

Mityana Charity

Registered Charity
No. 1064825

A Christian Charity dedicated to helping the
people of Mityana



Annual Report 2004/2005
AGM 25th May 2005

Charity Objectives

1. The advancement of education among children in the Mityana Diocese of Uganda through
 - funding of school buildings
 - sponsorship of children
 - establishment of links with schools in the UK
 - funding of appropriate medical needs to raise standards of health
2. The relief of poverty among the people in the Mityana Diocese, through the funding of self-help enterprises.
3. The advancement of the Christian religion, especially, but not exclusively in the Mityana Diocese, through the sponsorship of clergy

MITYANA CHARITY COMMITTEE MEMBERS

UK Committee...

Chairman	Nigel Birch
Treasurer	Kevin Hutton
Secretary	Sarah Birch
Fundraising	Margaret and John Stainsby
Sponsorship	Jean Ajin
Publicity	
St Sebastian's Representative	Sue Williams
Whitchurch Representative	Trish Neeves
Wooburn Green Representative	Ros Chandler
Ashbury Representative	
Web Site Officer	Carl Hale
Committee Members	Julie Rees Heather Marsh Ann Potts Karla Weir Kathy Pinto

Uganda Committee...

Chairman	Stephen Bagunywa
Secretary	Victoria Lwanga-Lukwago
Send a Child Co-ordinator	Victoria Lwanga-Lukwago
Committee Members	Rev. Canon John Musaasizi Margaret Serenkuma

Chairman and Secretary Joint Report

Nigel and Sarah Birch

Yet another productive year has passed by in the life of the Mityana Charity – a year where links between St Sebastian's church and Mityana Diocese have been strengthened. This came about through lay reader training, provision of bibles for Mityana Cathedral and the setting up of home groups. Clergy training continues to be successful with Messach Lubega completing his courses at the beginning of 2005. There was also a successful campaign by St Sebastian's church family to donate bicycles for the lay readers. During summer 04, funds were found for the building of a house for Diana, one of the lay readers, and her children. Diana also now has one of the new bicycles which has transformed daily living.

Follow-up visits to Mityana during the summer 04 and February / March 05 has further strengthened friendships and understanding of the needs of the people living in this area of Uganda.

The Charity has expanded both as the number of sponsored children increase and also as we take on more projects, some of which are listed above. Some teachers are now being sponsored since it was apparent that teachers at the Orphanage School needed support to enable them to continue teaching the

orphan children. Several more classrooms at Mityana Junior School are well on the way to being completed. Bunk beds were provided in hostels at both the Orphanage School and Glenburnie Butega.

In the future we hope to be able to help in the area of health and, to this end, we plan to have vouchers cards on sale this autumn which would pay towards training a nurse or equipping a health centre. We hope that these could be used as Christmas gift tokens. We are also working towards the production of a music CD featuring a gospel choir and other musicians from Mityana diocese. More details will be sent out later in the year.

A significant project which the charity wants to support is the development of the Mityana Diocese farm. This has been left undeveloped for many years and is seen as a real community activity of self-help potentially giving the people a chance to provide more food for themselves as well an income and to act as a training centre.

All this activity requires people. We would love to hear from anyone who has any time/skills to offer, eg. just putting letters/cards/ reports in envelopes takes the load off others. It is very rewarding

that we can make a difference to people less fortunate than ourselves as those who have visited Mityana will testify. The Ugandans are very grateful for our help and support and they are always so thankful for the work that is done by the charity through the dedication of the committees in the UK and Mityana.

We thank everyone, both here in the UK, in the USA and in Mityana for their continued support of both time and money. It is a pleasure to

be part of the charity where everyone works together at "helping your neighbour".

Nigel Birch (Chairman)
Sarah Birch (Secretary)

**6 Tanglely Drive, Wokingham,
Berkshire, England RG41 2NY**

P.S. On a practical note, if you have an email address, please would you let us have it so we can save costs on mailings. Our address is;
sn.birch@ukonline.co.uk

Mityana Charity Accounts Report 2004/2005

Most of the money that the charity raises is for sponsorship of named children, however we have also helped support other projects such as;

A car for John £1200
Clergy training £800
Cows/shelter/herdsman £705

Piglets £90
Prayer books £120
Junior classrooms £380

This has been largely through the generous donations for which we are very grateful. We have transferred a total of £15,289 for children's sponsorship in the financial year.

As a charity, we have recently started up a separate fund to support children whose sponsorship has for one reason or another ended. We felt that where people sent in small donations, this would be the best use of the money and would greatly assist the children affected in Mityana to continue their education.

Ann Potts has raised considerable funds for some of her own projects in Mityana, and she has asked if all her transactions can go through the charity's books so to provide greater accountability and transparency. We are happy to do this and the balance of her account is that as stated in the accounts.

Administration expenses account for 3.3% of sponsorship money raised, which means that £0.97p of every £1 we raise is being transferred to where it is most needed.

Finally I would like to thank Liz Goddard who has reviewed the accounts for the financial year and has expressed an opinion that they are a fair reflection of the transactions of the charity.

Kevin Hutton

Mityana Charity Accounts

Income and Expenditure Account for the period 1st March 2004 to 28th February 2005

2003/04			2004/5
£12,320.78	Balance as at 29.02.04		£13,789.68
	Income:		
£21,497.89	Sponsorship and Donations	£23,014.22	
£2,624.46	Interest and Tax rebate****	£2,591.16	
n/a	Ann Potts account	£1,165.02	
<u>£24,122.35</u>	Total Income	<u>£26,770.40</u>	
	Expenditure:		
£21,600.90	Sponsorship and Donations	£19,716.10	
£965.05	Admin Expenses	£764.07	
£87.50	Bank Charges	£110.50	
<u>£22,653.45</u>	Total Expenditure	<u>£20,590.67</u>	
£1,468.90	Net Income		£6,179.73
<u>£13,789.68</u>	Balance as at 28.02.05		<u>£19,969.41</u>

*** Accrual for tax rebate on gift aid £2400

Sponsorship

We have had yet another very successful year with over 100 children being sponsored by individuals and now 5 teachers. Following our appeal last year we now have 4 teachers at the Orphanage school being sponsored thus enabling many more children to receive education. The Hilden Charity, to whom we are very grateful, has also provided £2000 to pay the rest of the staff at the orphanage school. Unfortunately teachers and clergy do not get regular salaries and they do their job out of the kindness of their hearts. There are still many children requiring the right to education so if you have any contacts please pass on our details to them.

One problem we do have is when either sponsors stop sponsoring their child or if a child goes onto secondary school and the sponsor stops. It is heartbreaking for the child who really values their education.

Unfortunately we have to increase the sponsorship money as fees and other essential equipment has increased. For the school year Jan 06 primary fees are £80 and secondary £155. Please amend your standing orders for this and it is helpful if it can be made for November each year as this year many people were late paying their sponsorship and the children were late starting school.

Thank you for your continued support. Remember to Gift Aid your money to enable us to get 28% tax back!

Jean Ajin

Report from Glenburnie Butaga School - June 2004

The sponsorship program is fine. We have more children coming to Glenburnie Butega and then share the little we have. I have managed to give simple projects to the homes of sponsored children. We have eight goats of which six have produced and we are preparing to pass on kids to other homes of sponsored children for them to rear. I am preparing to take pictures in these homes.

I have also got two piglets and we expect two more.

The school is full of life and excitement. The solar lighting was installed and I enclose pictures of this. Also, for the beds, mattresses and blankets, thank you so much for this contribution.

Send our love to all those who have contributed.

Victoria Lwanga Lukwago

(A firm from Bristol have visited since then, in Feb 05, and installed solar lighting in all classrooms and dormitories, whilst making use of our solar equipment. This company were recruited by the Parish of St Philip and St John in Bath. The pupils at Glenburnie Butega who board are now able to do homework at night. Sarah Birch)

Report from Orphans Primary Vocational School

To all members of the Mityana Charity UK,

My friends, I greet you in the name of our beloved Jesus. First of all I thank you for all you are doing for the good of Mityana Orphans School. All the orphans are very well, especially the 42 who stay with me. These are those who don't have any relatives at all.

May God bless you all.

Margaret Serenkuma

Mityana Charity Committee Uganda Report - 2005

We are so delighted to have you here arriving safe and sound. You are most welcome beloved visitors. We hope you had a comfortable flight and are not worried with the dusty and bumpy ride to Mityana. I am sure there is something good around (sunshine and the fresh air). We have been looking forward to this arrival and we are happy to see new and old faces. It has been quite a task to send you information about our activities and projects and in some cases we have been stuck in deciding what to do. Now that you are here, we are going to take this

chance and show you our achievements as well as our problems and I am sure by the end of the day we shall have reached a conclusion.

We would like to thank you so much for all the time you have spared us to come all the way down here to Mityana and all you have done to sustain the projects. This kind of love you have shown us is very Godly and we have been praying for it throughout. The Lord has answered our prayers. Praise His name and you are welcome.

We have faced quite a number of problems and have tried to solve them especially in the projects as you will see for yourselves as we take you around. We have done our level best to sort out but it remains a big problem when a sponsorship of a child stops suddenly and he or she is still at school in the middle of his or her studies. We have faced widows or children with tears running down their cheeks and we have to find a way of comforting them not to lose hope. Praise God that some of these cases have had their sponsorship renewed.

Another problem exists at the Orphanage School where the teachers are paid very little - about £25 / month / teacher - while the recommended Government primary schools teacher's salary is £70 / month. There is also the problem that Margaret Serunkuma, an elderly lady, has to feed over 40 children – some are quite big. A cook requires about £7 / month and a stable supply of 90kg of beans and 150kg of maize flour / month. Daily running of the school needs about £500 / year.

We are grateful for the work you do here and the funds you send to build houses, classrooms, hostels, to buy cows and the solar panels.

Presently, we cannot install toilets at Kikumbi Church due to lack of funds and we have been told that the church has been threatened with closure. The lay reader of the church came running to us and showed us a note from the Health Authority which gave 30 days from February 18th 2005 to construct a toilet – this was a last warning. (The UK committee have since given a first deposit for the toilet construction)

We are extremely thankful for the love and care Ann 'Nabukenya' Potts has for Mityana and all the soliciting of funds to buy bibles, bicycles for lay readers and funding for the farm.

Stephen Bagunywa

WORKING FOR THE BISHOP IN MITYANA

Visiting Mityana in August 2004 was an amazing experience of being swept along in the mighty work of God.

Bishop Dunstan Bukenya had invited me to stay with him for a month and undertake a programme of teaching for clergy, Lay Readers etc. on Prayer, Administration and Leadership. I taught at the Conference Centre and also drove long distances along red dirt tracks to visit outlying Archdeaconries. It was a blessing and a privilege to have the wonderful help of Canons John Musaasizi and Edith Ssemambo. As John was working with me it was not surprising that evangelism played an important part in our programme and (praise God) many people gave their lives to Christ.

On Sundays I usually got up early to make radio broadcasts, preached several times and visited new friends. Preaching in Mityana Prison and seeing many of the men there make a commitment to Christ was a very moving experience.

I also met with several Diocesan Boards and got a much better picture of the needs of the Diocese and the work they undertake in proclaiming the gospel and caring for the social and medical needs of the people. Arising from this I visited Lwankuba Farm, and got caught up with the vision for this virtually unused asset. We must help to get it into production!

It was a busy month! I distributed the donated clothes, toothbrushes, soap etc., to the hospital, orphanage, schools, United Nations Association and to people in the outlying areas, and would like to say “**WEEBALE**” (thank you) from them all to the people here who so generously helped.

The people of Mityana give us so much of their love and friendship when we visit Uganda, and they badly need all the help that we can give to them. My visit was a time of amazing blessing and I am already planning the next one!

Ann Potts (“Nabukenya”)

VISIT TO MITYANA (February 2004)

When we (Jean Ajin, Ann Potts and I) set off from Heathrow in early February, along with all 26 pieces of luggage (courtesy of Sue Williams' persuasive influence with British Airways!), I really hadn't much idea of what to expect. Although I'd seen photographs, even a video, I couldn't know what life was really like in Mityana. So when we were visiting people there, I had to keep reminding myself that this was not something laid on for my benefit, not some interesting television documentary, but this was what life was like for these people every day of the year.

As we visited sponsored children and delivered gifts we had brought with us, the welcome and gratitude with which we were greeted was very humbling. Edrine lives in a small mudbrick hut in the jungle up on the hillside. There is basically just one room, with a curtain across, behind which all the family sleeps. The floor is bare dirt, red

dust. Cooking is done outside, on a small clay oven fired by sticks gathered in the jungle. There is no water or sanitation. Water has to be collected by the children from the bore hole at the bottom of the hill, a mile or more away. They carry the plastic containers on their heads back up the hill. Any washing is done in small plastic bowls and the clothes spread on the bushes or on the ground to dry.

When we visited Edrine, he was dressed in a large man's T-shirt which came down to his knees – and probably nothing else! And yet his family was so pleased to see us that they heaped fruit on us, by way of saying thank-you – a big bunch of matoke (a plantain rather like small green bananas, which forms the staple of their diet), huge avocados and papaya.

Edrine has to walk one and a half hours to get to school every day – and school starts at 7 or 8 o'clock in the morning, so he has to set out before it is light. And the school day lasts until 4.00 or so, then he has to help clean the classrooms and playground. He wouldn't have anything to eat at lunchtime either, if charities like ours had not helped provide food, such as a mug of porridge. Yet the children are so keen to learn, and the parents so anxious for them to have an education, that they really appreciate the chance of going to school.

I should like to visit Mityana again one day, but even if I can't, my memories and impressions of Uganda will remain with me and, I hope, always make me more appreciative of all the facilities and benefits of life in the UK.

Heather Marsh

A Letter of Appreciation

I greet you in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord, and let his name be praised forever more.

I thank you very much for your generosity towards my studies at UCA, ever since I started my course you have been doing good to see to it that I come to the end of my course. It is my prayer that you receive more blessings a hundred times more according to what you have done ; let the Glory be turned to God. Amen.

My wife and I were blessed by a new baby; now he is three months old and he is fine.

I am now in my final year(3rd) and I hope to finish in May 2005 in the first week and if my bishop will ordain me in December. So now, I take this opportunity to thank you very much for your support this last academic year and the care you have shown me by sending me the university fees which amounts to £400 each semester.

Thank You so much and may God bless you abundantly.

I remain Messach Lubega, your son

Prayer Points

- We give thanks for all God's work done in Mityana and we ask for guidance for both the UK and the Ugandan committees in the use of funds raised here
- We pray for the good health of the Mityana committee
- Please pray for the clergy in Mityana especially the Bishop of Mityana (the Rev Dunstan Bukenya) and those in training
- Please pray for the sponsorship of the children and that the programme will continue to grow in strength - we pray that God will bless both sponsors and children
- We give thanks for all those who visit Mityana and come back inspired to serve