

Visit to Mukono from Guildford – February 15th to 17th 2014 – Final

1. The visitors were Angela Gunning, her Granddaughter Amelia Little and Jim Rattray.

2. Purpose of visit

- To meet the Mukono Committee that had been elected in Feb 2013 to run the operations.
- To review the activities and the accounts for 2013 with the committee
- To inspect Guildford’s physical interventions and meet the current three sponsored students;
- To discuss the operation of the Library with the Town Clerk
- To hold a meeting with Linked schools Head Teachers and to visit the Linked schools
- To visit the Mukono Community sports activities run by Douglas Kisauzi, Kalule Abdu and Head teachers at the 3 venues;
- To visit Keenotes and FDF band and give additional musical instruments donated by Surrey Arts.
- To visit the Municipal Council run Mukono Health Centre;

3. Summary

- The visitors’ itinerary was arranged by Susan Wamala (Secretary). Elly escorted them and drove them around throughout the stay. Thanks are due to both.
- The visitors were warmly greeted at each linked schools.
- The three sponsored students are doing well with their studies. Two will graduate this year.
- Keenotes and FDF were pleased with the refurbished instruments that have been donated by Surrey Arts. Visitors enjoyed fine performances of music and dancing.
- The sports run by Kalule and Douglas at three Mukono schools for their local communities with volunteer coaches are very well attended and offer excellent value for money
- The library is not yet operating satisfactorily. A meeting was held with the Town Clerk who indicated that he would meet the Mukono Guildford Committee with the view of an early rectification of the problems.
- The Nutrition Workshop was a success, being an ambitious launch for a national roll-out. The key feature is to use children to brief their parents on the benefits of nutritious crops, and to help change attitudes and diet.

4. Committee Meeting at Colline Hotel

A committee meeting followed by buffet supper was held at the Colline Hotel on Sunday 16th Feb. The meeting was attended by:

Julius Mukwanya – Chair	Kalule Abdu – representing sports
Timothy Njakasi – Vice Chair	Bridget Namagembe – representing students
Edward Kaweesi – Treasurer	William Bulega – representing enterprise interests
Susan Wamala – Secretary	Kiryia Joshua – bookkeeper
Vincent Matovu – representing primary schools	Angela Gunning – Guildford Trustee
Susan Suubo – representing secondary schools	Jim Rattray – Guildford Trustee.

Shadrak Kyobe – representing Guildford did not attend, as he was unavailable.

a. Visit programme –

Susan Wamala discussed the detail of the February 2014 visit programme by the Guildford Trustees

b. Accounts 2013

- The attached Summary of Income and Expenditure for 2013, prepared in Guildford, was presented to the meeting. The accounts were examined by the committee and the bookkeeper and were approved. They will be reviewed by William Bazadde, the independent examiner.
- Registration of the Mukono Guildford Link CBO (Community Based Organisation) together with its updated Constitution will be renewed, following discussion with the previous Secretary (Prosper Lwamasaka) and the bookkeeper.
- During 2014 Kirya Joshua will train undergraduate Masitula and transfer the bookkeeping role to her, if this is appropriate.

c. Review of Activities

Each Committee member outlined their activities and the aspirations of those they represent.

- Kalule is undertaking the sports programme
- William Bulega and his music students are making thousands of bricks for Keenotes stage – they will need to be fired soon – before the rainy season begins in March/April
- Vincent Matovu – mentioned occasional problems when Head teachers are transferred – and the link connections are not properly handed over. This can result in the new Head being unable to continue the link activities satisfactorily.
- Susan Suubo – advised that the economics workshop in 2013 was very successful – and hoped it would be possible to fund a similar workshop in 2014.
- Bridget reminded the Committee that in 2014 Kenneth and Masitula will be graduating, and looking to their future. JR confirmed that Patrick Kagenda – a Ugandan business man - would be pleased to see each of them to mentor their career opportunities. Kenneth is seeking to form a secondary school.
- Timothy advised that the new Heads of Namawojjolo PS and St Andrews PS are finding it difficult to maintain their links – as the contact details were not transferred.
- Edward advised that Lutengo United SS had completed the boys' dormitory and the computer room. Computers had been acquired with money from St Peters SS. He remains concerned at the future of the Library, and awaits the result of the meeting with the Town Clerk.

5. Head Teachers meeting on 19th Feb – attended by AG & AL - also part time by JR

- A Head Teachers meeting was held at Jobiah Hotel, followed by buffet supper. It was attended by - Julius Mukwanya (MHS); Edward Kaweesi (Lutengo); Susan Wamala (MBS); Vincent Matovu (Vincentalex); Matthias Kiwanuka (Busenya); Douglas Kisauzi and Angela (Mbalala PS); Lydia Serwa (Ntaawo); Jacob Nsubuga (St Andrews); Robinah Nabanoba (Namawojjolo); Edna Namugalu (St Charles Lwanga SS).
- The teachers outlined their achievements:
 - Ntaawa – improved oven efficiency – growing more maize and beans
 - Busenya – water supplies [ie bore hole] used by both school and community – safe toilets – better firewood efficiency – problem is lack of electricity
 - St Charles Lwanga – hoping for a link with Kings's College, Guildford.
 - Mbalala – calf due
 - Namawojjolo – teachers houses - animals/cow
 - MHS – waiting to hear from Guildford County School

6. Visit to Library – visited by AG, JR & AL

- A brief visit to the library was made on Sunday 16th Feb. The librarian was not available but the visitors were escorted by an official from the Kabaka's office.
- We were told that the rent and electricity bills were now being paid by Mukono Municipal Council. The computers are working and during the week students attend the library to study,

use the computers and read the books. However, the salaries of the Librarian and Askari are significantly in arrears. The situation regarding the Library committee is not known.

- Thus, whilst some aspects have improved – significant problems remain.

7. Health centre meeting– visited by AG, JR and AL

- Dr Kkonde is the Principal Medical Officer in the Municipal Council officer. He is responsible for the very busy Mukono Health Centre. The centre aspires to become a full hospital in due course – and is self-evidently in better condition than has been seen in earlier year visits.
- Dental equipment kindly supplied by York dental practice in West Byfleet and by Jathin Haria of Health Care Direct, Boreham Wood, Herts was given to the dentist - Dr Kasire – who was very appreciative. The lap top given to the dental department from Guildford in 2013 is now connected to the rest to the computers in the centre – producing significant benefits
- The maternity unit delivers over 4,000 babies pa. Knitted jackets & hats (for newly born babies) plus Teddies from Guildford were welcomed by the unit – together with surplus first aid kits.

8. Town Clerk meeting 18th Feb – attended by AG, JR, AL and SW

- Innocent Ahimbisibwe is Town Clerk – and the meeting was held to discuss the activities of the Guildford Mukono Link, and the problems of the library. He met with Guildford visitors in Feb 2013, when he was newly in his post
- SW and JR outlined all the current activities of the Link – and took him through the accounts that had been approved by the Committee. These accounts demonstrate that in 2013 Guildford funded projects to a significant value exceeding UGX 100m (£25,000).
- The library was discussed. He was reminded that Guildford had paid for the restoration of the building, the shelving, the computers and the books. Whilst the electricity and rent for the building has now been paid by the MMC – the salaries of the librarian and Askari are in arrears – despite an assurance last year that they would be paid. There seem to be problems putting the staff on the payroll, but the TC advised that this would be sorted out within the coming month. He requested a meeting before the end of February with SW to advise what will shortly be done.

9. Meeting the sponsored students – 16th Feb

- The meeting and lunch was attended by present undergraduates Masitula, Kenneth and Ruth; and graduate Harriet. Also invited were Kalule and Douglas to discuss sports.
- Job opportunities for graduates are scarce. Last year Patrick Kagende of Datacare in Kampala met some of the students and helpfully guided them on career opportunities. PK has agreed to do the same again this year – and each student was provided with PK's contact details.
- Masitula is attending a business administration course – and would like to support the Link. She agreed with the suggestion that she might like to become a volunteer bookkeeper as this would save money and provide her with useful work experience.

10. School visits

a. St Andrews PS –not linked at present. Visited by JR, Susan and Elly.

- Head teacher Jacob Nsubuga has recently been appointed – but he was not available. We were met by Timothy Njakasi and the deputy head. The number of pupils is expected to be about 120.
- Two projects were completed in 2013:
 - A fuel efficient stove – at a cost of around £650 was funded by money raised by Eleanor Harber. The stove is excellent – it is similar to the stove at the neighbouring Kasenge Riverford Organic Centre run by Timothy.
 - The school farm cost £200. The farm has made good use of the cramped site - its design was guided by Timothy. Bananas and vegetables are grown and are much appreciated.
- St Lawrence of Effingham PS is no longer linked to St Andrews – but has contributed over £500 from collections previously made. The incomplete second school house is a prime target for this

money. The school already has much of the required materials (eg roofing) and the remaining expenditure has been estimated to cost £500. Guildford Trustees to consider and confirm whether to support this expenditure

b. Busenya PS – linked with St Thomas of Canterbury PS. Visited by AG, AL & JR

- Head teacher Matthias Kiwanuka and the children gave a rapturous welcome to the visitors – and showed the results of the classroom project funded by St Thomas of Canterbury. A full school assembly was held and speeches made.
- Previous interventions were also shown, including a fuel efficient stove and the two teacher houses funded by the Guildford Labour Party

c. Lutengo United SS – linked with St Peters SS. Visited by AG, AL & JR

Head Teacher Edward Kaweesi gave the visitors a tour of the school – including the completed boys' dormitory block and the computer room, with computers funded by St Peters SS. This was followed by dancing and drumming, as well as lunch.

d. Namawojjolo PS – linked with Holy Trinity PS. Visited by AG, AL & JR

Head Teacher Robinah Nabanoba showed the visitors around the school. The tour included an incomplete teacher house block of 5 dwellings. Each one can be completed separately, and it is possible that the £228 donated by Holy Trinity would enable one house to be completed. A business plan from Namawojjolo is needed through Susan Wamala.

e. Mbalala PS – Not currently linked. Visited by AG, AL & JR

- Douglas Kisauzi has moved to Mbalala PS from Mukono Childrens Home, following cessation of a one year pilot programme by Danish donors. The Head teacher is Angela and enrolment of 170 children is expected.
- This school is in a deprived part of rural Mukono District – local parents work on their smallholdings or in the nearby quarry – and seem to have little interest in educating the children. DK is seeking to upgrade the school and make it attractive to the children. His emphasis on sport as a means to stimulate children is paying off. The school now ranks high in the volley ball league.
- The school has previously accepted volunteer graduates from Surrey and others have volunteered through Global Handprints.
- Enactus from Surrey University is considering coming to Mbalala to provide voluntary services. DK has provided requested information.
- It is likely that Mbalala PS will be offered as a link to Stoughton PS in Guildford. In the meantime Guildford has offered £500 from its fundraising to help upgrade the school. DK will submit a business plan through SW.

f. Vincentalex PS – linked with Boxgrove PS. Visited by AG, AL & JR

- Vincentalex PS is an impressive private boarding school – the founder is Vincent Matovu – a dedicated man who sets very high standards and draws children from neighbouring African countries and from other parts of Uganda.
- Boxgrove PTA provided over £400 for Vincentalex. This was spent on creating an imaginative playground that is accessed by neighbouring children during the holidays and at weekends.

g. Ntaawo PS – linked with Merrow PS. Visited briefly by AG, AL & JR

- Head Teacher (newly appointed) is Lydia Serwa. Enrolment is around 250.
- The link with Merrow has not yet worked well. There seem to be communication difficulties. Lydia's email address is serwalydia@yahoo.com 0782 103 111;

- The school is delightful, and would like the Link to provide money to develop the school farm. This is a desirable objective. However, initially it would seem appropriate for the school to seek better communication with Merrow PS.

h. Mukono High School – linked with Guildford County. Visited by AG, AL & JR

- Head Teacher is Julius Mukwanya. Enrolment exceeds 2,000 students
- The school has recently been awarded UGX 2.5bn (over £600,000) from Government to develop more classrooms, laboratories and a library. It is in the middle of huge building works – and anticipates that President Museveni will visit & open the new facilities before the end of March.
- Guildford County has raised over £2,500 and is seeking information on suitable projects.
- One such project could be the completion of a much needed extension to the Girls Dormitory. This requires roofing, windows, doors and general finishing off. Julius estimated that this could all be completed within £2,500. Such a project could formally be named ‘Guildford County dormitory’, thus linking the two schools with a specific and named project.
- Julius would like more teacher and student exchanges – but these need to be funded.
- A business plan is needed via Susan to be considered by both committees and by Guildford County.

i. Mukono Boarding School – visited by AG & AL

We watched school assembly, as they sang the anthems and raised the four flags. The sanitation and water projects are complete. The Gov't will fund the poultry project, and a TV has been donated.

11. EACO (Shadrak Kyobe) – visited by AG & AL

Shadrak and his wife briefed the visitors on the current activities of EACO – then she took us on an expedition to a farm where EACO's Bee-keeping project is due to start. Undergrowth has been cleared, ready to receive the hives and to plant species attractive to the bees. We saw the pit where methane is generated from cow-dung, and piped into the house for cooking and lighting.

12. Nutrition Workshop – at Mukono Boarding – visited by AG & AL

- Excellent event – facilitator was Patrick Luganda – nationally recognised expert on agriculture and climate change. Guest speaker was District Speaker James Kunobwa. He too was an enthusiastic supporter of the project. This project is an East African collaboration, with Ethiopia and Kenya involved, plus 9 others.
- The plan is to start at Mukono High school – as a hub - and to work with eleven other local schools. Then from there to work out across the country. The idea is to teach children [9-14 yr olds] about the value of good food/nutritious crops and encourage them to take the message home to their parents. About 80-90% of parents are subsistence farmers.
- Many teachers [including some Heads] were present, plus a few parents.

13. Mukono Community Sports activities – visited by AG, AL & JR

- Guildford has raised sufficient funds to support the 2014 sports programme – in a similar way to the successful Mukono Kids League managed last year by Kampala Kids League. This year it would be run by Kalule and Douglas.
- The sports activities will take place weekly in three locations – Mbalala, Namawojjolo and Mukono Boarding, with coaching coming from Uganda Christian University and the teachers of each school.
- The initial sessions were attended by visitors from Guildford. Well over 150 children attended at each location – and were very popular – with the children and with the teachers and coaches.
- The cost of the programme will be around £1,500 – and will provide valuable sporting activity for over 500 children – at only £3 per head pa!

14. Musical activities

a. FDF Band – visited by JR, Susan and Elly

The band is located at Bishop West School and is run by Davis Niwamanya. It has around 60 members – primary and secondary school children. Three instruments were given to FDF from Surrey Arts – two trumpets and a trombone. These were much appreciated and the band gave a magnificent performance that also included drummers and dancers.

b. Keenotes music centre – visited by AG, JR & AL

- Keenotes is located close to the centre of Mukono Town – near the library and the Colline Hotel. William Bulega is in charge and he has commenced a significant project – to excavate the ‘garden’, make thousands of bricks (using student volunteers) and create a stage & amphitheatre for the musical activities.
- WB has been asked to prepare a business plan for the amphitheatre or whatever other project he selects, as the Link would like to support the centre with up to £1,000 of the money raised during 2013.
- During the year, the Link raised money for uniforms – and these are being made – but not yet completed.
- The visitors presented musical instruments donated by Surrey Arts – 3 trombones, one trumpet 3 clarinets and a flute. They were much appreciated and the band gave a splendid performance.

15. Teddies for Tragedy

- 100 knitted Teddies for Tragedy and 20 knitted new born hats and jackets were supplied by Guildford knitters and are being distributed to appropriate children. They are extremely popular and will be given to suitable children and babies by caring adults.
- One teddy given in 2013 was seen being well loved by a small boy during the visit in 2014.

Angela Gunning and Jim Rattray

28th February 2014

Guildford Mukono Link

Summary of Income and Expenditure in Mukono for 2013

Income	Who from	Amount UGX	Rate of exchange
1 Jan 2013	Opening balance	6,821,702	
2 Jan	Funds from Guildford	14,384,700	£3,300 at UGX 4,359 to £1
21 Jan	Masitula and Kenneth	40,000	subscriptions
21 March	Funds from Guildford	11,928,000	£3,000 at UGX 3,976 to £1
9 April	from Guildford re St T	19,705,000	£5,000 at UGX 3,941 to £1
22 April	from bank	60,000	Bank charge refund
	From Guildford	29,645,000	£7,700 at UGX 3,850
27 Aug	From Guildford	35,775,000	£9,000 at UGX 3,975
Total		118,359,402	

£ at 3900	Expenses- To whom	Amount UGX	notes
16,071	Busenya	62,675,600	Classroom project
1,442	Masitula Namagembe	5,623,500	Student support & fees
1,294	Kenneth Ssegirinya	5,044,900	Student support & fees
1,264	Ruth Nankya	4,930,900	Student support & fees
1,823	Sports project	7,110,000	Managed in 2003 by TKL
3,633	Lutengo United SS	14,167,500	Dormitory and computers
498	Science workshop	1,938,000	Run by Peter Baker
211	Economics workshop	825,000	Run by Susan Suubo
641	St Andrew's PS	2,500,000	Fuel efficient stove
512	Keenotes	2,000,000	Uniforms for Brass Band
395	School farms	1,540,000	Farms - St Andrews and St Kizito
51	Susan Suubo	200,000	Post grad ceremony contribution
967	Admin	3,771,420	Bookkeeper (1.9m) and other admin
28,802	Total expenses	112,326,820	
£1,546	Closing balance	6,032,582	For student support & contingencies
	Total	118,359,402	