



Bushikori

Christian Centre Orphan Support (Aust.) Inc

March 2015

The Bushikori (Aust) Committee wishes to thank Christian College, Highton, for supplying the photocopying of all newsletters. We appreciate their generosity and support.

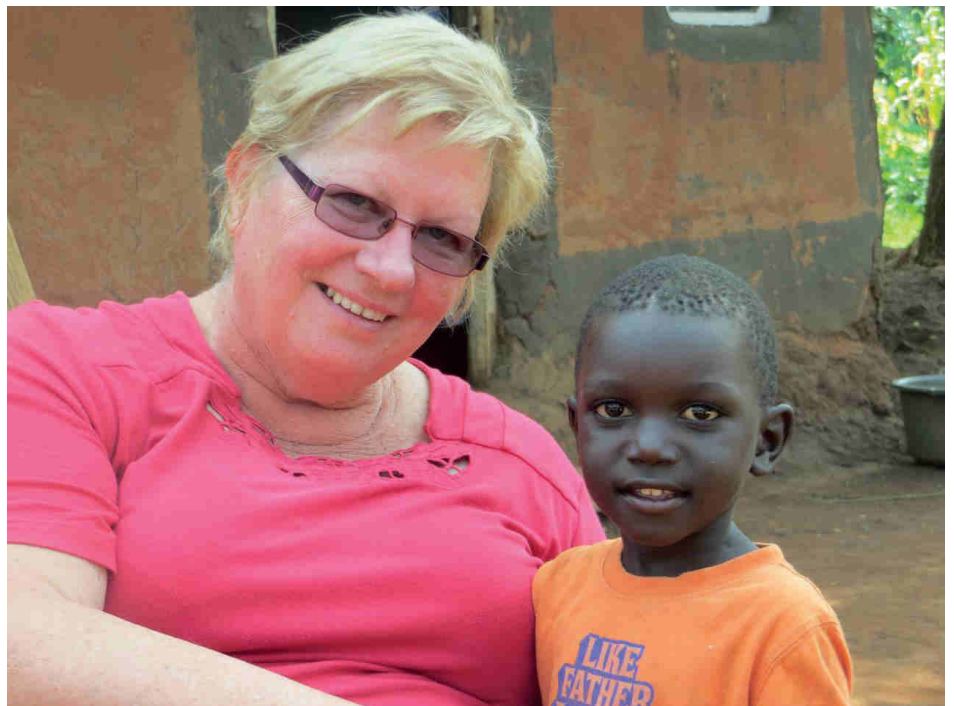
Bushikori Christian Centre
Orphan Support (Aust.)
Inc. No. A0038574F

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www.bushikori.org.au
(Thank you to Stephen Davey at Pagination for his help & hosting our site)

Please advise if you wish to receive this newsletter by email. This newsletter is also available online from our website.

Editor: Layla Peacock
Ph: 5259 3718



"This is how God showed His love among us: He sent his one and only Son into the world that we might live through Him This is love: not that we loved God, but that He loved us and sent his Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins. Dear friends, since God so loved us, we also ought to love one another. No one has ever seen God; but if we love one another, God lives in us and his love is made complete in us." {1 John 4:9-12, NIV}

We praise God and give thanks for all our sponsors and supporters for the love, that as God first showed us, you now show to the children of Uganda.

James 1:27 Religion that God our Father accepts as pure and faultless is this; to look after orphans and widows in their distress

AUSTRALIANS SUPPORTING CHILDREN IN UGANDA

2014 Christmas Gatherings & Youth Conference

December is a very busy time for all those at Bushikori. In 2014 the Christmas gatherings were held in different areas over the 17th -19th. Transport issues make it very difficult, with it being time consuming and expensive to bring all children to the BCC centre so gatherings are held in key communities.

There is worship time, speeches, a special lunch, and the greatly anticipated bottle of soda (probably the only time most get to drink one). All children received gifts of millet flour and cooking oil with a Christmas card.

11th Annual Youth Conference was held from Dec 7th - 9th. The key thought was "Youth Called for an Excellent Life", inspired from the book of Daniel.

Guest speakers included three local Pastors as well as Director Anne, and members of the BCC Alumini. Alumni included Annet Napoko, Samson Wanendeya, David Wanendeya, Tom Kunikina, Florence Bisikwa, Paul Busindo, Mary Wanendeya, Jonathan Masette. These previously sponsored children, who are now young graduated adults, spent the time leading worship, giving testimonies, leading group discussions, encouraging and praying with the 105 sponsored youth who attended. All participants were fed and given accomodation at BCC.

Director Anne opened the conference reminding all present "that they are blessed to have support from Australian friends who relentlessly sacrifice towards Uganda, BCC and the children. BCC is built on a Christian foundation, therefore in all actions we are expected to emulate the good deeds of our Lord Jesus Christ.

BCC Alumini provide mentorship in the spirit of giving back, and in order to help lead sponsored children to success."

Anne states "testimonies are so important as they increase confidence, they confirm it is possible. Group discussions enabled the youth to work through topics such as characteristics of a Godly attitude, setting personal goals, good social skills, and being successful individuals in the community." Scriptures studied included Ezekiel 37:1-14, 1 Samuel 10:6, Hebrews 12:1, John 14:12, Luke 15:14, Galatians 5:22-23, Jeremiah 1:5, 1 Corinthians 6:16.

In their report BCC wrote that "the youth had a rare chance to be taught on the ordinance of Holy Communion, its purpose and significance to believers. They were later invited to partake of the Holy Communion after having ample time to examine their hearts, and they repented, renounced and abandoned their former sins against God and fellow humans and received a clean heart and life in Christ by the power of the Holy Spirit."

Director Anne said "the vision and direction of the conference was drawn from the mission statement to empower our community by spiritually and socio-economically helping them to lead sustainable lives with the love and compassion of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Also drawing from the principle in Mathew 28: 18-20 - where the Lord Jesus Christ commissions his disciples to go and make disciples for all nations and to teach them to observe things. So our purpose of the conference is to teach our children to observe, to do and to live by the principles of the word of God.

The children receive Biblical instructions for right living, that God is the beginning and the end, they are helped to discover the potential in themselves, to build self confidence, to use the opportunities they have. The children of BCC come from different cultures, different communities, affected by different cultural systems (ie. some expect children to drop out of school at P5). Here at BCC we assure them there is an opportunity – you can use it to better your life."

(You can see 15 min of footage on our website www.bushikori.org.au)

Many thanks to Church By the Bay and other generous supporters for their contributions towards the Conference and Christmas Gatherings.

Kerry Peacock

Photos from the Christmas gathering of children and guardians around BCC area in the partially completed hall.

Honey Facts

To make one kilo of honey, bees have to visit 4 MILLION FLOWERS, travelling a distance equal to 4 times around the earth – CRAZY!

"Unique among all God's creatures, only the honeybee improves the environment and preys not on any other species."

Contact us for some Edmond's Honey to support Bushikori.



Thank you

For the great effort by all our supporters.

Our recent **film night at Readings** had 260 supporters watching *The Second Best Exotic Marigold Hotel* - which raised **\$3035** for the general fund. So far, our **Teatowels** have been popular, raising approx. \$2400.



FUN FACTS about Bushikori

For those students boarding, only **ONE DAY** a term is designated as a visiting day for family to visit.

At the end of June 2014 our total number of children sponsored was 394 students comprising of 333 sponsored primary and secondary students and 61 tertiary/vocational. Sponsorship levels have declined over the past few years. It is something we need to continue to promote as there are many children waiting to receive a sponsorship.

From July 2013 - June 2014, 20 new children were sponsored and 5 children have had to be responsored as their sponsors were unable to continue. We welcomed 11 new sponsors to the Bushikori family bringing the total number of sponsors to 288.

Our oldest sponsors are 97 years old and our youngest is 17.

By Liane Foord
(Pictured on the front cover)



Tips

Recently I read an article on "Tips on charity giving".

Tip #1 'ASK ABOUT THE IMPACT NOT THE ADMIN'. *The old-school obsession with admin costs is damaging to charities and their ability to change the world. What industry on earth has to achieve everything they do on a 90% profit margin? Er, none. Ask your charity of choice what the impact will be with your donation.*

In regards to Bushikori in Australia all those connected to Bushikori are volunteers. We have no office. We meet in each others homes once a month for a committee meeting and we all use our own computers to carry out the treasurer/child co-ordinator/secretary tasks in our own spare time.

In thinking of impact – my prayer is that you can all see the impact you have. Your support changes lives and communities.

Tip #2 'ASK WHAT THE CHARITY NEEDS' rather than giving what you would like to give.

At Bushikori we hope the diversity of projects means you can relate to what you are giving to. Currently our main focus is replacing the mini van for transport, but there are always needs for the Health Centre, the Tertiary Fund, the Welfare Pool, the School Teachers Salaries, the General running costs or the re-sponsoring of a child who has lost its sponsor.

Whilst sponsoring a child is a long term relationship commitment, Bushikori has many funds.

Tip #3 GIVE REGULARLY - *A monthly donation is an easy way to support a charity you love in a way that helps the charity plan for regular income. Do not underestimate the IMPACT this has, I think of all supporters who just give what they can to the General fund each month.*

Bushikori has just celebrated 20 years and there are sponsors who have sponsored all the way from their child's primary to adult graduation. For some they are at a stage in their life where committing to another small child is not what they wish to do, but it is encouraging to see how many wish to stay part of the Bushikori family by donating regularly to the general fund. Every little bit helps.

What I did not read in the "tips on charity giving" is praying about your giving. Or alternatively **Tip #4 GIVE PRAYER.** Our committee always prays that God will guide us in what we do with what we are blessed with. We count our blessings not only in donations, but in the love of our sponsors and supporters as well.

Please pray for the work of Bushikori. I do run a weekly prayer email – if you would like to receive it please email president@bushikori.org.au.
- Kerry Peacock

Child Sponsorship

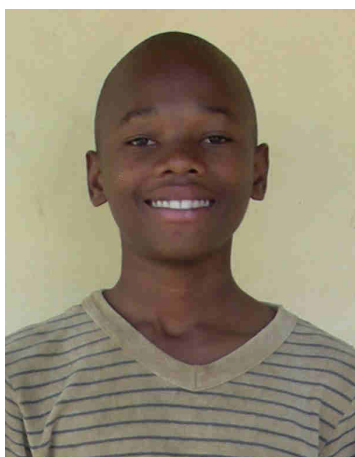
Q. What happens if I cannot maintain the payments or decide to stop my support?

A. We recognise for a variety of reasons, you may not be able to maintain regular payments. In these circumstances, we will ensure that the support for the child is covered from other funds for a limited time; however, after continued non-payment we will contact you and offer you the option of making up the payments or cancelling your support. Where there are cases of anticipated temporary difficulty over payments, we are very willing to talk this through with you, so please contact us.

If, for any reason, you wish to withdraw from your sponsorship, you are free to do so at any time. You may ask a friend or relative to take over the sponsorship from you. All we ask is that you think and pray before making such a decision, as we believe this should not be taken lightly. In these circumstances, the child you have been supporting will be covered until we can gain another sponsor.

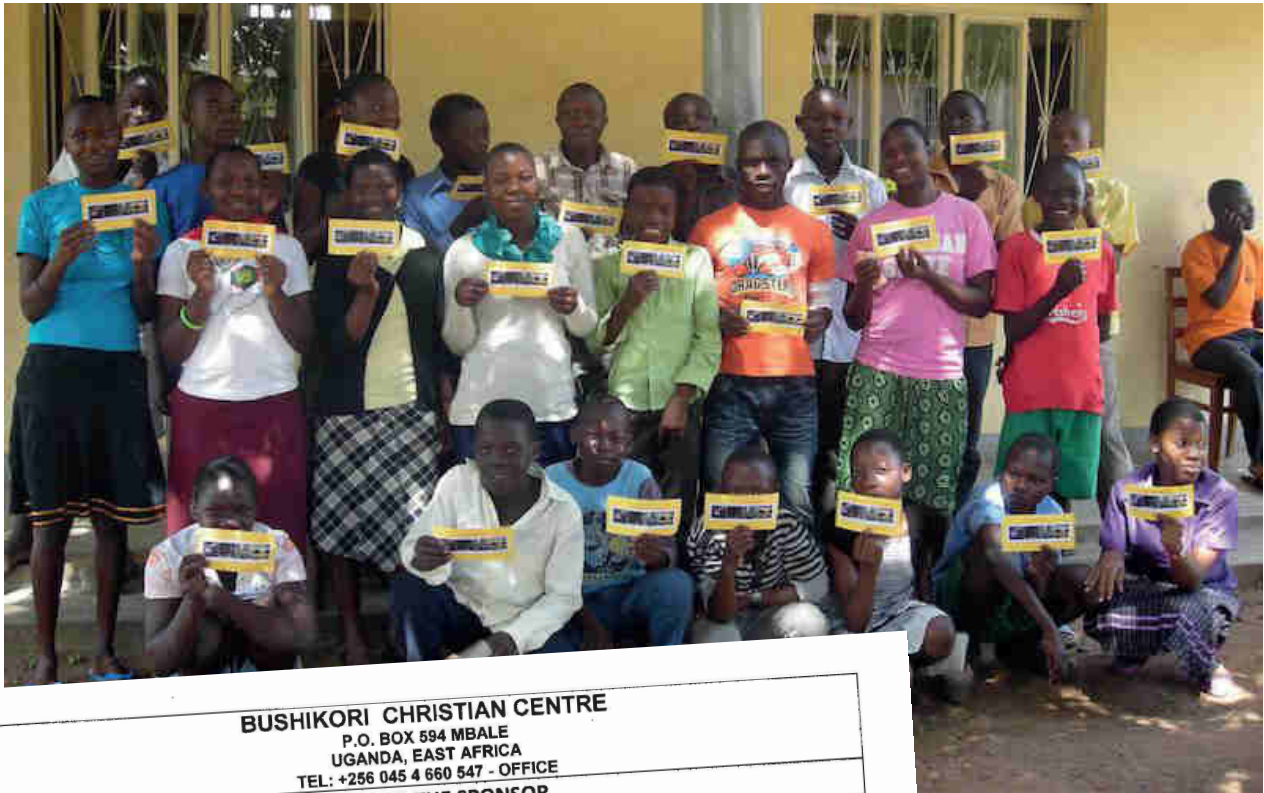


#444 Ketula is in need of sponsorship as her sponsors are unable to continue sponsoring her. She has completed secondary school and we are waiting on her exam results which will determine which course she can undertake. Course fees range between \$600 to a maximum of \$1000 pa. Ketula is 21 years old and has been part of the sponsorship program since the beginning in 1994. Liane would love to hear from you if you are able to support her through this final stage of her education.



#1298 Enoch is in need of sponsorship as his sponsors were unable to continue. Enoch is 14 years old and in S1. Secondary school fees are \$360 plus \$270 for boarding as his school is some distance from his home. Enoch lives with his grandmother (when not boarding) after being abandoned by his parents. She is elderly and finding it difficult to provide for his educational needs.

Please contact Liane Foord if you would more information about sponsorship.



BUSHIKORI CHRISTIAN CENTRE P.O. BOX 594 MBALE UGANDA, EAST AFRICA TEL: +256 045 4 660 547 - OFFICE			
LETTER TO THE SPONSOR			
SPONSOR'S NAME:	Australian Support Committee		SPONSOR COUNTRY: Australia
CHILD'S NAME:	Enoch Mudoba		ID NUMBER: 1298
EDUCATIONAL LEVEL:	Primary	CLASS: P7	AGE: 14
HEALTH STATUS:	Good		
DATE OF WRITING: 19th 11-2014			
<p>Dear members</p> <p>how are you all? I hope you are fine, I am so grateful for what you have done by giving us congratulation messages. I am again praying that may God bless you and reward you more and more. I am happy to tell you that my National Examinations were so good that I will have to get 6 aggregates and I do have hope that I will get them. Thank you for giving me this nice looking congratulation messages and may God bless. I am so grateful to tell you that in Uganda we are receiving reliable rainfall. I am wishing you good Christmas and a happy new year.</p> <p>May God bless you.</p> <p>Yours, Enoch Mudoba.</p>			
THIS LETTER WAS WRITTEN BY <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		SPONSORED CHILD	FACILITATOR/ GUARDIAN/PARENT/SIBLING
CHILD CARE DEPT OFFICER, COMMENTS.			
<p>Dear the Australian Support Committee,</p> <p>Creetings to you in the name of Jesus Christ. How are you? Thank you very much for supporting Enoch. He is okay and working hard.</p> <p>May God bless you!!</p>			
CHILD DEVELOPMENT OFFICER: Signature: Mary Kwanjaleya	COORDINATOR: Signature: Dan Blambi		
Matthew 28:19 - 20 & 25:31-40			

This is Enoch's letter to ASC in appreciation for the postcard (see in photo above). The committee sends cards late October, congratulating them on completing primary school and letting them know that we are praying for them that they do well in their National Examinations.

They sat their exams in November and in February we had the results from Dan - all children passed.

(Enoch needs responsoring. See previous page)

Thanksgiving Service

To mark the 20th anniversary of the Australian Bushikori Committee a Thanksgiving service was held at Belmont Uniting on November 16th at 2pm. We would like to thank Sr Miriam and all the Belmont congregation for their hospitality and blessings.

Esther Cohen did an inspired job of bringing the program and the day together. The service reflected scriptures and songs that have been meaningful to Bushikori along the way.

A special service booklet was prepared which included history highlights, as well as words of Pastor Sam and Anne Wandendeya. If you would like a copy please email president@bushikori.org.au or phone 5259 3718.



Symbolic centerpiece representing the work of Bushikori. Mighty Mango tree made by Kellie Feaver.



Esther Cohen with a beautiful Bible for BCC to mark the occasion, donated by Iris and David Cox from the St John's Highton Bookstore.



Ian Macaulay - prayer of thanks for Ps Sam's vision



Ella Matheson & Margery Hobbs - Sharing God's hand in Sam's visit to Geelong and the formation of the first committee



The St John's Highton Music team

Graduation

When I had the opportunity to go to Uganda due to the blessings of others, one experience never even entered my mind - that being to attend my sponsored child Beth's graduation. When I told Anne I was coming this was the second comment she made (the first comment was she has prayed so long for me to come... try 10 years!).

At the time I did not realise how big this event would be. Held at the Mukono campus it was attended by approx. 3,000 people, including the Archbishop of the Church of Uganda and the Prime Minister (and one non Ugandan... being me).

Each graduate was only allowed two people to attend with them inside the graduation area. Outside the wire fencing was the rest of the University grounds where those without tickets listened and waited.

The ceremony was opened in prayer, then three anthems - the East African community, the Uganda National, and Buganda (the tribe of this area). Then hymns were sung. When presenting the degrees/diplomas the Faculty Dean would announce, "By the authority of the University entrusted to me I confer upon all those persons whose names have been read, the degree of... of Ugandan Christian University, in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit."

In his speech the Dean spoke on 1 Peter 1-3, and the notion that a changed life begins with a changed mind.

It was a very formal and moving event. The families are so very proud. What you see a graduate wear will be the very best the whole extended family can afford - or lend. Some members may have pooled money and bought a handbag, another group the shoes as gifts to the graduate.

Bushikori had two graduates, Beth and Annet. Afterwards Annet's mother came up to Anne, tears were streaming down her face as she hugged Anne and spoke with out ceasing. Her gratitude was so raw and so emotional that it shocked me. Little by little I pieced together Annet's story. She comes from a small village up hill where many landslides happen.



Anne says many from that area start education but do not finish, many are tempted to run off to Kenya to try and get jobs. It is by Ugandan standards a very, very poor area. Annet's sister had also been sponsored, she had got a certificate in Catering and had got a job in a hotel in Kampala. As the expenses for a degree course are above what Australia sends it was Annet's sister who paid the difference and let Annet stay with her. She also bought a new dress for her Mum to wear to the graduation. Her Mum declared that the booklet of the day will sit on her little house table forever, and any man who wanted to marry her daughter would have to bring many cows. They were getting a bus that afternoon that would drive many hours into the night to take them back to the village where the whole village was cooking and preparing for a party to celebrate. For Annet was the very first in their village to graduate from University.

This was the day that ended with me crying in the bathroom - I was overwhelmed by the magnitude of the difference we all make. We are succeeding in empowering a generation to be agents of change in Uganda themselves.

I was completely humbled by how much we are God's hands for good, for joy and for love. - Kerry Peacock