



## Newsletter March 2009

3 HOPE School Development Projects are Priority Focus for 2009.



**Refugee child Ruthy has only ever known poverty, malnutrition and war. What a privilege to bring HOPE to such children !**

Through our African partners, HOPE is supporting the construction of 9 Nursery and Primary Schools in Uganda and DR Congo. 3 of these schools need urgent support to speed the construction work and better house the hundreds of orphans and needy children already attending and make a way for hundreds more waiting for their opportunity to receive an education in a positive loving environment of a HOPE School.

In the **Nakivale Refugee Camp** in Southern Uganda, we commenced building last year and 3 classrooms and latrines are now nearing completion. Offices and a nursery classroom have been added as well, and a fence to keep the local cattle out has been

put around the several acres reserved for the school.

The excitement rose in the camp when the first load of school desks arrived thanks to the fundraising of our friends from the HOPE Chapter in Victor Harbour. Now at least some of these precious children will not have just the dirt to sit in.

Others have sponsored the classes providing essential materials, equipment and food. With over 520 'hungry to learn' children flooding the school, further progress with buildings, staff and materials is urgent.

The recent outbreak of war in Eastern Congo has caused an influx of around 30,000 refugees according to some reports and cholera has surfaced as well. HOPE sees this project as vital to lift the spirits and meet life needs for hundreds of refugee families in this settlement.

Also in partnership with RWC—Children's Trust is the Ebenezer HOPE Nursery and Primary School project in **Kitokye Village**. Nestled among huge banana plantations, this school also started last year now has 4 finished classrooms, latrines, a water tank and offices. The cashflow of this project is helped a little by being our only school where around 2/3 of students pay a small fee. Our goal for 09 is to commence more classrooms on our way to 10 in total.

**Kibogo Deep Village** also had a HOPE School construction commence last year and 3 classrooms and latrines are nearing completion with 3 more classrooms to commence soon. This village is so excited at the progress being made for their children and we expect numbers to grow sharply from the 200 children at present.

The school is planned to fill our present 1 acre which will be very crammed when complete. An opportunity to buy 4 more acres adjacent has come up, so our fundraising will focus on this chance to buy and establish a regional education centre with ample space for playgrounds and future development.

The Mt. Gambier HOPE Chapter headed up by Gay Stoodley has raised crucial funds towards this project and they aim to cover the 6 teachers salaries and provide concrete floors in these pioneering days for this school.



## Helping Others Possess Empowerment

Positive Progress from support for Street Kids of Mbarara

HOPE now sponsors around 60 children rescued from desperate situations where war, disease, marriage breakdown and poverty took a terrible toll on these young lives. Most were found in bad condition, eating town garbage, often beaten by militia, and succumbing to the hopeless enticement of drugs, crime and prostitution.



**Anne Tumwine sends the children to their first day at school.**

Willy and Anne Tumwine have big hearts and vision for these kids because Willy's years as a street kid and child soldier himself have left a passion to help children and young people caught in the same snare. Children sometimes still with their mother or auntie's have been offered a way out through the love and compassion of this couple.

Firstly living in 'the shed' beside the church, then girls from the streets placed in 'homes' (dirt floor mud huts) with a relative, AIDS widow, or mother. Younger boys now live in a rented home. Denis and Rebekah are their house parents and all 26 boys are in school, a few getting top results in the region. The older boys and young men are still in the shed where they grow a little food, have goats and start small business's like selling Kapati or cleaning boda bodas (motorbikes) and taxis.

The young street boys had a thriving chicken business running (in the main bedroom!) but when the chickens were put in their shed to sell, all 200 were stolen. But they will not be deterred, they know better days are assured. The street kids and some widows have also been working on the HOPE land which has produced 2 harvests of beans and maize to help with their food needs. And the new carpentry shed (below) is providing excellent opportunities for the older boys to learn a trade.

HOPE and RWC have purchased 8 acres of land to build a home and vocational training centre for these and future street children.



The urgent needs to continue this deserving work are...

- More sponsors for children and senior school boys. \$40/month
- House Parents sponsorship (Denis and Rebekah) \$50/month
- Help for housing of widows with girls in their care. \$6,000/2 rooms
- Home for boys on 8 acres, stage 1 for 30 boys \$40,000
- Vocational/horticultural training centre, stage 1. \$40,000
- Carpentry teacher. \$100/month
- Timber and equipment to make first saleable items. \$ any amount
- 6 sponsors for young boys home expenses @ \$50 each/month



**Meet Roda**, standing in front of her new Hope & Care for Little Souls School in Bunia, DR Congo. She is the daughter of Ester Buzwaza a widow from Bunia in the Congo DR who is supported through HOPE. Late last year she was very seriously injured in a motorbike accident when she was struck in the forehead by the bike. Her life hung in the balance—then thanks to the care of HOPE partner Mozart Kile and the generosity of people here who gave money for her hospitalisation, she did not die through lack of medical attention but has recovered and is now well and back in school. (Feb. 2009)

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Bill Osborne. Chairman

### Our purpose is...

To alleviate the devastation and humiliation imposed on the poor, the war weary, orphans and AIDS widows in developing nations.

We bring hope through the generosity of Australian individuals, businesses and churches.

### HOPE Development Projects empower partners through...

- Land for schools
- Teachers sponsorship
- Child education sponsorship
- Medical assistance
- Buildings for schools
- Horticulture & Forestry
- Vocational Training and small businesses for AIDS Widows and Street Kids

Internet Donations: Projects Account BSB 105-025 A/c 050219640 (tax deductible)

### HOPE Missions

- Supporting open air evangelism
- Building churches
- Welfare gifts
- Supplying Bibles
- Pastor sponsorship
- Ministry Training

Donations: Missions Account BSB 105-025 A/c 054520340 (not tax deductible)

For other ways to donate or commence sponsorship, please visit our website 'Donate' page.

*Thankyou for caring!*

***“No child should be abandoned on the streets, covered with body sores that accompany AIDS. No child should die alone without knowing that he or she is loved.”*** ***Mother Theresa***

**Did you know? 1,200 children in DR Congo die daily from malnutrition related diseases.**

### HOPE Partnership Change:

We have recently ceased activity with partner FOL in Goma, DR Congo due to a leadership change within their organisation due partly to the need for Mwamba and Rebecca Nguli and family to stay in Kampala. The family have struggled with the war in Goma and almost impossible situations to continue in their homeland. Rebecca has just had a baby girl and we wish them all the best for their future in Kampala.

Please remember the people of Goma and our friends in the refugee camps there. Our heart is that we maintain contact and will let our HOPE supporters know how things develop in that possibility.

Thankyou to those who have supported previously and stood with many in their time of recent struggles in Goma. The memory of the people in Eastern Congo are etched in our hearts after our last visit in July 08. We will not forget them. We pray that justice, peace and freedom come to those people and the plight of their children and women in particular becomes radically changed for their good.

Latest news from our Congolese refugee friends in Nakivale is that Goma is peaceful at present, but 21 armed groups are still active in village areas.

## HOPE Mission News

(Please note: Giving to HOPE Missions is not tax deductible)

### Mission of HOPE, February 2009

**Tash Stoodley reports:** In February, a team of six people from Hills Family Church, Nairne SA, travelled to Uganda as a HOPE evangelistic team. We met with some partners of HOPE as well as conducting many church seminars and crusades in regional areas. The entire team was so blessed to be received with love and warmth wherever we went.

We had many balloons, bubbles and stickers donated for this trip, and many children (and adults!) from various villages were extremely blessed as we played with them and brought laughter and joy into their lives. It was a break from their normal routine of fetching water, working laboriously in the garden, and struggling to find their next meal. To see the faces of these people light up! I will never forget it. It is so amazing to think that something so small and commonplace in our western society can bring so much happiness to someone in poverty.

On this trip we saw many people saved, healed and set free in Jesus' name. We went to remote rural areas where they had not had visitors before, and in some cases had never even seen white people. At one particular village I was preaching at a crusade to a crowd of about 500 people, I did a call for salvation and about 100 people came forward. I asked the interpreter to lead them through the sinners prayer, and while he did that I stood back and watched what was happening. I looked down at all the people who had come forward, some were crying, others had their faces over their hands - others who had no experience of church had their eyes open and were looking at the interpreter - and tears began to roll down my cheeks. I remember thinking to myself 'Who am I?' I was humbled and totally overwhelmed. God had used me to bring salvation to these people - and I am nobody special. In the eyes of the world, I am nothing extraordinary. But I realised that it's not about me, it's about God in me. And I realised that we can do anything, because God lives inside of us. Even if we think we have nothing to give, at the very least, we can give a smile, a hug, and the love of Jesus.



**Tash and small friends from the village.**

In March and April, *Jono Osborne* is ministering in Uganda, Rwanda and Sudan. Keep him in your prayers! Thanks for your support.