



*Daventry & District*  
**Friends of Iganga**

## ***Margaret's Children***

*April 2007*

### ***More Mzungus Visiting***

On March 7<sup>th</sup> the recent group of 10 Mzungu visitors arrived to a warm welcome after a very hot and dusty trip along the dreadful half completed road from Jinja where they had been staying for a few days holiday at Kingfisher on the banks of Lake Victoria.

The children were very excited to see us and there were lots of hugs and laughter to go round. It was also lovely to see Ruth and Richard who look after the orphans so well and to find out all their latest news.



***Ruth holding her son, George with Siragi, Zuleha and Assan***

## ***Red Nose Fun***



Thursday March 8<sup>th</sup> is 'Ladies Day' (when the men are supposed to do the ladies work - cooking etc. for the day) and a public holiday in Uganda so we were able to go to the Orphanage and see all the children as they were not at school. Jan had brought lots of Red Noses and carrier bags with her from the UK and managed to arrange a photograph with the children wearing their 'noses'. It took a lot of hysterics to try and get them to keep their noses on and stand in the right order for the photos. The children couldn't get the noses to stay on and also kept wanting to try and eat the melted piece of chocolate that came in the boxes with each red nose!

*Damali is now doing an apprenticeship with a hairdresser so that when she is fully trained she will be able to offer hair styling to the brides who hire their wedding dresses from the Orphanage.*

## ***Party at the Orphanage***

On Saturday evening after a very busy day in Iganga we were all invited to the Orphanage for an evening of entertainment, food and fun. We had given Ruth the money to buy all the ingredients, sodas and beers and they had also had a very busy day with all the preparations. The children entertained us with some lovely songs including some new ones with a little bit of acting in them - little Julius pretending to be a criminal was really funny. Even the older girls and boys joined in with the singing and dancing and helped the youngest ones when they forgot their words.

The food was a fantastic spread including matoke, rice, cassava chips, spinach, beef stew, pineapple and, of course, roasted ground nuts + sesame seeds. The children all enjoyed a really huge plateful each as well. The evening ended with a few speeches as usual and some of their friends who had been crowding up to the windows to watch were also able to come in and have some food. What a wonderful evening - then all the 10 mzungus squashed (Ugandan overcrowded style) into the Pajero to drive back to the hotel.



### ***Phiona Starts Secondary School***

Phiona is the most recent orphan to reach secondary school age and did very well in her final primary school exams, deserving the chance to go to secondary school as soon as possible. Thanks to all those of you who have been paying into 'Margaret's Children Fund'. This meant that Phiona was able to start at Nkuutu Memorial Secondary School. (The school year in Uganda starts in February as their long school holiday is at Christmas as this is the hottest time of year).

We called in at the school to pay the headmaster and we also saw Phiona who looked really happy to be there and very keen to do well in her studies.

Phiona's school fees 1 <sup>st</sup> Term	£77.00
Uniform & Equipment	£32.00

Ruth and Richard are working towards self-sufficiency and have been able to afford to send Juliet (16) and Rose (17) to start senior school.



Joseph (17) has now gone back to complete his final year at primary school

If you would like any more news or information about the Orphanage and the children or if you would like to make a regular or 'one off' donation to help in supporting Margaret's Children please contact Carey Minhinnett

Tel 0116 2393061

Email [membership@friendsofiganga.org](mailto:membership@friendsofiganga.org)