# Uganda Orphans
# Bega kwa Bega

Our Manager, Ssagala David, has sent details of how a small number of the 2.4 million Ugandan Orphans celebrated Christmas:

*"I would like to share with you the events which took place during the festive season. The first thing that usually comes up during the preparation is FOOD! We all look forward to having nice meals, made up by some good food which we rarely having during the year. However, that is not so when it comes to the orphans. These families cannot afford to buy good food from the stores or markets for Christmas. They are too poor even to buy the basic family needs. On Christmas Eve I went out giving a basket of goodies to 70 orphaned families. It is a hectic exercise because it involves a lot of work done in one day, but the smiles and thanks that I receive wherever I go makes the effort fun.*

*Three days before Christmas BkB hosted a total of 80 orphans for a Christmas party at a beach by Lake Victoria. This was the first time for most of these young ones to see a lake and the capital of their country. It was such an excitement for them and their teachers.*

Most organisations in Africa are looked upon with suspicion where finances are concerned and Bega kwa Bega is no exception. 'Are you sure the money is being spent well' is a question we are asked; a euphemism for 'are the funds being stolen'. This story is indicative of how Ssagala David works and how careful he is of the money sent to support the orphans. On her last visit Martina discovered that since his salary was raised to that of other managers of NGOs, David has been paying out of his own pocket the small sums given, for example, the village coordinators, reimbursing them for phone calls and for their time should they spend a whole day working for BkB. The nurses who work with the travelling clinic are also paid a small amount for their time. Again David has been paying this. He has been told, firmly, that his salary is not for the purposes of paying other people.

**Dancing at the Christmas party.**