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Nairobi Baptist Association Youth Camp



The team go on retreat!



Ian takes on Europe

Kampala Life

The situation in Kampala has become much damper with some consistent rains. This is good after the drought which has led to water and power shortages.

Of course as soon as you have a lot of rain the roads suffer and last week Silver was stranded in Kenya when the bridge was washed away.

Goodbye BUS Hello RAV4

A good deal needs fast action!
A 1995 RAV4 in good condition has been offered to the team by some returning missionaries. At the price it seems an answer to prayer as only the week before the support group in the UK were told that the bus needed replacement now. This is only a partial solution as it is much smaller than the bus, and YEA still need to source a full size vehicle. It has been the plan for some time to end up with two motors. A loan has helped us pay for the RAV4 and this means we will be praying in some funds to fill the gap!



The House

Work has been continuing on the new house and compound. The initial push was to secure the site with a wall and this has seen significant progress.



The compound - before!

A major job to start the work was clearing the area as it had become overgrown. This process emphasised how some of the neighbours had been making full use of space that was not necessarily their own.

Many of the bricks were made on site although all the work from here will need to be done with bought-in materials.

The wall has been built under the capable oversight of Silver.



Silver lays some bricks

The house itself still needs some major works to fulfil the team's vision, but the changes made already are making the property very useful.

On Camp

A report by Colin about the Kenya Trip



On 23rd August we arrived in Nairobi for the NBA (Nairobi Baptist Association) youth leaders' camp.

We were expecting about 50-60 young people; God had another plan. The small number that turned up could have been a potential discouragement but, by God's grace, we made sure camp was meaningful, empowering and fun for all that turned up.

On the first morning Ian, though a bit tired, faithfully and effectively taught on the theme "New mind for new life". In the afternoon we went to Nyali public beach - a very beautiful beach at the Indian ocean. Ian led a bible study; the campers loved it there. Our relationships with the campers became stronger and tighter.

That night no-one slept well because of the



Kenyan bedbugs and mosquitoes. Even more tired, Ian spoke on the theme "I'm just not good enough". Thursday night, Douglas led a bible study before we found new lodging in Mombasa town! Ian taught his last session on the theme "The man God can use". We spent the afternoon at Nyali public beach - swimming, chatting, laughing, playing football etc. I led a bible study on Friday night and after that we had a mini music concert. We enjoyed this camp and knew that God had used us for his purpose. All glory and thanks to our God.

MPC and Partnerships

YEA has been working in Kenya for sometime; building church partnerships and relationships with individuals is important to our ministry. So when in Mombasa, we met up with the youth pastor of Mombasa Pentecostal Church - Pastor Ahmed (a Muslim turned Christian) and his wife and co-partner in ministry. At this fruitful meeting we talked about how much more we can do to strengthen our partnerships with MPC and its sister churches. We also met up with Sammy Balusi, another YEA team member, and discussed possibilities of working in Mwanza. Back in Nairobi, we had a meeting with Pastor Kip - the Youth Pastor of PARKLANDS Baptist Church (Nairobi). In the next few months we will be doing a lot of work with MPC and PBC and the church in Mwanza. Thanks to everyone who made it possible for us to make this trip.

You can read this report in full and see more photos on the website.



Pastor Ahmed and Family

Team retreat

Douglas tells us about a Kenya week of rest and team building



.... Remember the words of the famous wise Solomon "There is a time for everything"? After spending so much time working together and on camp, we really longed for a holiday. As we had travelled to Kenya we were gazing at the beautiful sceneries that make Kenya one of the most beautiful places in Africa. The national parks, the grassland, the Rift Valley, spiced our journey, giving us a lot to talk about & thank God for.



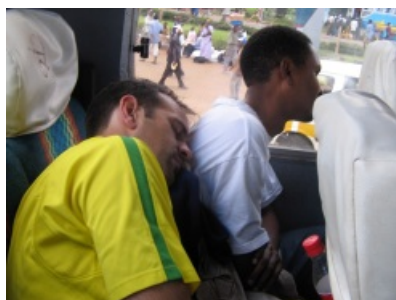
The 3 adventurous missionaries; Collin, Ian & I hopped onto a ferry after a quick shop, to be truly blown away. A beautiful apartment, fully furnished & with a front view across the Indian Ocean. The beach ahead of our lounge area made us feel like our ideal days were coming to pass as we made our way through the 3 bedrooms, the kitchen, the library, the beautiful compound with swings, trampoline etc. making us feel once again like children in an amusement world .



Nights saw us devoting our time to inspirational books & study on the book of James, which helped us reflect on our Christian walk as we shared passages that ministered to us in different ways. The humour in these 2 brothers of mine kept

us sharing jokes and interesting stories as we made ourselves cups of coffee, preparing different dishes, thus balancing our fun & food & faith.

You can read this report in full and see more photos on the website.



The joys of bus travel

I an visits far flung foreign lands... England

Ian's Diary



I like the term 'hit the ground running'. It brings a cartoon character image of somebody falling out of a tree & running so fast all you see is a circle of rotating legs. You get the picture ? The last few months of my life have been a bit like that

Late April I landed in England & my legs started spinning ! My first week was a catch up week, seeing friends, re-connecting with the church, meeting our trustees, checking I was still alive at the Tropical Health Centre

etc! The good news is everyone recognized me & I discovered I'm still alive...!

Week 2 was much more relaxing with all my family up in Cumbria. My nieces & nephew are growing mighty quick. It would be much simpler if time stood still for 2 years between my visits.

Week 3 was more meetings as I travelled back from Cumbria. I spent nights in Manchester & Luton & got back to Bognor in time for the weekend.

For the next couple of weeks I began 'Kyeyo' (working to send money home). It seems that most Bognor residents had overgrown gardens! This work was punctuated by many wonderful suppers catching up with friends.

At the end of May the church held 'Open Heart' festival. (more info on BRBC website.) This brought together Christians from churches all over Europe & from Brazil. I was one of the chefs & by the end of the weekend we had served up well over 1000 meals.

After a weekend at my brother's home it was time to pack for Europe. First stop was Horem, near Koln in Germany. A team of us had been invited by the church there to help & encourage them in their local outreach. Several days, & loads of German bread & salads, later I left the team & took a train for Amsterdam.

I had a great couple of days here staying with my friends in the old city. Very relaxing but a short time before I was back on the train heading for Oostende.

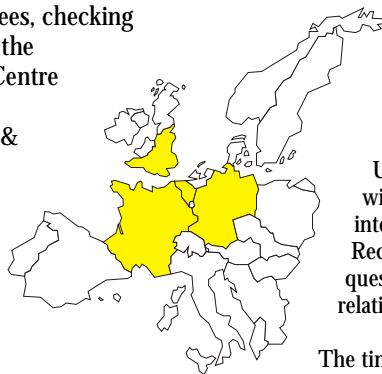
I should mention that by this point my stomach was beginning to show the effects of so much hospitality. Destination 4 was for a longer visit; Bognor has been connected to the Oostende church since its inception and now there is a partnership developing between Oostende and Kampala since Ingrid Verbiese has spent time in Uganda. While

there I was able to strengthen existing friendships and make many new friends. I also preached at the church (translated into Flemish!) and we had an evening meeting about Uganda.

Out of this time I was invited back to Belgium to the national youth camp in Koksijde, so over the next few weeks I felt I was commuting between UK and Belgium. Lots of Belgian cakes continued to minister to my stomach!!!

Onward to Lille and Bethune in France. This was partly to see Junior and Sue (Brazilian and English) pastoring the church in Bethune and also to meet up with Sonya Kaye (Seattle Washington) who was involved in a mission in Lille.

From Lille I raced back to England; last train/ferry/ bus of the day and got to Bognor at 1am exhausted. The rush was because I was scheduled to speak at Eastleigh Baptist church the same day!



Now July, more "kyeyo" then on the train down to Devon to see friends. Then to Guernsey via Portsmouth. Marie Marquis has worked in health education projects for youth in Hoima, Uganda. I visited her church, met up with Stuart and Joyce Filby and was interviewed on BBC radio-Guernsey. Recent world events meant I got questioned about Moslem/Christian relations more than my actual work.

The time I had left became crammed. I managed to spend another week up north with my family, put on a Ugandan feast in Bognor, caught up with many more friends, a bit more "kyeyo" and a lot more good food.

Then on 9th of August it was back to Entebbe and HOME.....! I had a fantastic, exciting and exhausting 3 months but it feels so good to have my feet back on African soil.

Contact us...

Write to the charity at
YOUTHWORX - East Africa
Bognor Regis Baptist Church
73 Victoria Drive
Bognor Regis
West Sussex
PO21 2TD

Contact Ian Direct at
P.O.Box 26430
Kampala
Uganda
East Africa.
Tel: 00 256 77437 990

Please note this is GMT+3 hours.
You can text him on this too.
email: youthworxea@hotmail.com

Or log on to
www.brbc.co.uk/yea