



Account of our trip to Tiira Village in Eastern Uganda from Sept. 29<sup>th</sup> to Oct. 10<sup>th</sup> 2017 last .

On landing at Entebbe Airport we were picked up by Wilson Bulwa, a previous employee of World Vision who we had asked to take us in a hired car to our guesthouse in Busia Town, the nearest town to Tiira Village. We had engaged Wilson to translate what we had to say to the parents and children on the next day. We arrived at the guest house at midnight on Friday.



With John Kennedy, we had drawn up a list of responsibilities for parents who were being supported by Opportunity Knox. As we intended increasing the number of families we needed to make clear to families what their responsibilities were so that our donor's contributions to the charity was being used wisely and effectively. We needed another Ugandan national independent of our trusted volunteer to communicate with the families as a double guarantee to our donors and ourselves that everything was being carried out according to our instructions to John Kennedy. The Charities regulator has impressed on us the need to have more than one person from Uganda involved as an additional oversight measure on all of our activities.



On Saturday morning we were up bright and early to meet the local police chief in Tiira at 8.00 a.m. as well as to visit the local leaders to tell them of the work we would be doing. At 9.30 a.m. we met with parents of the 35 existing families being supported for 2 hours in the local hall. At 11.00 a.m. we met with all of the children who were over 10 years of age.



After that we started interviewing new families who had put themselves forward as the poorest of the poor families in the Tiira Village and Parish. We had drawn up a questionnaire that would allow us to select suitable families that met our criteria.



On Sunday morning we spoke at the service in the local Anglican Church to let people know we had come in order to help more families. At 10.30 a.m. we met with all of the children we support who were 10 years of age and younger. We came across some very poor families who have been struggling for years with paying school fees, often unsuccessfully. So it is common to come across 18 year olds who are not yet finished primary school, but they stick at it.



We spent two days going through all the paper work for financial transactions as presented by John Kennedy as well as photocopying all the filed material he had on each child including their end of term and end of year school reports.



On the final Saturday of our visit all of the existing families that we support came to a final meeting and Ursula gave out a bag of underclothes and personal effects to each family. We also had a party to give out the last of the balloons and sweets that create happy memories for these poor children.

Finally, on the second Sunday we met all of the new families and all the children who are going to be supported in the New Year. We told them of the requirement and the importance of regular attendance, good behaviour, and good effort shown to learn. If we are satisfied with their efforts when we visit and meet them in April 2018, then we would fund their education for 5 years as well as provide mattresses and blankets for them. We drove back to Entebbe the next day to fly home

This letter is being given to our existing donors, not to request further donations, but to keep you up to date.