

Project 2000 - Uganda

Newsletter December 2004

Since our last Newsletter in October 2002 we have been busy raising money with events including a dinner and casino evening, a dinner dance featuring the popular band, Lemongrove and our annual, ever popular, barn dances.

Probably the most enlightening event was an evening with John & Alice in the Village Hall in May last year. Everyone had the opportunity to speak to them personally and experience the Ugandan spirit and receive their own invitation to visit the project. Matthew and Emma also gave a presentation on their three-month trip to Rukungiri working on the construction of the training centre. Whilst staying in the village John and Alice were able to visit the school and take part in a school visit to Rockbourne Roman villa. They were also able to meet with the Beaver group one evening.



The Vocational Training Centre has continued to grow with the number of students now double the thirty which were enrolled on its opening in February 2002. However, this has put increased pressure on the already scarce resources, with students having to work in large groups with one set of poor quality tools.



As mentioned in our previous newsletter, our focus has recently been on raising money for hand tools to give the students reasonable access to equipment with which to practice their skills. We would now like to broaden our appeal to include sustainability issues such as clean water and the electricity supply. This is crucial if we want to see the vocational centre continue to thrive for many years to come. With your help, over the past four years, we have helped many children start on the path to a brighter future with the chance of a good vocational education.

Since the millennium Winterslow and Firsdow have contributed over £27,000 towards the development of the vocational training centre. The support that you have given over the past

four years has given the children of Rukungiri the chance they need and deserve to make a positive start to their lives.

We now need to ensure that every child has access to clean water for drinking and hand washing and proper sanitation during their school day. In this appeal we are asking for your support to achieve this. Please give generously to provide these children with the best possible chance, and enable them to reach their full potential.

What's Next?

In February 2005 Matthew and Rod are once again returning to Rukungiri with the money raised from this appeal to help move the vocational centre forward with these issues being a priority. All of the money raised so far in the village has been designated to the project. We have incurred no administration costs and as with past trips Matthew and Rod's trip to Rukungiri in 2005 will be funded entirely by themselves.

As another new year approaches with it comes the chance for you to join in another fund raising event for the Uganda project. For you romantics out there, (and the not so romantics!) make a space in your diaries for 7.30pm on February 12th for the best Valentines event of the year. Treat your loved one to an evening of fine food and wine and then relax and dance to the music of Winterslow's own popular band Emmel Sea.

We are always on the look out for fresh ideas and enthusiastic people to help with our fund raising ventures so if you feel you would like to be part of the Uganda team please contact any of us listed below for further information.