

Demonstration Primary School and Teacher's Professional Development Centre

AT LAST! For 19 years Conche (founder and director of BkB) has longed to make a positive and widespread input into what she describes as the broken education system in her country. One of her friends said to her last October, 'Stop moaning about it and start doing something; no point in waiting until you have all the money you need for the large project you envisage. Start something small to begin with.'

So, in October she took a huge risk and began the planning, building and equipping of three rooms large enough for generous classrooms. The first is for a third classroom for BkB's nursery school at Gogolo Play and Learning Centre which has outgrown its two classrooms; the second is for the start of a **Demonstration Primary School** and the third for a **Teachers' Professional Development Centre**.

Conche had no money. Small sums came in, enough to pay an architect and engage builders who began work. A friend told a grant-giving organisation about BkB who then (after much talking with Conche) **donated \$40,000 dollars**, enough for the building and equipping the classrooms.

The **Demonstration Primary School** opened its doors at the start of February (the beginning of the academic year in



Uganda), with a nursery school class and Primary I. This is the first of what we hope will be twenty-one classes for over 630 Primary School children.

The **Teachers' Professional Development Centre** is being equipped and will start workshops in Spring 2018.

BkB already have enquiries from teachers who have attended our workshops in the past. 'Can we enrol now?' They come from far and wide including some on the islands in the Lake. One of the professors at the Education Department attached to Makerere University is keen to work with BkB and will be invaluable in planning the courses.



For more details, please see the article overleaf.

The Work of Bega kwa Bega

Bega kwa Bega is a Community based organisation founded in 1998 by a Ugandan woman and run entirely by Ugandans. It was set up in response to the number of children orphaned by the AIDS epidemic. The Founder and now Director, Conche Jengo McGarr, was adamant that the orphans remained in their villages, keeping their homes and their land. We therefore focus on communities where the villagers support their orphans.

BkB provides:

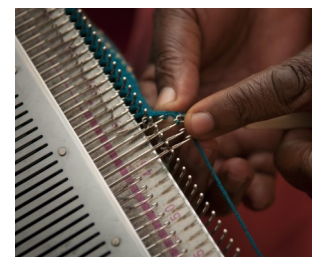
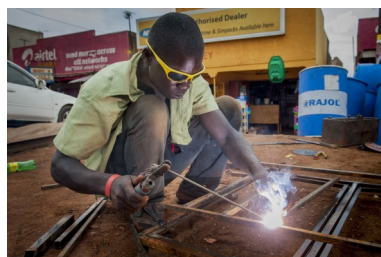
The backing to ensure the **Legal Rights of Children** to their land and homes is upheld. BkB works with village chiefs and elders to keep orphans in their home, among their extended families, in a familiar environment.

Clean, available water: Over 250 public water sources have been built. The villagers help with the construction of the wells and protected springs and are trained to maintain them.

Health: BkB operates a Mobile Clinic visiting over 200 remote villages; it is the only medical intervention most have experienced. The Clinic has treated over 70,000 patients; the Home Visitor looks after an average of 720 families a year. The Health Education programme means people learn to take more care of themselves, eating more nutritious meals and staying healthier.

Agriculture and Nutrition: BkB has established 'Family Gardens' in remote villages as an answer to malnutrition and ill-health; these contribute to higher yields, reduction in hunger and improved child nutrition. The Organic Demonstration Farm is a practical training resource for farmers, teachers, children...

Income Generation: BkB holds workshops on Business Management and Skills Training, and funds start up assistance for small businesses; many such businesses have been started.



Education: BkB sponsors orphans and vulnerable children who would not otherwise attend school. Those we began helping in 1999 are now in Further Education. There are 96 children sponsored at this time.

Gogolo, a Play and Learning Centre has been set up, with the purpose of becoming self-sufficient. In response to parents' demand, a Nursery School has been opened. This is now expanding and a further classroom has been built.

A **Demonstration Primary School** and **Teachers' Professional Development Centre** are at an advanced state of development—see the adjacent article.

In Summary

The sponsorship and fund-raising generated in the UK is an essential life-thread of BkB. We would like to thank everyone who supports the charity, and hope you will continue to do so.

Education in Uganda—a new strategy

A Broken System.

In 2018 the population of Uganda reached 44 million, 48.5% being children under 15. (World Population Review). Uganda has a very high fertility rate (6 in 2016), and the sixth highest birth rate in the World, which means this rapid population growth is likely to continue.

The on-going growth of 2-14 year-old children means the Uganda Government will continue to struggle to keep up with the escalating need for general and child-related services and infrastructure.

The majority of Ugandans put the blame for the poor state of education on the Government, the Primary Teacher Colleges (PTCs) and primary teachers themselves.

However, most personnel in the education system have never seen, never experienced and never been shown what quality education is. That includes leaders in the Uganda Ministry of Education and Sport, school inspectors, college professors and primary school teachers.

A New Strategy.

Instead of blaming the stakeholders for failing to teach effectively, *BkB plans to work with those very stakeholders: the Ministry of Education, the teachers' colleges and primary teachers, to dramatically improve learning for early and primary students in Uganda.*

Years of experience have taught us that education is a powerful tool to reverse many barriers. Our goal is therefore to break the cycle of failure by spearheading a national campaign to improve primary education.

National Education Renewal Programme.

BkB plans to use decades of experience in advancing early education and children's wellbeing to initiate a national education renewal programme focusing on raising the standard of pre-primary and primary education in Uganda.

BkB has combined research and experience to identify proven strategies that promise to inspire Ugandans to save their children and save their country.

Demonstration Primary School

The quality of learning is determined by the quality of teachers. BkB has created a master plan targeting student achievement through teacher development.

BkB's SPONSORSHIP PROGRAMME:

Message from Camilla (BkB UK Coordinator):

For a while now I have been trying to find someone who would take over the work connected with BkB's sponsorship programme. No one lasts forever, and as the process is slightly complicated liaising between 45 UK sponsors and 62 children in Uganda, I have been anxious that someone else knows what is involved.

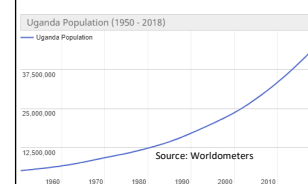
Paul Watkins has recently joined the Committee and has generously volunteered to take over this part of my involvement with BkB.

If you would like to sponsor the education of an orphan, please contact Paul: paul.a.watkins@btinternet.com

If you have any questions about other work undertaken by BkB, water projects for example, please do not hesitate to get in touch with me at jccbroadbent@gmail.com

A state of the art demonstration primary school with a rounded, culturally inclusive curriculum and a trained, dedicated staff will be a living model for educators.

Uganda Population 44,034,355



Teacher's Professional Development Centre

The programme will feature experienced teacher trainers, a well-stocked teachers' lab and a resource centre to improve teachers' knowledge of basic subjects and educational theory.



The demonstration primary school will feature a vibrant, positive environment that promotes maximum learning for students and teachers. Participants will observe model learning environments and lessons taught by experienced tutors.

While being coached, teachers will learn how to apply educational theory to practice in real classrooms. Feedback and opportunities to participate in peer coaching activities and observe best practice by experienced practitioners will be available to participants.



BkB will monitor and evaluate student achievement and teacher effectiveness on a regular basis to determine the impact of the programme and identify and build on what works.

The successful model will be scaled up to benefit educators and students in Uganda and in other African countries.

Education and Sponsorship

Help to change an orphan's life through education; our focus for sponsorship has been on Nursery and Primary school children, and to assist with expenses in Secondary school.

However some students are now progressing beyond that to Further Education in Vocational Institutions, with significantly higher annual costs.

If you would like to sponsor an orphan now the Secondary or Further Education level, please consider sharing with another sponsor if the annual amounts are too large for you.

Average Costs

Primary Day:	£183	Primary Boarding	£258
Secondary Day:	£203	Secondary Boarding	£417
Further Ed:	£331		

Family Gardens: October-December 2017

This is how we are spending the funds granted us by **Vibrant Village Foundation (USA)** which covers work carried out in Bukondo, Mpatta, Kiziba and Ngondwe villages in the Namayumba sub-county. These villages were chosen in consultation with the equivalent of our 'local authority'.

In October 2017, at **Namayumba** sub-County Headquarters a meeting was held attended by the government sub-county leader, BkB staff, BkB regional coordinator and 12 chiefs and local leaders from the 4 villages. The purpose of the meeting was to brief leaders about the new programme and their role in ensuring effective implementation of the project.

Then the 12 local leaders in consultation with their communities selected 3 'peer' trainers from their respective villages to participate in a **two day intensive training at BkB Organic Demonstration Farm**.

Next the trainees helped identify and set up a demonstration garden within each village which is used as the training/ demonstration site for training in Agriculture and Nutrition. The knowledge and skills acquired here are transferred to participating farmers' homes.

Agricultural lessons are provided at the respective villages demonstration sites once a week. It's the farmers themselves who chose a family on whose land a demonstration garden is set up by the Farm Manager.



At the demonstration site the villagers watch and take part in the instructional process and are thereby equipped with practical skills which they adopt and transfer to their personal gardens once they are established. Farmers are provided with planting materials. The knowledge is further passed on to other villagers in these communities and neighboring villages by the participants and actually many more people are



benefiting than originally anticipated. For instance we have a total of 171 participants attending the demonstration and training sessions; 80 had been planned for.

Nutrition: Anthropometry, clinical and dietary assessments were carried out to determine the nutrition and health status of the residents and children. Of the 28 children assessed one was found severe and referred to hospital for proper medical attention. 10 were moderately malnourished and will be put on the feeding program.

A total of 63 participants attended the nutrition classes.



Female participants: 42. Men: 21. Food demonstrations used the locally available foods that all participants can access. The participants were thrilled with the foods and have started preparing them at their homes.

The **Mobile Health Clinic** conducted 20 clinic sessions in the 4 villages with each village having 5 clinic sessions spread in the quarter. Activities centred on treatment of basic ailments, understanding drug dosage application, antenatal care, nutritional management and de-

worming. The community participates by offering the place where the clinic will conduct its business and in discussions on health and related social issues affecting the community.

Water Vibrant Village Foundation pays for a borehole in each of the villages we are concentrating on. Two boreholes have been drilled so far in this project.



BkB operates across a very wide area of Uganda; we thought you'd like to see where the Charity's funds are used.

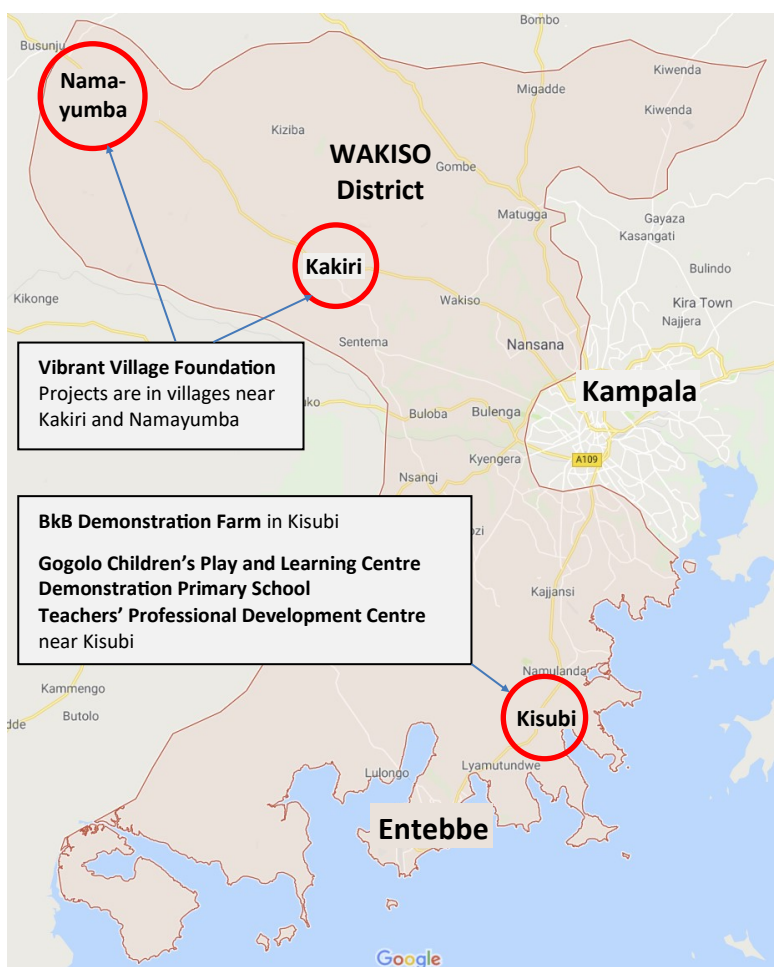
BkB has projects in 14 districts, and has wells or protected springs in 11 districts, including the Hoima, Kibaale, Mubende, Mityani, Wakiso, Mpigi, and Bukambala districts, as shown in the map below.

The work funded by the **Vibrant Village Foundation** takes place in and around the Kakiri area; the Mobile Clinic also operates from Kakiri. Kakiri is around 15 miles due West of Kampala, along the Kampala-Hoima road. In addition, the second VVF grant is supporting further projects in the Namayumba area (see previous page).

The **Organic Demonstration Farm** is in the village of Kisubi, Conche's home village, around 15 miles south of the capital. This land was bought by Conche many years ago and still belongs to her.

in Kakiri and Namayumba

all near Kisubi



Area covered by BkB shown in yellow with blue outline

