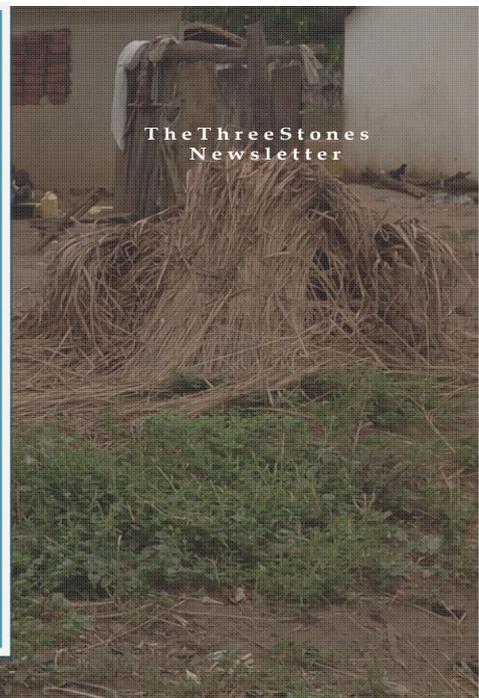


October 2017



The Three Stones
Newsletter



THE THREE STONES

Pats' newsletter



Inside this Issue.

ENGLAND VISIT

I spent three months in beautiful England, taking a reprieve from the heat of Uganda and welcoming in cooler temperatures.

OFFICIAL NGO STATUS

In April 2016 we began the process to register as an official NGO to increase our credibility and to raise funds.

TRAINING UPDATE

My staff has poured countless hours and energy into training the communities in Uganda. News of recent training is in this newsletter.

Greetings everyone

Time has a way of escaping me! I'm amazed at the work accomplished and eager to tackle our plans as an official NGO. Thank you for traveling this road with the Ugandan people and me in the Three Stones Programme. At home I 'lost' Sophie and I found her stuck in the car engine, she had climbed in from underneath, as you can see that adventure made her very dirty and scared her a little.



MY VISIT TO THE UK

I spent three months in the UK, taking a reprieve from the heat of Uganda and enjoying cooler temperatures. I spent the majority of my time traveling from churches to organizations speaking about The Three Stones. Thank you all for your hospitality during my visit. I thoroughly enjoyed exchanging stories with you all, sharing meals together and laughing together. I must admit, here in Uganda I do miss salads and berries and made every effort to enjoy them all during my visit. If you know me, you also know I never miss an opportunity to eat Gammon, Salmon and Prawns whilst in the UK. I used to find the variety of food available in UK supermarkets overwhelming. Now, I stand amazed at the level of convenience frozen meals, I noticed that you can even purchase frozen mashed potatoes nowadays!

Taking care of personal business was on my to-do list during this three-month visit. It was quite a task to collect all my belongings that had been scattered over the past decade and to sort through them all. I can't accurately describe the feeling of seeing my entire life in boxes that fit snugly in one small storage unit, I have certainly 'down sized' I must say a big thank you to my friend who allowed me to use her conservatory to sort out all the boxes. I did hire a "man with a van" to pick up all my boxes and help me move them to a tiny storage unit.

In fact, he wasn't the only help I received. Something that has impressed me this trip was the number of people that helped me with my suitcases as I traveled all over the country by train. Do I look older this year !!!! However I have learnt to accept help graciously.



The Board of The Three Stones.

OFFICIAL NGO STATUS

We began the process to register as an official NGO in 2016, the journey to become a legalized NGO in Uganda is full of many twists and turns. I didn't realize the amount of work this would entail from writing constitutions, to gathering together a Board of Directors and running around town submitting all the vital documents. Even Interpol had to complete an investigation into my criminal history - don't worry I'm in the clear on this one. As of October 2016, The Three Stones is an official NGO although at the end of the first 12 months we have to submit reports etc. for a further 3-5 years registration. This is what I have been doing for the past couple of weeks.

*The journey to
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TRAINING UPDATE



Whilst I was in the UK the training team traveled to the fishing village, where we have been training, on the final monitoring visit. As they approached the fishing village, they found it almost completely deserted. The boats were abandoned and the lake void of the bustle of fishermen trying to bring in their catches of the day. After talking to the members of the community, they found out that the majority of the fishermen have been fishing illegally, the police and government officials visited and confiscated and destroyed their nets and boats. There is a law determining the size of the fish that can be caught as fishing stocks have drastically depleted in the lake. Since fishing is their livelihood, these fishermen have left the villages to search for a new place to work. Although the trainers weren't able to complete a final review with every single person, they were still able to visit the remaining people who had completed the training.



Pastor Wilberforce.

Quote from the trainer's report.

'This training helped me to have the best in my health matters and my family in that we no longer spend a lot of money in the hospitals like it used to be and now we take boiled water and the money saved he was able to buy 3 cows and even able to renovate the house and put a new door on his house because the last time we visited he had a papyrus mat as a door but now a real door. On top of that the children were not going to school because he did not have money to pay school fees but the training has helped him know the importance of school and also having money which would be paid for school now Pastor Wilberforce have three children who are going to school all this is done because the training which has help them understand the problems and have plan for those problems. He is saying that now making plan with wife and child which were not happening before the training. Family planning help them to know how to plan for their family'.

Don't we take our front doors for granted!!

I find this testimony amazing that through the training of The Three Stones Pastor Wilberforce has come to understand the value of education and is now sending his children to school rather than keep them at home to help in farming. Also the fact that now he is talking with his wife on the importance of family planning is amazing, hopefully he will influence his congregation on the above subjects.



Kyobinga Livingstone

Quote from the trainer's report.

'I was helped to save money and able to build a house and even we have toilet and even able to buy a solar.

I was even using a lot of money to take children to the hospital but these days we don't use a lot of money this has helped me minimise the expenditure at home. We used to take unboiled water but our health is good because of boiled water that we take these days.

He also went on saying that he is HIV positive but this training has helped him to live the positive because of preventing the diseases which would be making him sick every time and so he is very thankful for the programme because has help him save money do everything he had now'.

As you know the programme is taught at grass routes where many people are illiterate. We are often criticised for teaching at a slow pace but these two testimonies show that people such as Livingstone and Pastor Wilberforce appreciate the rate of the teaching as it helps them gain in confidence to ask the questions that matter to them with amazing results.

Livingstone's home.



*Give thanks to the Lord, call on His Name.
Glory in His holy Name Let all the hearts of those
who seek the Lord, Rejoice, look to the Lord and His
Strength.
1 Chronicles Chapter 16 v 8-12*

Many people lose the caps off the jerry cans and leave the cans open to the air. This picture is great because it shows that the village people are keeping the tops on their jerry cans. Why is this important? Because drinking water is stored in these cans and if left open Malaria carrying mosquitoes have a breeding ground for their larvae.



PRAYERS PLEASE.

Thank you all for your prayers and financial support to The Three Stones Programme.

Please pray for the NGO review due at the end of October, that it meets the requirements of the NGO Board and is granted registration for another 3-5 years.

Thank you all and God Bless.

Pat