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Dear friends

Mission and quiche

We have come to the end of our home assignment and return to Uganda greatly encouraged. We have visited 22 different churches, slept in at least two different beds per week and become acquainted with more tea cakes and quiches than could feed Marie Antoinette's revolutionary enemies. Yet the life of a nomad is a privileged one. Our eyes have been opened to the great diversity and richness that exists in the Body of Christ in the UK. We have been ministered to by the kindness of individuals opening their homes to us and excited by the vision for mission that exists within the UK church. To all who hosted, fed, supported and encouraged us we want to say a big thank you.

Prayer: Praise God for the work he is doing in churches in the UK engaging both in home mission and supporting cross-cultural mission.

Home assignment reflections

Being away from Uganda has given us time to reflect on a life that is lived on the edge of two different cultures, being a part of both but not feeling fully immersed in either. In the UK as well as being mesmerised by the wonders of broadband internet, we have loved being anonymous in a crowd again and liberated from an aid-induced dependency that so stifles enterprise and resourcefulness that sometimes you feel better known for what you have than who you are. At the same time we have missed our Ugandan friends and brothers and sisters who encourage us in our walk with God, we have missed the community we have become a part of in Kasese, and where else in the world can you get a plate of beans, rice and lump of goat for £1? We are ready to go back 'home'.

Meanwhile back at the ranch...

We have been in regular contact with friends in Kasese and all seems well with confirmation that good rains have



not only made the cabbages swell but also the potholes. Solomon (UCLF lawyer) has continued to take on numerous defence cases particularly at the high court in Fort Portal. Leaders in the



Jenny and Solomon in the Kasese office

local churches have continued to meet for reconciliation meetings and our home church of Calvary Baptist is planning an evangelism week for Kasese town in early December. Most exciting of all has been the news that the local Kasese education



The Kasese Baptist Education Committee

committee has facilitated their first workshop (for the past two years Graeme had been organising and running these with the committee's assistance). This may sound mundane but for us this is an enormous step forward in increasing the capacity of the local committee to do things themselves and enabling them to sustain the work long after we have left.

Prayer: Praise God for enabling the work to continue in Kasese, remembering especially Solomon and the men in the local education committee.

Leavin' on a jet plane...

And so our focus now returns to Uganda where we find our diary already filled up to November. Initially we shall be in Kampala welcoming and helping three new BMS families settle into life there. The immediate focus of our work when we return to Kasese will be for Jenny to appoint a new paralegal to help her in the legal work and for Graeme to set up and equip a room that has been given to the BUU education committee by a local Baptist church to serve as their new office. Thereafter lie several weeks of training workshops and conferences, school and church visits as well as time to be refreshed at the BMS Africa retreat in October.



Students at village Baptist school

Prayer: Please pray for the three new BMS families coming to live in Kampala – that they would settle in well and for the various activities that lie ahead on the diary below...

- 13 July UK:** Graeme flies to Entebbe (Jenny staying for two extra weeks to finalise some things and arrives on 29 July)
- 14-23 July, Kampala:** Sorting out housing and orientation programme for new BMS families
- 23-28 July, Kasese:** Planning for upcoming workshops
- 29 July-12 August, Kampala:** Finalise and help run orientation programme for new BMS families
- 13-19 August, Kasese town:** School visits and paralegal appointment and training
- 23-27 August, Wakiso, central region:** Christian teachers' training conference with New Hope International
- 30 August-8 September, Kasese district villages:** Local schools work, establishing official office for the education committee in Kasese town, community legal workshops and radio shows
- 9-10 August, Fort Portal town:** Pastors and leaders legal training on land law, marriage, domestic violence and inheritance.
- 15-19 August, Mukono, central region:** School leaders management training workshop
- 21-24 August, Kampala:** BUU Education Board planning

meetings

- 27 September-4 October, Kasese:** Schools work, legal community workshops and radio shows
- 5-7 October, Kasese:** Lawyers team from the UK arriving to take part in community legal trainings
- 8-11 October, Jinja:** East Africa Christian lawyers conference
- 11-15 October, Jinja (tbc):** Training pastors at the Uganda Baptist Seminary on legal and mediation skills
- 16-21 October, Jinja:** BMS Africa Retreat
- 25-29 October, Kasese town:** Training Compassion International staff on legal and conflict resolution skills together with Peace and Reconciliation Ministries, Africa.

Thank you all for your love and support. It has been a real joy to see so many of you during our home assignment. Until we meet again, adieu.

With our love, Graeme and Jenny

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