

AUTUMN

2017



REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER 1115766

AFRICA GREATER
LIFE MISSION UK

Food Situation - Update

There is, of course, nothing more basic a requirement than food. This year food prices have risen in Uganda and AGLMUK has reduced its monthly contribution in line with our decision to withdraw gradually and our partners have found things hard. Our plan would be to reduce again next year and we will make this decision based on what is in the food "pot" at the beginning of

January. At the moment this is low and we would be looking at a large reduction. Thank you to those that contribute monthly to the food bill - it is hugely appreciated! If anyone else would like to do this or make a one off donation we would love to hear from you. (This year we are sending 5.5 million Ugandan shillings per month—around £15,000 per year).

TOILET ALTERATIONS

The ablution block that was built at Bulabakulu has been revised to strip out most of the plumbing and taps. This might seem like an extraordinary move that would be unthinkable in the UK - but is the conclusion that we very reluctantly accepted as best in these circumstances.



The combination of very cheap, poor quality, plumbing supplies and a large number of children that knew little of taps and pipework led to constant leaks, breakages and gushing water. Gushing water meant that the water storage tank (that only fills when the sun is out) was frequently empty by early evening. The washrooms are now a place where Bulabakulu residents can wash in privacy - but they take their water with them in a bucket or bowl. There have been two new toilets constructed close to the boys' and girls' dormitories. These are long-drop, squat toilets which is what the children are used to. Because of the need for supervision, the washrooms used to be locked at night. The new toilets are right next to the dormitory and always open. I won't spell out the consequences of the previous situation!

NEW DESKS NEEDED

The desks that AGLMUK volunteers made many years ago have served the school pretty well and many of them are still serviceable - but they were old-fashioned, heavy and not compliant with new standards. They were particularly "non-compliant" when it came to sitting exams as they were built to be shared! The new desks have separate chairs and have metal frames. This is a little beyond the skills of most volunteers and so we need to buy, rather than make, them. We have started a programme of buying new desks/chairs and some of you have already donated generously to this cause. If you would like to sponsor a desk and chair - or perhaps buy one for somebody as an alternative Christmas Present, they cost £35.





REGISTERED CHARITY
NUMBER 1115766

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Trustees
Chair: Becky Webb
Secretary: Andy Bull
Treasurer: Chris Bull
Jessie Bergstrom

Karamajong Update

You will remember from the Spring newsletter that more than 20 children and young people that had originated from the Karamoja region of Northern Uganda had been brought to the village. You will also remember that they had been rescued from a life of begging on the streets of Kampala and that it is notoriously difficult to get children with this background to settle into school life. The good news is that all of the children are still at Bulabakulu and they appear to be doing well. Their mentor, friend and champion - Ambrose, is also still around and this is likely to be the reason for continued success. We look forward to seeing them when we visit in late

Emmanuel Hardly Believes his own Story!

Chris has many AGLM related friends on Facebook. She was recently struck by a post from Emmanuel which read; "Can you believe what I am today?"

Emmanuel did so well at school that he was given a Government Scholarship which pays his fees to do a BSC with Education at Makerere University. Makerere is usually recognised as the best university in Uganda. Needless to say we are immensely proud of him!



Charity Shop Week



On Saturday 21st October AGLMUK commenced a week long occupation of the community charity shop in Llandrindod. None of the trustees feel that retailing is "their thing" and we rely completely on our fantastic volunteers to run the show. Liz and Sam, pictured here, set up the shop window displays as never before witnessed. They thoroughly enjoyed themselves and the trustees are very happy to indulge their passion for creativity! The shop raised over £1,700.

Alternative Presents, and Christmas Food Appeal

Alternative presents are available all year round - but especially at Christmas. There is a special leaflet describing the list of presents and their cost but if you want to suggest something else, and we confirm that it would be appropriate then these things can be accommodated. General unspecified gifts of any value are always welcome as are contributions towards some of the specific projects mentioned in this newsletter - and we are more than happy to provide cards for you to give to the recipient. As last year, the major emphasis is food.



Thank You

Don't forget that you can support AGLMUK just by shopping online. Many stores, including many of the big names, will donate a percentage of your purchase to us and it won't cost you a penny extra.

Simply join and install Give as you Live and start shopping. Start raising funds now:

<http://www.giveasyoulive.com/join/africa-greater-life-mission-uk/402547/0>

Watch this how it works video to learn more about Give as you Live.

<http://www.giveasyoulive.com/howitworks>

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