



First and foremost I would like to thank all our donors, supporters and child sponsors for enabling Equipe to continue working into East Africa, I know that in these unprecedented times we have all faced challenges. Two new trustees have joined since our last newsletter, Sue Marshall in the UK and Tim Geddes who spends much of his time in Uganda.

Over the past year our child sponsorship program has continued with us working with several schools and enabling the children to have access to home learning materials. Online learning here is not an option. At the end of 2020 we officially terminated our child sponsorship programs in Kenya and Tanzania due to the inability of our partners to maintain an adequate level of accountability.

We offer our apologies that due to Covid 19 situation school reports and letters were not available for us to send out at the end of last year.

The Uganda school system is slowly returning to normal on a staggered basis and there will possibly be changes to the academic year.

Once all the pupils have returned we will be able to update sponsors on the status of their child and also be able to assign new students to those transferring their sponsorship from Kenya and Tanzania.

**John Gasston, Chairman**



### **Eunice Memorial Medical Centre, Kalangala.**

The medical centre transferred to a new location at the end of 2020 into a better building with room for further development.

Donations have been made by other organisations alongside Equipe which have enabled more diagnostic equipment to be purchased.

John Gasston became the first person ever to get his PSA test done in the islands with the results available within an hour.

We have just received a donation to buy a much needed generator



### **Children in P7**

P7 children were allowed back into school before the others to enable them to study for their Primary Leaving Exam as this is critical for their future. Schools had to implement social distancing etc....



One of our P7 students Emily comes from a village called Papacol near Tororo. Number six of ten children her father works as a driver in Kalangala where she studies along with her sister Jesca.

## Another Opportunity to Help



Equipe were asked to check out an Orphanage in Nendha, a village in Mayuge District, Eastern Uganda that a church group in Hereford is supporting.

Taking all day to reach the village Sue and John met up with Robert Muyinda the founder and were touched not only by the work being done but the lack of resources available.

Equipe were able to help by providing a new house for an old lady who was living in terrible conditions, at a cost of less than £100. We were also able to provide for a water harvesting system at the orphanage as the children were having to walk two miles to collect and carry water from a spring in a swamp area.

As a result of our investigation the group in Hereford have now provided a shallow well for the whole community.



## Helping in our local community

Providing a bunk bed with mattresses for a local family whose children were sleeping on the floor.



Christmas Lunch Shared with our neighbours



## Distributing Gifts from friends in Hereford.



With your continued support Equipe has been able to assist poorer families with food during the Pandemic, we have also been able to help with medical costs for treatment, medicines and surgery. We are on the ground ensuring that all donations go where they can be most effective with accountability at the forefront of our thinking.

Equipe is currently in the process of renewing our NGO status in Uganda, the government have implemented a new system with a lot more frustrating bureaucracy and with increased costs. This is proving to be very time consuming but something that needs to be done in order for us to continue the work.

We had been hoping that 2021 would see some of you visiting the projects out here but unfortunately any plans have been put on hold for now. UK travel bans are due to be lifted in the summer so we look forward to receiving visitors later in the year ???

If not there's always 2022!

We would love to hear from you.

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