



Christian **Partners** in Africa

WWW.CPAFRICA.ORG.UK

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# the View

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Once Upon a Time

You are not Forgotten

Thank you for Being a Friend



## THE ROAD TO A FRIEND'S HOUSE IS NEVER LONG

- Danish Proverb

## Strength in Relationships

Richard Lambert



In 2015 CPA, its friends and supporters celebrated twenty years of partnering in Africa. **It was a time of great rejoicing** as we reminisced on God's faithfulness over the years through a series of stories and short films.

Upon reflection we achieved far more than updating folks on events to date. **It was a time of re-connecting with supporters; a refreshing of relationships old and new** – enabling us to easily pick up where we had left off; and a time to be of one mind without the need for many words.

Graham Beggs, a dear friend to CPA, has previously spoken about the 'covenant relationship' built into us through Christ. He was at pains to impress upon us the power of this 'covenant relationship' between us, that enables us to **achieve immeasurably more through relationship than through our abilities and gifts alone.**

In such a relationship there is no striving or competition. We see this clearly in Africa where despite our western mindset, driving us to fix problems, we have learnt to begin by building relationship – to **'walk the dusty roads together'** as Graham would say; to 'feel the dust between our toes' – often in companionable silence. And the mystery is, that in so doing, **they and we are blessed.**

Let us be encouraged to 'Love people – Love life' through investing in relationships, so we may continue to walk many a dusty road together.

Richard



## ● 'Once Upon a Time' at St Paul's School

Guest Writer - Louise Dale

I joined the CPA team visiting St Paul's in 2012 to help with child protection training, and **being a sometime author of children's books**, as a last minute afterthought, I packed one of my books and a story book written by children in a local Lincoln school under my guidance, just in case the work might be useful in some way.

To my delight, I did indeed begin a dialogue about **creativity, imagination and free writing**, during classroom discussions and free time. I talked about creating exciting characters and sending them on adventures, showing the staff and pupils what the British children had written and how I had arranged for their stories to be published as a book for each child to own. **I realised then that we could do exactly the same for the children at St Paul's.**

The staff and P7 children took up the idea in earnest, and a few months later, I

got a wonderful surprise when I was told **a rough bundle of children's stories** had arrived at the CPA office, with some children writing tiny original stories for the first time. I set about editing them, and forming them into the chapters of a book, however short, each child having their own author note about their hopes and likes, and CPA had their work spiral bound into little books and sent back, **one for each child.**

My aims were the same as for British children: to stimulate creative thinking and writing, promote a love of learning and improve literacy, and I am so thrilled that this annual project is helping to do this in Uganda too.

When the children see their story made into a real book to take home and treasure, **their achievement can have widespread benefits**, both to themselves and their communities.

**Louise is the author of the 'Time Triggers' series for children.**



## The Three Greedy Girls

Once upon a time, there were three girls who were greedy. They would even eat things which had fallen down and been stepped on by people.

One day, as the three girls were coming from school, they stole someone's apples. A man saw them and told the owner.

The owner of the apples connected electric wires to the apples.

The three girls passed again and saw the apples again. One of them went first and electricity shocked her and the others ran away screaming. Many people came to the scene. The girl was taken to the hospital and later died. She was buried the next day.

I conclude by saying that stealing is bad.

My name is Bridget.

I am 11 years old. I am in Primary Six. I have one sister and three brothers.

I would like to become a Doctor in the future.



I am Mary. I am aged ten.

I am in Primary Five.

I like swimming and reading my books.

## The Best Moment

It was Friday morning when I squared my shoulders. Through the window I saw the birds and the beautiful creatures.

My father narrated joyous news to me. I wondered what he was trying to say, only to find that he was telling me about a visit to Entebbe Zoo.

We had not yet ironed our eye-catching attire when the electricity went off. Immediately my mother sent me to the neighbour to get the iron box. Immediately I brought it and everything seemed to be spick and span.

After that, we hired a vehicle which took us around Entebbe Zoo. We didn't only tour around the Zoo but also around Entebbe airport. I saw the aeroplanes flying and at Entebbe Zoo, I saw how the animals were being cared for.

From there we went to Ssese beach for our enjoyment.

It was a really wonderful day that I will live to remember.







## ● You are not Forgotten!

Chris Shelbourne

The effect of the failure of the rains in Ethiopia last year continues to be felt through **severe food shortages** across the country. According to the Ethiopian Government, **10.2 million people need relief assistance**, in addition to the 7.9 million people the Government is already helping. The Government also estimates that 2.6 million people are experiencing moderate or severe acute malnutrition and that 5.8 million people lack access to appropriate water, sanitation and hygiene facilities.

To Western eyes, **the scenes of hunger are disturbingly reminiscent of the country's infamous famine of 1984**, which killed one million people and sparked the Live Aid campaign. This

time around, the Ethiopian Government is much better placed to help its own people but the sheer scale of what they are facing means they have had to turn to the international community for assistance. However, humanitarian crises across the world have sucked attention and resources away and so this still has the possibility of turning into a **huge humanitarian disaster**.

Despite not having all the funding in place, the urgency of the situation compelled us to link with our partner in Ethiopia, Voice in the Wilderness Development Organisation (VWDO), and sign an agreement with the Ethiopian Government. The agreement is to **provide food supplements to 770 school children** in the Sefi Beret Community and their families all of whom have been identified as facing a



serious risk of malnutrition. This is now in full swing with each child receiving a high calorie meal each day. Teachers, school children and their families, the Department of Education and an oversight committee are all working together to ensure that this is done as smoothly as possible. This will continue until the end of this calendar year, when the main harvest is due.

The feeding programme has meant that **children were able to sit their school exams** in June. Whilst not a matter of life and death, this has brought some semblance of normality and focus for the children, in otherwise extremely distressing circumstances.

Although this feeding programme is vital in the short term, what also became apparent was that the families had no seed left to plant this year. To take

advantage of the rainy season (June to September), we also felt it was vital that we **provided seeds for families at the right time**.

In the context of a countrywide disaster, this programme is a drop in the ocean, but for the Sefi Beret community it is much needed and will save many lives. It tells the community, **"you are not forgotten!"**

See page 9 for ways to donate

Our hope and prayer is that the community of Sefi Beret can get through this crisis and start to rebuild their lives. For me, spending time thinking about this at a time when our own country is facing its own challenges has provided me with some much needed perspective.





## ● Seed in Season at Sefi Beret



As you will have read CPA has tried to help the Sefi Beret community deal with the severe food shortages it has faced this year **by providing food each day for all 770 children at the local primary school**. This is part of a coordinated Government campaign to try and reach all parts of the country who are suffering from the drought conditions.

Vital though the food relief is, **more needs to be done** to get the community back on its feet. With most of their assets depleted by the food shortages the community have not been able to buy seed to plant for this year's harvest. To help the community overcome this problem CPA provided, with Government

approval, **seed for the 700 poorest households in the community**, most of whom are women, farmers or widows. Local agricultural experts helped select the right type and quality of seed. This allowed these households to plant in time for the rainy season and should mean that they will have **crops to harvest** at the end of the year.

One of the farmers, Abere aged 35, said *"I had no hope but I prepared my land and prayed for God to provide me a seed and He did it. I would like to say thank you for the organisation who provided seed at the right time and for showing us concern due to our difficult time."*

# URGENT CHRISTMAS APPEAL 2016

A time of giving and receiving. A time to hope: a time to love.

IT'S HARD TO IMAGINE CHRISTMAS WITHOUT ALL THE FESTIVITIES, JOY AND MAYHEM IT BRINGS HERE IN THE UK... BUT FOR OUR PARTNERS AROUND THE WORLD, CHRISTMAS CAN BE A REAL CHALLENGE.

THIS YEAR, CHRISTMAS IS GOING TO BE A DIFFICULT TIME FOR THE COMMUNITY OF SEFI BERET, AS THEY FIND THEMSELVES COPING WITH SEVERE FOOD SHORTAGES AS A RESULT OF EXTENDED DROUGHT CONDITIONS.

WORKING WITH VWDO, ITS ETHIOPIAN PARTNER, CPA HAS COMMITTED TO PROVIDE FOOD EACH DAY UNTIL THE END OF THE YEAR FOR **ALL 770 PRIMARY SCHOOL CHILDREN IN SEFI BERET**, AND **SEED FOR THE 700 POOREST HOUSEHOLDS TO ENABLE THEM TO GET BACK ON THEIR FEET**. MANY IN THE COMMUNITY HAVE EXPERIENCED THE LOSS OF THEIR LOVED ONES, LIVELIHOODS AND LIVESTOCK.

THE URGENCY OF THE SITUATION MEANT THAT CPA HAD TO MAKE THE COMMITMENT TO HELP BEFORE HAVING THE NECESSARY FUNDS IN PLACE. WE ARE LOOKING FOR **£10,000 TO HELP FUND THE PROGRAMME FOR THE REST OF THE YEAR**.

WILL YOU CONSIDER HELPING US TO REACH THE **£10,000 FUNDING TARGET BY MAKING A GIFT TO CPA?**

THANK YOU!

## DONATE IN ONE OF THE FOLLOWING WAYS:

**Justgiving:** [www.justgiving/christianpartnersinafrica](http://www.justgiving/christianpartnersinafrica)

**Online:** CPA Account Number: 10045257

Sort Code: 16-23-32

**Cheque:** Christian Partners In Africa, 15 Newland, Lincoln, LN1 1XG

**£10 TO FEED 40 CHILDREN FOR ONE DAY**

**£15 BUYS A BAG OF SEED FOR ONE HOUSEHOLD ENOUGH FOR 6 MONTHS**

**£25 TO FEED ONE CHILD FOR SIX MONTHS**

**TARGET: £10,000**





## ● Thank you for Being a Friend! #Theresroomforyou

We all need friends to help us through life and we asked a handful of our Komamboga supporters to share their connection to the Home and what it's meant to them over the years.

"In October 2000, I was invited to join a team to Komamboga Children's Home in Uganda, to spend time with the children and aunties and to paint the outside of one of the houses. At the start of the visit I was a little nervous, **stepping out of my comfort zone** in Lincoln where I am surrounded by my family, but the reality of my trip was quite amazing; one in which I received far more than I gave to those beautiful children. (Who were so grateful for the smallest gift!) Sixteen years later, and looking back, **I still appreciate the many lessons I learned from my time there.** Thank you Komamboga."

Brenda Holland

"**There is nothing quite like being part of a family.** Family life is so special, blessed by God and part of his amazing plan for our lives. Families intertwine and that is what I feel is so wonderful about sponsoring a child at Komamboga Children's Home. In our family we sponsor two children, Emmanuel and Mercy, who are our African son, daughter, sister and brother. **We love receiving letters and look forward to sending gifts at Christmas and birthdays.** I feel it is a gift to sponsor them and be part of their lives, watching them grow up and get ready to go out into the world in whatever job they choose.

All families need friends and to be a 'Friend of Komamboga' brings its own blessings.

Linked with this is the **Stepping Stones Shop in Lincoln**, which is the fulfilment of a vision given by God, to my husband and myself 21 years ago; again a family working together as a team, with the same heart, to provide for the KCH children. It is hard work but brings exciting rewards and a very real sense of blessing and being blessed.

I have been privileged to be part of the **monthly Komamboga prayer group** for many years. We have seen so many answers to our prayers and the miles between Africa and us seem to melt away as we pray.

It is important too to pass on this heart for Africa to the next generation in our families. A family is a circle of love and strength sharing times of joy and sadness. **The Komamboga family** encompasses my life and that of my family and I feel very blessed to be part of it."

Carol Thursby

"One of the finest things Lizzie and I have done as a couple has been to sponsor a child from the Home at Komamboga! We've had the joy of **watching a toddler** grow and develop from a child, through her teenage years, into a beautiful young woman; and **she is, without a doubt, a shining example of just how worthwhile child sponsorship can be.** A huge highlight for me was when I was able to go to the Home to do some painting and decorating- but spend time being a surrogate 'Dad' at the same time - priceless!"

Steve Marshall



I'm sure you're no stranger to adverts and media campaigns inviting you to sponsor a child. At CPA, **child sponsorship is at the heart of who we are and what we do.** For the past 21 years we have had the privilege of seeing hundreds of children benefit from CPA sponsorship programmes, in Ethiopia and Uganda.

**Komamboga Children's Home flourishes thanks to the support of our loyal sponsors and friends**, many of whom have never met the children face to face, yet are a real part of the family. Cards and photos that have been sent over the years are greatly treasured and displayed proudly for all to see.

If you would like to support the Komamboga family, or sponsor a child, please email [office@cpafrica.org.uk](mailto:office@cpafrica.org.uk)

**Stepping Stones**  
taking each step together

St George's Church Hall, Eastbrook Road, Lincoln.  
Wednesday's from 9.30am – 11am.



## ● Uganda



## ● Caring Hands Reach Out

Laura Brown

Hi everyone, I'm Laura and I've been volunteering with CPA for almost four years now. After my first trip in 2012, **I fell head over heels for Uganda** but my trips were never long enough. I decided to take three months unpaid leave from work last August and go back to 'my happy place' and volunteer.

Through my friends at CPA, I found out about **Caring Hands** and the recycled beads and jewellery made by their beneficiaries. I got in touch with Milla and another beautiful friendship was created. Whilst volunteering with them I realised there's a lot more to them as an organisation than simply making recycled paper beads.

They play a major part in local communities by **helping to empower families** that are living with, or have been affected by HIV/AIDs, by **teaching new skills** and helping them to make **sustainable changes for the future**. During my time there the staff work tirelessly teaching people how to read and write, carrying out home and school

visits and setting up **workshops for children and caregivers on 'Life Skills'**. Some of these workshops include business skills, how to make sanitary wear to allow girls to stay in school, making briquettes for cooking that are more environmentally friendly and much safer to use, apprenticeships with local businesses, urban farming and of course how to make the recycled paper beads.

Caring Hands have a lot of activities that support **orphaned and vulnerable children**. They open the office grounds at the weekend providing a safe place for children to meet, play sports, learn traditional dancing, read and play music.

To help finance their work, they sell the **paper bead jewellery** made by the women, in various places around the

world including through 'White Nile' in the UK. They also sell handmade baskets and have recently started making beautifully handcrafted, recycled coin jewellery.

While I was there I set up a **Facebook page** so that people can see some of the work they do and find out more about their beneficiaries. You can see more at: [www.facebook.com/caringhandsuganda](https://www.facebook.com/caringhandsuganda) or buy jewellery at [www.whitenilestore.com](http://www.whitenilestore.com)



Laura and Milla





# CPA NEWS

## AN UPDATE FROM THE KOMAMBOGA FAMILY

Over the summer months Komamboga welcomed a **new Auntie** to the Home – **her name is Sylvia** and she replaces Eva who left to set up her own business. Sylvia has a certificate in nursing which will be a great asset for the Home. She is settling in well and loving her new job.

At the end of August, one of the older children, Rosemary visited the home to introduce her husband, Asuman, to the Komamboga Family. The day was full of celebration and vibrancy. **We wish Rosemary and Asuman every happiness together** and as they get ready to welcome their baby in the coming months - congratulations!

In other good news, **Franco is set to wed** his beautiful bride Justine, in December following introductions to the Komamboga family. Justine and Franco met through their passion for music, as they both serve on the worship team at the local church. We wish them a lifetime of happiness together – may they be blessed!



## NEWS FROM MALAWI

Our close friend and partner, **Kathryn Quincey is loving life in Malawi**. Most of her time is taken up working at Bambino School with a class of children with learning difficulties and autism. They recently held a sports day, which was great fun, with Kathryn providing face painting for the kids. Kathryn is still very involved with Flood Church and has been helping with an initiative to provide crockery and cutlery for prisoners as well as leading a Life group every Tuesday evening. Paul & Sue, Kathryn's parents, recently visited from the UK and had a wonderful time... they even had a weekend at the Lake as a special treat!

If you are interested in supporting Kathryn in Malawi please get in touch with the CPA office.



## WORK EXPERIENCE

During the Summer months we were joined for a week by 15 year old Grace, who came to do her **work experience in the CPA office**. Grace had initially thought CPA would be a big call centre type office and was a little surprised to find it was just Ruth and Susie! We kept Grace busy on some admin projects and by the end of the week she was quite happy, saying she had enjoyed her time with us!



# GiftsOfLove

Give your friends and family gifts that unwrap hope and dignity for children living in poverty in Africa.



## Komamboga Children's Home, Uganda

Balanced Diet  
Shoes  
Computer Lessons



## St Paul's School, Rukungiri, Uganda

Garden Tools  
Water Tank  
Mattress



## Ethiopia

Ethiopia Famine Appeal  
Seed Distribution Project

To order your gift visit:

[www.cpafrica.org.uk](http://www.cpafrica.org.uk)





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W W W . C P A F R I C A . O R G . U K

Front Cover Photo: Uganda

Back Cover Photo: Ethiopia

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