



Kagando Rural Development Centre
Kagando Hospital
PB Kasese
Uganda
September 2007

FRIENDS OF KAGANDO

‘All for the glory of God’ (1 Cor 10.31)

Recent news from Rev Benson and others at Kagando is encouraging including that they have several doctors at present and also a second radiographer for which they are very grateful. The building for the reconditioned xray, sent out from UK last year has been completed, the xray is installed and the initial tests confirm that it has survived shipping, and works, although some further work is needed. Praise God. A newly built mortuary has been completed and is fully operational.

The UK charity, Friends of Kagando, is approaching its fifth birthday and we have decided to celebrate. All are welcome to join us if you can. The celebration will be held in Reading on Saturday 26th January 2008. More details to follow, but please keep the day free.

A DVD depicting life at Kagando, taken and edited by Daniel Settatee, will soon be sent out to everyone on the Friends of Kagando address list, giving a wonderful taste of life there. Daniel has put a great deal of time and expertise into it, and we do hope everyone will enjoy it. A big thank you to Daniel and his family for undertaking that big task.

It has been so exciting to see more money being released by some very generous donations for Kagando which includes over £1000 monthly to help with staff wages and enabling a large debt, inherited by the current management, to be almost cleared. Praise God. It is great to read the different and imaginative ways people have used to raise money, such as a 40th birthday party, selling some valuable antiques, a cricket team’s usage of their pitch and carol singing etc.

One of the projects at Kagando is micro-finance. Small amounts of money are loaned over short periods of time to local people to enable them to make a living, often by starting a business. Loans to individuals are mostly to women and they average £15 and might be to buy and sell firewood or keep poultry. Groups borrow around £125 and could be for setting up a larger enterprise like coffee production. Money circulates around the scheme and the repayment rate is good. The interest charged is just enough to pay the employees and manage it. By running its own scheme KARUDEC is protecting local people from exploitation. Would anyone be able to contribute to the circulating fund? Each time that money is lent out, it benefits a whole family.

The need for more electric power in and around the hospital continues to be an ongoing cause for concern. A hydro engineer visited recently to do a pre-feasibility study of the local rivers and feels there is potential for a substantial new hydropower scheme locally – a very useful first step in a mammoth project.

Benson’s prayer request is that local people ‘grow in faith and may be drawn to God by the work they see us doing’. May that be the prayer for each one of us too.