



Helping Hands

inspiring change together

News from Uganda...

February/March 2010

Hard though it is for us to imagine, it is extremely hot right now in Uganda. I'm about to head off there for three weeks with Kezia and Clara. We can't wait to see the children again. We'd value your prayers for good health, good fun and the renewing of old friendships and the making of new ones. The school year's just begun... so there will be hundreds of little nursery children learning their 'a,b,c's for the first time.

Here come the girls... Kezia, Clara and a new nursery girl with her big brother



Building for the future...

Aidan Milner has been so flexible as he has waited months to hear when we would be ready to begin our building project. As you know, we plan to **build some staff and visitor accommodation** in Nankandulo. It's a good sign for the villagers as it means we plan to be around for a long time.

Thanks to EMI we now have some beautiful plans which Aidan will use to turn two acres of maize into a base for Helping Hands. He will be our **project manager** and using his previous experience in Uganda, building skills and a bit of input from his Dad... he will help us to build for the future.

Two weeks, two teenagers, to do...

Both Clara and Kezia have been to Uganda before with their families. This is now a chance for them to make their own mark and **they can hardly wait!** Over two thousand children are waiting for them to just be with them, playing games and doing some crafts together!

They will also be involved with some recording work, shooting videos for the website and helping to make the Christmas Card photo come about. Along with Debbie and the team in Uganda they will be organising our Jesus Shop where we have **hundreds of school uniforms** ready for the orphaned children. So they will be pretty busy.

On a day off they will re-stock our jewellery and crafts for our sales later this year. But later on we will all go to the pool and cool off... we will try to **make a weekly posting** on Facebook if the internet café in Jinja is working 😊



We'd love to get Aidan a second hand motorbike to help him get around... would you like to help make this happen?

News from the UK...

Thanks to the Recorder Rookies...

On a cold evening during Christmas week 'Recorder Rookies' Music Group and families and friends joined together again to sing Christmas Carols with a **selection of musical instruments** around Cumnor village. The group collected £70 from generous locals for the Helping Hands charity whose work is focussed in Uganda and whose cause is close to the hearts of the children involved. En route the ensemble gratefully received **hot chocolate** from the Pottle family in Norreys Road and mulled wine and nibbles from the Bond family in Archangel House who were rewarded with a concert in their conservatory. This is the **third year running** this event has taken place and not only have we collected more singers and musicians but the range of instruments is growing, there is even talk next year of a drum and a piano!

*Thanks again to all involved,
Donna Murphy*



We want to wish Fi well as she and Dorian look forward to the birth of their second child. Fi has been amazing, getting the accounts up to date before hand. We'll let you know if it's a little boy or girl☺



Debbie has been working with Chrissie Wilkinson of **Viva Network** to produce a series of lessons called GOAL! They are designed to introduce Year 3 and 4 children to **the idea that God made a good earth** and plans, with us, to help to make things better for those who suffer. There are opportunities for the children to learn about their peers around the world, Millennium Development Goals as well as learning how to respond spiritually by listening to and communicating with God using different means of prayer.

They have been **invited to pilot these lessons** in a local Church of England school. It is a very exciting opportunity.

Love from... Debbie & The Team

Going for Google Gold!

With the new website up and running, we are trying to make ourselves more "visible" on search engines. You can help us do this by adding our **Website Link** on your email signature or as part of your profile on a Facebook page. This is all part of **our approach** to marketing... personal and low cost☺

IF you'd like a detailed trip itinerary, and you are not on our prayer news list, just email the office...

IF you'd like to give to help us get Aidan on a bike then you can give online through the website (add a note to designate your gift) or send a cheque to us at 45 Meadow Close, Farmoor, OX2 9PA... thanks for your support.