

Bridging the Gap

Dear Friends

Welcome to the first *Bridge of Hope Children's Ministry (BOHCM) Newsletter* for 2018. Thank you so much for the life changing support you gave last year and continue to generously provide to so many vulnerable children.

Visiting Uganda

In January a team of seven visited Uganda, two of whom joined us for the first time. Everyone enjoyed visiting the BOHCM projects, spending time with the children and experiencing Uganda culture. If you are interested in joining us on a future visit please contact us for more information.

BOHCM Children's Village

Twenty eight children are currently living at the Children's Village and we thank God that they are all living in such safe and loving homes. With this in mind

we thought you would like to "meet some of our children" and see first-hand just how they are progressing and enjoying life.

Alvin is an orphan, his elderly grandmother did her best to look after him but sadly she died when he was still very young. Alvin has lived with us since 2012 and he is now a happy, lively 6 year old boy.

Anantori, Anthony and Anita are triplets who have been living with us for a year and we have seen their health and wellbeing improve significantly. They love to dance and play with the other children. Their homeless mother continues to visit them every two months.

Dickson and Rachel are siblings and are orphans who



Anantori, Anthony and Anita



Dickson now

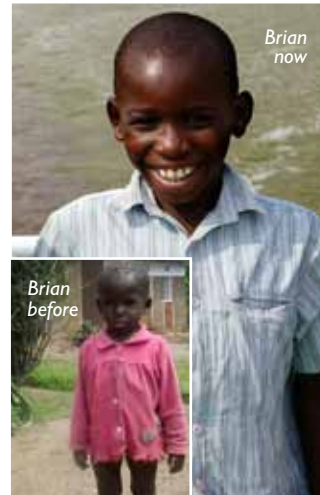
Dickson before



Rachel

have lived with us since 2011. Both children enjoy school, are full of life and are especially good at helping with the younger children.

Brian is also an orphan who joined the BOHCM family in 2011 when his elderly caregiver died. Brian is a very mischievous boy, full of smiles and really energetic, he loves playing football.



Brian now

Brian before

Leticia is an orphan who has been transformed from a quiet traumatised child into a lively confident young girl. Leticia really loves school and performs well.

Thank you again for all your support to care for these children; with your generosity, prayers and action many lives are being saved.



News

Bridge of Hope School – February fifth heralded the start of the first term for 2018. Over forty lively three year olds joined the Baby Nursery Class and as planned we recruited more teachers and opened the Primary 6 class. With 368 children to feed came the need to appoint another cook and we were privileged to see the joy on Edson's face when told that he now has a job. He insisted on starting work immediately as he had been struggling to find work and care for his own children.

Bible Based Holiday Club (BBHC) – Due to the amazing success of the BBHC we have arranged to start a second club on another site. The venue, a school and church, have been visited and our meeting with the minister and his colleagues went well. Everyone is very excited and we anticipate the first session will commence in the May school holidays.

Clean Water Saves Lives – Three more recently constructed Protected Springs were opened and each one provides clean water to 200 people a day.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Coffee Morning with Bring & Buy and Clothing Collection on **Saturday 12th May** from 10am until noon. Full details are on the website.

On our 10th anniversary we are having a Thanksgiving Celebration on the evening of **Saturday 7th July** at **Enfield Baptist Church**. More information to follow, but please keep this date free as we would love to see you there.

Children's Village – Sadly we have to say goodbye to Beatrice one of our House Mothers at the end of March as she has requested retirement. Beatrice has been with the children since the homes opened in 2011 and will be sorely missed. Following a lengthy process of interviews we have recruited another House Mother and Beatrice is helping her to settle in and get to know the children.

Sponsored Children – Two of the older children successfully completed their Vocational Training, one as a nursery teacher and the other as a hairdresser. Eight more children are currently training to be teachers, plumbers, carpenters and hairdressers, whilst many of the children completed Primary School and have commenced their Secondary education. The children and their caregivers thank God for this miracle as they could not have achieved so much without their sponsorship support.

Community Building Projects – Our amazing staff have even found time to organise the building of another house for a vulnerable family who will move into their new, dry home this month. We have also constructed another latrine for an elderly lady and her young granddaughter and plan to provide several more families with these hygienic and private facilities.

Prayer points

- Give thanks that the staff interviews were successful
- Give thanks that we are able to provide free meals at the BOH School
- Pray for sufficient rain for the crops to grow
- Pray for all the BOHCM staff that they will settle in well

Ephesians 3:20-21
Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, for ever and ever! Amen.

