

So – what’s been happening over the last few months? Lots!

JUNE VISITORS



We only have one big team of visitors each year, and this was it! 14 people from my home church or otherwise associated with Amari came across. This year’s focus was on adding to the solar farm, painting and other maintenance, teaching Amari staff how to do use a tractor, and doing music with classroom teachers and classes.



Left: extending the solar farm panels



Right: Dolf and Ps Graham checking all the electronic infrastructure that runs the solar



Left: Ross instructing Kiiza, Joseph and Dan on how to run and maintain the tractor



Right: Painting the ring beams of the P7 classroom and new offices



Teacher Lutgard is leading our students in the Music, Dance and Drama competition. Lisa, who teaches music in Australia, is giving her some tips.



Jo handing out waterproof Amari bags to our students. Great to see a lot of them coming to school each day!



Kris and Jill doing meal prep. A HUGE blessing for me that the team comes with cooks!



Jess and Liv helping with the fruit and vegetable chopping – a lot of work for a team of fourteen!



Mick painting on one of the school walls. Great to have a commercial painter on the team this year!



Kris visiting Safina, who is on our medical programme. Also visiting Safina's sister, who is one of Kris's sponsor children.



We might be remote, but one of the perks is living next to Murchison Falls National Park. Our team had two days in there after finishing with us.

AMARI-GARDINER NURSERY AND PRIMARY SCHOOL



Our Lower Nursery children dancing their way out to a P.E lesson on the oval.



Tophas – P5



Our new Deputy Head, Teacher Godfrey, leading a school assembly



P6s reading outdoors



Teacher Fred got married in May. Great fun for the whole staff, and our lady teachers made beautiful bridesmaids!

Lots of roadworks going on at the moment through the Park and from Buliisa to the regional towns of Hoima and Masindi. This is in preparation for the extraction of oil which was discovered here about 12 years ago.

AMARI BUILDING PROGRAMME



Our builders have continued to work on the new school admin offices. They are now working on the internal ceilings.



The front of our school is looking great now that the P7 classroom and teachers offices have been completed and painted.



The school hall slab has been laid, and bricks made and cured. Next step is to start putting up walls.

We need to raise about another \$30,000 for the doors, roofing and finishing of the school hall. If you would like to contribute towards this, could you please contact us.



Our builders have also marked out and dug the trenches for the children's dining shelter. The dining shelter is an initiative of Julia, one of our supporters, who has a vested interest in the food side of things! See fundraiser details below.

AMARI SPONSORSHIP PROGRAMME



Three months ago Kato (in the wheelchair) came up with his father to see if we could help get the wheelchair repaired. Kato was being pushed by his sister Harriet, who is also his carer as their mother needs to work in the garden, and their father do some casual fishing. At the same time we found out that neither child was in school due to accessibility issues. Amari agreed to take both Kato and his sister into our school. Although Harriet is older than the other students in her class, she is helping with Kato's mobility, and getting some basics. Teachers will then start to extend her.

Kato is sponsored, and someone has generously donated so we can get a disabled latrine built for him. We would love to get Harriet sponsored too.



Sandra came into school at the start of this year. Her father passed away in 2017, and her mother abandoned the family when Sandra was three. She is now living with her paternal aunt and her seven children. Her uncle is also catering for another 2 families and several children. As they own no land, they struggle to care for all the children.

If you would like to help with full or partial sponsorship of Harriet, Sandra or another of the 30 children still needing sponsorship, could you please contact us on sponsorship@amari.org.au, or via the website www.amari.org.au

AMARI COMMUNITY CHILDREN'S MEDICAL



Winnie



Meet Winnie. Winnie was referred to us in 2015, and Amari, through some donations, was able to get her sent to CURE Hospital on the other side of Uganda, which specializes in hydrocephalus cases. She had an operation, and now has yearly reviews. This year we visited her in Wanseko (about a 15min drive from us on the Lake), and found her in school. Lovely to see her thriving, and enjoying herself!

Thank you to those who contribute to our children's medical programme. You are making a difference in the quality of life of these children and their families.



About 18 months ago, 21-year-old Shamima was referred to us from Kabolwa, a fishing village about a 20 minute drive from us. She was born a hermaphrodite (having both male and female genitals). Shamima has always identified as a girl, and testing has confirmed this is genetically correct.

After some wait time to consult a surgeon, we were able to get Shamima assessed. CoRSU Hospital, which does reconstructive surgery, will do the operation to remove the male genitals, but as Shamima is older, the surgery will cost. We have raised some money towards this, but still need another \$1000. If you would like to help with Shamima's operation, could you please contact us.



The kinds of cases Amari usually helps with are those requiring reconstructive surgery. We partner with CoRSU Hospital in Kampala, who will cover the cost of assessment and surgery. The patient (and hence Amari) has to provide for transport, accommodation and incidentals like lab testing and appliances

Angela (left) has brittle bone, and is unable to be operated on. But a wheelchair means she can now get to school. James is having ongoing surgeries and rehabilitation for clubbed feet.

AMARI COMMUNITY CRISIS AND SELF-SUSTAINABILITY



Last year Henry, Juliet and Janet lived with us for a month while we worked with local authorities to locate their grandmother, who had been looking for them. Two of the children have a terminal illness, and generous donations enabled us to build them this house. Rather than Amari taking the children into care, this is helping us keep them with their grandmother and in their biological family unit. (Pictured here with Jaz and Fausta)



We still need another \$2000 to put in doors and windows and to finish the walls. If you would like to contribute towards this, could you please contact us.



You may remember the 3 triplets – Natricia, Morgan and Oscar - that were born a year ago. We visited them recently. Mum and Dad are doing a great job with 6 children under the age of 6, but are finding their living conditions a bit squishy! We would like to help them build a bigger, more permanent house. If you would like to contribute towards this, please contact us.



AMARI FUNDRAISERS

A couple of faithful Amari supporters are currently holding fundraisers you may be interested in attending:



Julia, who co-manages the renowned Holy Basil Thai Restaurant in Croydon, is working as a Tupperware consultant, and raising money to build a dining shelter for our children. She is doing fantastically well, and has already raised over \$6000 for us. If you book a Tupperware Party through her, she will also demonstrate by cooking Thai food for you! (Yum!) Julia can be contacted on 0406 900 256 or through the Tupperware website at www.tupperware.com.au



Julie and Di (Sisters Abroad) are hosting a Winery Tour on Sunday August 4th. Meeting time : 10:30am at Coldstream Foodworks Car park. Cost \$85 a head, including lunch. Finishing up at Coldstream Brewery 4.30pm. Places are limited and it is expected it will sell out quickly. Julie and Di have been a real blessing and raised \$10,000 for us over the last few years. If you are interested, you can contact Julie on 0413 845 475 or via the 'Sistersabroad' facebook page.

Praise and Prayer Points

- *We all had a lovely time with our visitors – Amari staff gained some professional development. Our visitors learned about African (rural Ugandan) community, and interacted with our students. And as the only Australian (and indeed westerner) up in this immediate area, the company is always great for me.*
- *Pray for our builders as they continue with the somewhat daunting task of completing the school hall, and begin on the dining hall*
- *Pray as we begin the interviewing and selection of our 2020 student intake*
- *Pray for our Ugandan board as they make some decisions regarding next year and beginning our secondary school. Praise God for the wisdom, guidance and encouragement provided by our Australian board (two of whom were on the visiting team)*

Amari Community Development Organisation

Amari CDO was established in 2008 to help relieve the effects of poverty through the support of education, development and welfare programs conducted in developing countries, principally Uganda. We have 40 acres of land at Kisiabi in Buliisa District. We are registered as an NGO (Non Government Organisation) in Australia and Uganda. Our emphasis is on the education and support of orphaned and vulnerable children. We aim to invest in them educationally and spiritually through quality Christian education.

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