



UGANDA ORPHANS BEGA kwa BEGA

Shoulder to Shoulder

Issue 1

Autumn 2011

Welcome to our first newsletter. For those of you who are not familiar with this charity let me start this newsletter with an introduction to the work carried out by Bega kwa Bega. Our aim is to improve the living conditions of Uganda's orphans and the communities in which they live by providing:

- Clean water
- Mobile clinics
- Education
- Protections of land rights
- Income generation

Please visit our website

www.begakwabegaugandaorphans.org where you will be able to see in more detail the work being carried out by this charity.

UPDATING OUR WEBSITE

We are currently updating our website. We hope this will be completed in the near future so please keep an eye on it. It will have links to the projects and you will be able to donate on line and lots more. Visit www.begakwabegaugandaorphans.org

`this is Mary a little girl whose parents died of HIV within a short space of each other in February 2010`

BRINGING YOU UP TO DATE

On 21st March 2011 we had our Annual General Meeting where elections of officers took place. Kathy Russell was re-elected Chair for another year. Clare Bysouth was elected Vice-Chair; Marguerite Spain, Secretary; Mike Spain, Treasurer.

The Treasurer presented his report to the meeting.

`In the year 2010-2011 a total of £51,014 was sent to Uganda`



FUNDRAISING IDEAS

We are always interested to hear from anyone who has a fundraising idea. In the past sponsored cycle rides have taken place; sponsored runs etc. If you can help us in other ways, for example a pub quiz, school disco, coffee morning, cake sale, we would be pleased to hear from you.

BEVERLEY 10K FUNDRAISER

Janice Shaw who lives in Beverley completed a 10 kilometre run on Sunday 8th May and raised the huge sum of £1600 for Bega Kwa Bega. So a very big thanks to Janice who will be returning to Uganda again this summer.

Other news from Beverley

In January this year I was contacted by Sarah Preston who works as a tutor at the East Riding College in Beverley. This College provides education for young adults with learning difficulties. She had seen the Bega Kwa Bega poster in our GP surgery and invited me to speak to her students about my experiences in Uganda. Of course I was delighted to have such a great opportunity to raise the awareness about Bega Kwa Bega.

The students were involved in a business studies project which involved setting up and running a small business within the college for a term. All profits made from their efforts would then be donated to a charity.

The talk generated much interest and discussion and the students were very keen to get involved as part of their learning project for the term.

In July, I was invited back to the college where I was given a presentation by the students, of their achieved course work. This included visual aids and a very funny animated power point presentation of their term's work.

Their 'business' included selling Valentine's Day items and an Easter Tombola. They also researched Uganda's orphans and the poverty found there.

At the end of the session I was very honoured to receive a cheque from the profit they made, for £230, and thanked them so much on behalf of everyone at Bega Kwa Bega.

I am looking forward to returning to Uganda in October to help with the Mobile Clinic. The provisional dates at present are 25th October - 5th November 2011.

On Wed 9th November 2011 I have been asked to speak about Bega Kwa Bega to a group in Beverley called 'Hull Bridge Wives' at their fund raising evening. This again was because of the Bega Kwa Bega awareness posters displayed in our surgery waiting room and pharmacy.

Good eh!!

Janice Shaw, Beverley

ANOTHER FUNDRAISER - PETER!

Peter Dalaney, a parishioner at St. John's in Beverley also completed the coast to coast bike ride from Tynemouth to Workington in three days from 6th to 8th May and raised a total of £2,502 for Bega Kwa Bega, Fantastic! A big thank you goes to Peter.

OUR LADY OF GRACE, HIGH WYCOMBE

The parishioners of Our Lady of Grace continue to demonstrate support for Bega Kwa Bega by attending fund raising events, the most recent being the annual Dinner and Auction held on 22nd July 2011. This event was very well attended and raised over £1500, a new record! A number of comments were received from people who attended this event saying 'the dinner was excellent and the auction was very lively'.

The auctioneer Bob Forster was praised for his skill in getting people to part with their money, the most successful item was a plastic poncho/rain cover, which fetched an incredible £42!

A number of people sponsor orphans. The weekly money collected on Sundays for tea and coffee after Mass all contribute to the funds which are regularly transferred to Uganda. From time to time we also receive individual donations.

Forthcoming Events

Afternoon Tea and Bring and Buy: Sunday 11th Sept, 2:30-5:00pm, 322 Desborough Avenue, High Wycombe.

Annual Quiz and Fish & Chips Supper: Friday 4th Nov, 7:30pm, Our Lady of Grace

Contacts for these events: Kathy Russell 01494 527 993, Frances McCann 01494 883 852,
Judith Forster 01494 528 855

Helpers - We would be delighted to welcome new people who would like to get involved in fund raising events. For more information please contact any of the above.

Annual Supper

On Friday 13th May the seventh annual supper took place at the Christian Centre behind St. Anne's Church in Wendover to raise funds for Bega Kwa Bega. This supper has in the past been a very successful event and this year was no exception. Volunteers from the Wendover community came together and served a three course meal to the fifty four people that attended and raised £1043. A huge thank you goes to Mike Spain who, true to form, produced a wonderful meal and to all the volunteers (too many to mention) who gave up their time to make the supper such a success.

A power point presentation was given by Hannah Bysouth, a student nurse in her final year at Kings College London. Hannah visited Uganda for two weeks in August last year together with another nurse, Sister Janice Shaw. They were welcomed by the Manager of Bega kwa Bega and both attended a number of clinics and had first hand experience of the tremendous struggle people have to access medical services. Below is a brief extract from Hannah's presentation.

The BKB clinic is free and open to anyone who requires medical assistance, regardless of status, class, gender, age or religion, £10,000 per year provides medications for 3 weekly out-reach clinics over a year, although as the number of attendees is always rising, there is often not enough medication to go round. There are any number attending clinics. Of the clinics we saw there were between 200 and 400 attending each session. These outreach clinics are often the only medical attention villagers receive. Some attendees travel miles to reach the clinic which may visit only every few weeks in their district. Due to funding, there is a limit as to how often the Mobile Clinic can operate. On many visits some patients will be turned away as the amount of medicine which can be bought is insufficient to meet demands.

Part 1

I visited Uganda during the first three weeks of July 2011. My niece, Minnie Parmiter, accompanied me and we were joined by two friends of hers, Hannah Murphy and Andrew Edwards. Minnie, a scientist specialising in malaria, worked with the mobile clinic and gave them helpful advice and information. Hannah and Andrew, a geography teacher, came with me to the schools. I am hoping all three will want to continue to support BkB. Minnie is hoping to bring the mobile clinic into her Phd which starts in September. She hopes to visit the clinic again.

I worked during the first week in Bugabo Lakeside School and during the second week in St Jude's School and Aston School, all in the Kisubi area. Previously I had worked in teacher training but this time I worked in the schools, either teaching English myself or working with the English teachers giving help and advice. I felt this would be my last visit in the field, due to age and a bad back, and I felt that by being in a school I would get an idea of how best to help in the future.

I felt in all the schools that the nursery classes needed attention. The classrooms were very overcrowded and the children only had one bench so that when they had to write they had to kneel on the ground and use the bench as a desk. I mentioned this to the heads. Another worry was in Aston School where the head had to admit the teachers of the first three classes were not trained and the 'Baby Class' (nursery) was in chaos. The noise from this class disturbed many other classes. The teacher in St Jude's was excellent. I brought with me toys, puppets and books and made suggestions as to how these could be used for language work. I also stressed that they would learn quicker if learning was fun.

Look out for Part II to be continued in next newsletter.

WILL YOU SPONSOR A CHILD?

For just £5 a month you could SUPPORT a child through education. Nursery provision is where children will learn English. There is no provision for state nursery schools in Uganda. Children need to learn English to enable them to enter the state primary schools. Some children receive sponsorship so that they can attend nursery and thereby go on to attend primary and senior state schools. Often their sponsors will continue to support them throughout their schooling and this helps to provide children with lunch, uniforms and equipment they need.

Sponsoring a child enables them to have an education which equips them with essential skills needed to encourage independence and the ability to go on to support themselves and eventually their own families.



St Michael's Infant and early year Primary School, Kakiri.

Bega Kwa Bega is always hoping that more people will come forward to be sponsors for children and enable them to have the opportunities that we take for granted.

TO SPONSOR A CHILD –CONTACT CAMILLA BROADBENT – or email her at ccbroadbent@tiscali.co.uk

Bega Kwa Bega – Registered charity no 1100378

Contact information – Chairman – Kathy Russell – 01494 527993; UK Co-ordinator & Sponsorship – Camilla Broadbent – ccbroadbent@tiscali.co.uk; Donations & Treasurer – Mike Spain - 01296 622678 or online – please go to our website; Secretary – Marguerite Spain; Vice Chair & Newsletter Editor – Clare Bysouth – c.bysouth@ntlworld.com