



Uganda News: July 10

Welcome to edition three of our 2010 newsletter.

Hello friend(s),

As we get into the second half of the year (wow time really does go quickly), I would like to invite you to be part of Oasis Uganda as you read a snippet about activities that took place in the past 3 months. I hope this news will encourage you, knowing that lives of these precious girls, young people and their families are being changed positively. Thank you

With warm wishes

Cathy Nalumansi
Fundraising & Communications Officer

The girls at Bambejja and Beersheba celebrate their birthdays...



Showing off her birthday gift

'We're going to have a party...' this is what the girls at the Child Support Project (CSP) and Beersheba echoed as they prepared for the long awaited dream of celebrating their birthdays. The party at...

Bambejja

The CSP girls were filled with excitement and great anticipation as they arrived very early morning to decorate the place and organise the 'banda' for the party. The place was filled with birthday messages right from the entrance of the gate to the balcony and the shelter at the Bambejja premises. The girls performed dances, skits and songs; later on had a delicious meal; cut their cake and it was all crowned with gifts received from Samaritan's Purse. With so much curiosity, the girls peeked into each other's gift boxes just to see what they had got. They were very delighted and contented to receive such beautiful gifts.

Beersheba

The celebrations at Beersheba were equally amazing with the girls filled with smiles and laughter as none of them have ever celebrated their birthday before. This made them feel so loved and valued especially when the teachers sang birthday songs to them. The day was brightened by the Bristol team who helped a lot with the decorations and games with the girls. Each girl made a card

and exchanged them as a sign of their love for each other. The highlights of the party were the gifts from Samaritan's Purse, cake cutting and lots of food. Stella, one of the girls had this to say; *"I have never eaten meat this much ...am so satisfied such that I only need to lie down!"*

We thank every one who contributed financially to make this dream a reality in the girls' lives.

Other News over the last 3 months Oasis 24/7 Prayer Day



Staff members, students and carers cleaning up

Oasis Global carried out 24/7 prayer from 4th -7th June 2010 across the different Oasis country bases with the environment as the focus of prayer. Here at Oasis Uganda, we organised different prayer sessions and activities at the projects in Kampala and Mbale. Some of the activities that were carried out included holding talks concerning environment protection, planting trees and clearing rubbish around the neighbouring community with the some of our beneficiaries. It was a very fruitful time particularly for building relationships with them as well as connecting together in prayer.

Mushroom growing business takes off

In March 2010, FSRP (Family Support and Resettlement Project) organised a training session on how to grow mushrooms which was facilitated by one of our very own carers at the project premises. She facilitated the project so well that within a few

weeks, the first batch of mushrooms that were planted by the women at the project grew well and they were able to sell mushrooms worth 20,000 Ug shillings (£6.50 – but a good income in such a short time!). The carers have committed to contributing money which will be used to buy seeds and other materials needed to grow more mushrooms. We hope this project will be profitable and will help to supplement their income.

Oliver and Beth leave, Magret Aturo takes over



Left to right; Maggie, Beth and Oliver Fitz-Henry

Cake cutting

The Beersheba Team Leader, Beth Fitz-Henry and the Eastern Manager, Oliver Fitz-Henry completed their time after 2 years of volunteering with Oasis Uganda. They did a great job moving the project forward, building staff capacity and creating good links with the community. Margaret Aturo, formerly the Bambejja Skills Training Manager based in Kampala, took over responsibility of managing Beersheba Project and is doing a great job.

Visiting teams to Oasis Uganda

Aylesford Team

A team of 14 students and teachers from Aylesford School (UK) visited Oasis Uganda Projects for 2 weeks from 31st March to 14th April 2010. Most of them had never been to Africa before and so it was a wonderful experience for them. They had an opportunity to visit some of the Bambejja girls' families and former Net2Work students at their work places. The team later proceeded to Mbale to visit the Beersheba Project where they carried out various activities including painting 3 rooms which will be used as offices, designing a Beersheba banner, crafts, sports and games.

Bristol Team

Another team of 2 teachers and 5 students from Bristol Academy visited the Beersheba project from 15th-22nd June, 2010 where they had a chance to interact and play with the girls especially during their birthday bash. This was an eye opener for them to see the life of children in Uganda compared to their life in UK. There are great opportunities like these for you to visit and volunteer with Oasis Uganda. For more information, please check www.oasisuk.org/volunteering

She never experienced her parents' love...

"My name is Sarah and I am 14 years. My mother left me, my 4 siblings with our father when I was 7 years. My father, who is a traditional healer, gave me away to another man to be his 'wife' when I was 9 years old. This man sexually abused me for 5 months before I was returned home. My father later brought me to the city to work as a house help for some woman. She however beat and chased me away from her home because I had poured milk. I was left homeless and I had to sleep an old abandoned house. Fortunately some Good Samaritan who was concerned that I was homeless took me to the police station from where I was referred to Bambejja where I have found love and care. I am receiving training at the Skills Training Project and I would like to become a tailor when I graduate from the project. I also hope to look after my siblings back in the village when I get a job. I am very grateful for all the help that Bambejja has given me."

Many girls like Faith need God's hand in their lives to help them recover from the trauma they have been through. However not many of them have had such an opportunity to be rescued from their situations. Please continue to pray for them that they will experience wholeness and find love despite their sad pasts.

Contribute to the Bambejja building renovations...



The kitchen at the Bambejja Project after a busy day

With the merging of all the Bambejja activities under one building, there's need to make renovations to the building with the aim of having good-quality classrooms, a sufficient number of offices for the staff and a safe kitchen with solid walls and energy-saving stoves. This is quite an urgent task as one of the classroom walls is damaged thus making it unusable. If you would like to make a contribution please contact Gill at gill.olaaka@oasisuganda.org.

We appreciate all those who have committed to give regularly. If you are not doing so already, we would love you to prayerfully consider setting up a standing order or perhaps encourage someone else in your church or community to do so. Thank you for your support and interest!

To make payments please visit www.oasisuk.org/donate or contact us at the following addresses

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Prayer and Thanksgiving

- We thank God for two of the girls from the Child Support Project (CSP) who have managed to complete their studies at tertiary level and currently have jobs.
- Please pray for success for some Net2Work former students who were given loans by the project to set up and run personal businesses which will help them earn a living.
- Please pray for Sheila a girl at CSP and her family, who lost her mother after a long period of illness to be able cope with her passing.