sup> April, with each group staying in Uganda for 2 weeks. During this time the Charity members were able to meet again with old friends and monitor the progress of primary children at Mother Janet Orphanage and a few surrounding schools, as well as those secondary children who attend local schools.

Our arrival was, once again, marked by great celebration with the family, children, staff and community members coming out to greet us. They performed some musical items - always a great treat - containing both singing and dancing. For those of you who may have been fortunate enough to visit Africa yourselves, you'll know what we mean!



During our visit, one of our first priorities was to check on the progress of sponsored children. Many of our sponsors communicate quite regularly with their sponsored child, via the charity, and your letters and cards (as well as financial gifts) were passed onto the children, via the Headteacher.

The end of term was fast approaching and all the children were involved in their end of term exams.

Thank you to all our sponsors for their continued support which is greatly valued by the children and staff at the school, as well as those at ALLHIM. It is so rewarding to witness the way in which the children have developed - not only physically, but educationally and spiritually too. For those children who are not sponsored, they still make good progress at school, due to the quality of education provided but their futures are not as secure, due to sporadic attendance as a result of lack of regular school fees.

Some of the successes of the last academic year (noted in the last newsletter) include:

**Joseph Basudde** who, having resat his final A level year, gained the necessary grades to enable him to apply for a place at university. He is currently awaiting the outcome of his application.



**Nyanzi Museveni**, who has recently completed his O levels and gained first position in a class of 90. He is now in his first year of a 2 year A level course.

Andrew (known to everyone as 'Little Andrew') who, having struggled initially with academia, persevered and gained good A level results. He is now hoping to gain a place at university to undertake a Media Studies course.







**Angel Nannunji**, (left in the picture) a second year catering college student. Having struggled initially with O levels she has found her niche and already gained good grades during her first year. **Betty Nagawa** (right in the picture) also joined Angel at the same college and they both hope, once they have finished their studies, to secure employment in Masaka at a top hotel. Both Angel and Betty are pictured at Hotel Zebra.

In addition to the work within Mother Janet and other local schools, the charity's partnership with ACYP continues to extend its influence within the local communities. Through the work of Micheal Mwebaza and his team of volunteers at ACYP, several hundred poor people in the local communities continue to receive support.

We were able to witness continuing improvements since Easter 2014. Much needed food was delivered, along with seeds for planting and, in some needy cases, mattresses, blankets and mosquito nets were provided to those who were in severe need (many suffering HIV/AIDS and looking after infected children).





In the picture (previous page), the two smallest children had been abandoned at a health centre by their mother because they were so close to death as a result of AIDS. Medical staff had also given up on them. Thanks to Portinanta and her family, Patricia and Leticia are now very much stronger, happy and well cared for.

There are SO MANY such cases where support is needed. However, in a country such as this, we realise it will never be possible to support them all. We trust in God to guide us in the work we do.

Large numbers of girls are now able to attend school through the support of ACYP and this has prevented them being married off by their families at a very young age.



Whilst visiting school with Micheal to meet sponsored children, we were introduced to a young man ... Boniface Kayizi. This young man's story - one of great courage and determination - made an immediate impression. Boniface was born into a devout Muslim family. A few years ago Boniface became a Christian and, as a result, was disowned by his entire family and chased away from his village. Having nowhere to sleep or stay and only the clothes he was wearing, he approached the pastor at a church in a nearby town to ask if he could sleep at the church, in return for undertaking work at the church to pay his way. The pastor arranged for him to stay at the home of one of the parishioners but this meant Boniface would have to find a way of providing his own school fees, uniform, etc.

Rising at 5 am each day, Boniface walked miles to find water and fill plastic jacks which he then took back to the village, selling the water to the villagers. He then went to school and, at the end of his school day, carried baskets of fish for the local fisherman, in return for a very small monetary reward.

With the help of the bursar at the school, Boniface managed to pay his way to the end of his O level year, gaining very good results. However, in his first year of 6<sup>th</sup> form study, the costs had become too great and he had no way of continuing his education. Micheal explained, during our visit, that Boniface had the potential of achieving excellent A level results which would enable him to possibly pursue a career in medicine. Thankfully, God has provided a sponsor who will support him through the next stages of his education. Boniface now has a new school uniform, casual clothes, bedding, and school equipment and is now boarding at his secondary school.

The Christian witness of Boniface is a lesson to us all. Before finding a sponsor, he regularly witnessed to young people in the town: he now continues this witness and tells them of how the love of Christ changes lives every day.



Many thanks to the ladies of Horeb Baptist Church, Blaenavon, who so tirelessly made 450 cross-stitch crosses for us to distribute to the children in Uganda. Both those at the school and at the local church were very happy to receive them, along with the Christian greetings with which they were sent. (The crosses can't be seen clearly in the picture, but the joy on the children's faces is evident).





Peter Nsamba (John and Margaret's youngest child) celebrated his graduation from university, with a degree of Engineering. The celebration was shared with some of his peers who would otherwise have been unable to celebrate their successes.



10<sup>th</sup> April was a very happy day. It was a privilege for us to be present at the wedding of Micheal Mwebaza to Esther. The wedding ceremony took place at Namirembe Cathedral, Kampala, with the reception taking place at Micheal's home village of Mukoko, in the grounds of Mother Janet School.

We were amazed at the way in which the whole community came together to prepare and celebrate for both Micheal and Esther's wedding and for Peter's graduation. Community members gave much of their time and effort, together with very small monetary donations (where possible), which ensured both celebrations would be remembered for many years to come. We witnessed Christians and Muslims working together in harmony ... a salutary lesson for us all, and very humbling for the visitors who were present!



*Micheal and Esther following their wedding at Namirembe Cathedral, Kampala*

Many thanks to those who gave monetary donations to be used during our trip. Below are some examples of how the money was used to purchase:

- Seeds for distribution to needy families
- Maize flour
- Beans
- Mattresses, blankets and mosquito nets
- New primary science books
- Bibles
- Crop sprayers and insecticides/pesticides
- Urgent repairs to 3 houses
- Exam fees for P7 pupils who would otherwise not have been able to sit their primary leaving exams (PLEs)
- Exam fees for secondary school pupils in the wider community who would otherwise have left school with no qualifications





*Delivering food to a needy family*



*Micheal buying seeds and pesticides ... at the best price possible!*



*House in need of urgent repair ... windows needed and repair to cracks in the walls*

None of this work would be possible without your support but especially without the guidance of God who continues to provide for the needs of our Ugandan friends through the charity's supporters.

**With Christian Greetings to all our Supporters  
From: All at ALLHIM**

**"You, Lord, will keep the needy safe and will protect us forever from the wicked"  
(Psalm 12:7)**