



**Newsletter: April 2019**  
**Volume 20 : Issue 2**

Dear friends,

Greetings from Kitgum where it is hot one day and even hotter the next.

A new record was set recently when the temperature in Bev's "container kitchen" reached 50 degrees Celsius. We returned to Uganda on 24<sup>th</sup> March and after spending a few days in Kampala getting supplies and organizing documents required to renew our Entry Permits (Interpol Police Checks etc.) we travelled up to Kitgum on the new road. The new highway (built by Chinese contractors) means that the trip is so much better than in previous years. It has some very special features, including hundreds of speed bumps set up before and after every little village, and even more unique are the speed bumps installed across the "overtaking lane" originally installed to enable vehicles to overtake with safety. Passing a vehicle is now a slow process using the overtaking lane, but it provides an excellent opportunity for vibrating food into place after lunch!

It was a pleasant surprise to find that the road from Kitgum township out to the Cornerstone property has been up-graded and bituminized, and even has solar lighting along the roadside for about the first 500 metres from town. Solar lighting has also been installed in many of the streets in town. Good to see some progress!!

Upon arrival at the property we were rather shocked to see just how seriously dry it had been during our time back in Australia. The banana plantation, hedge, and most of the shrubs were in pretty bad shape.

We managed to save about half of the banana plantation and with many, many trips from the water bore with jerry cans in wheelbarrows, our workmen have now given everything enough water to see new growth.

Several nights ago we received heavy rain and follow-up rain last night. Everyone is so thankful for the break in the weather, enabling everyone in our local community to begin planting crops for the coming year.

### **Kitchen for widows underway:**

In recent weeks our workmen have completed construction of the walls of what will become a kitchen for the elderly widows living on the Cornerstone property. Dominica is living in the first tukul and the second tukul built late last year will soon be the new home for "Sylvia" our second resident widow. (More about her new home on page 2). The kitchen will provide a sheltered room enabling the women to cook their meals in the traditional way, but protected from all kinds of weather.



### **Miracle's definitely happen:**

In the January issue of the newsletter we asked you our readers, to pray for **Olara Charles** who had just been diagnosed with Tuberculosis and was extremely ill in Kitgum General Hospital.

In Olara's story we stated: **"A miracle is needed to see this young man's life restored back to health."**

This is exactly what has happened since our last newsletter. He has gained weight, no longer needs crutches to walk, is very thankful for your prayers, and is looking forward to the future, with his new friend Jesus Christ. What an incredible change!

He now comes to Bev's weekly Bible Study. Thank-you everyone for your prayers. They have been answered, and his x-rays show that the TB is gone!. God is faithful and has brought an amazing difference to this young man's life. His HIV status will mean on-going ARV drugs for the rest of his life, but these are provided free by the Ugandan Govt. A special thank-you to our dear friend Jobin Sam for his faithful contact and encouragement for Olara while we were back in Australia.



December 2018



April 2019

### **Second "tukul" roof structure replaced:**

Local craftsmen were employed late last year, to construct a second "tukul" for another elderly widow to live on the Cornerstone property. They erected the roof structure quite quickly, finishing the tukul just before we returned to Australia last December.

Unfortunately, upon our return to Kitgum in March this year, we discovered that they had used short-cut methods, resulting in the roof nearing collapse.

The whole roof structure had to be removed, and new bamboo supports purchased and installed by a new group of men. This of course has doubled the cost of the roof, but at the time of writing, the new roof is now complete and has been constructed correctly this time.

Dear Sylvia has been waiting so patiently for her new home.

Our workmen poured the concrete floor this week and will fit the door as soon as possible, so that Sylvia can move in within a week or two. She is so excited about living in her own tukul. You would not believe what she lives in at present !!



(PS: the bamboo ladder probably doesn't meet Occupational Health and Safety standards)

### **Entry Permits Approved:**

We were pleased to receive an e-mail from our MAF Logistics agent earlier this week, to say that Entry Permits had been granted for 3 years. Initially we thought we could only apply for 2 years, but he suggested we try for 3, and it was so good to receive the news. That means we can go to Kampala next week to pick them up and deliver our passports for stamping.

### **Delay with House Steel Wall frames:**

With the House floor completed late last year, Wayne spent many hours while back in Adelaide preparing drawings to send to an engineer in Kampala who promised to design and manufacture “Light Gauge Steel Wall Frame” components ready to be erected upon our return to Uganda in late March this year.

However, the acronym T.I.A. (This Is Africa!) best describes the current situation.

Having waited for 8 weeks now, the engineer has not even started the final design drawings and we have no idea when the finished components will be ready to collect from Kampala and be transported to Kitgum. Many promises were made by the engineer, but to date nothing has been done. So .... we wait until he returns our phone calls or replies to e-mail requests. When we travel to Kampala next week to have our Entry Permit approval stamped in our passports, we will visit the engineer to ask why the designs have not been completed. It is so frustrating, and progress with the construction of the house is now at a stand-still.

In the mean-time the focus of our building program is to complete the new facilities for our elderly widows.

### **2019 Annual General Meeting:**

The Annual General Meeting of Cornerstone Foundation (Australia) Inc. was held on Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> February at 2.00 pm at Gospel City Church, MUNNO PARA. Gospel City Church pastor Nick Nikolettos was elected to the Board and John Tate and Paul Johnson are continuing to serve for a further 2 years. A special thank-you to Manfred Eckert who has served on the Board for many years and will continue as our website specialist, and to Shelagh Brunskill and Steve Honeybone who served on the Board during 2018. We look forward to see what God will do in the coming months.

### **Prayer Points:**

#### **Praise God for:**

- ✓ Our safe return from Australia
- ✓ Donors who have chosen to sponsor 3 more widows
- ✓ The donations received enabling us to build the second tukul with concrete floor
- ✓ For Olara Charles’ miracle: now free from Tuberculosis with improved faith, health and weight
- ✓ For our men building a lovely Kitchen for our elderly widows
- ✓ His faithful presence, enabling us to continue to minister to those in need around us



#### **Please pray:**

- For both the short-term and long-term help Wayne needs with the building programme
- For Dominica as she is causing some problems finding clever ways to smuggle in tobacco and alcohol
- For the Bible Study Group as we meet for fellowship and learn from the book of Hebrews
- For the planting season, that our local people will receive the follow up rains necessary for their crops
- For Paska, and Caroline, with their on-going needs

With our love, *Wayne and Bev*

**Donation Reply:** *(A receipt and thank-you note will be issued for all donations)*

I / We would like to:

- Support the ministry of Cornerstone Foundation (Australia) Inc. in Kitgum
- Sponsor a Widow for \$25.00 a Month
- Donate toward the construction costs of a “Tukul” and purchase of essential items for a Widow
- Enclosed is my donation of:** \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Postcode: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

**Method of Payment:**    Cheque    Postal Order    Direct Debit

**Cheque / Postal Order:** payable to: Cornerstone Foundation (Australia) Inc.

**Direct Debit:**   Commonwealth Bank Of Australia  
Account Name: Cornerstone Foundation Australia Inc.  
BSB No: 065102   Account No: 10154438

**Please post to:**   Mr Paul Johnson  
Cornerstone Foundation (Australia) Inc.  
Unit 8 / 90 Melrose Street  
MOUNT PLEASANT SA 5235  
Mobile: 0456 888 010



**Reminder:** If using Direct Debit for any payments please notify the Treasurer so that a receipt can be issued for Auditing purposes. Thank-you.

Contact Paul either by postal address as above, Mobile  
or by e-mail: **paul\_johnson\_42@bigpond.com**