

# Bridging the Gap

## Dear Friends

We are delighted to send you our July Newsletter and give thanks to God and to our faithful supporters for enabling us to reach out to more vulnerable children in Jesus' name.



## Sponsorship Blesses 153 Children

It is not an easy task to collect, pack and transport 153 annual gift parcels to Uganda but seeing the joy on the children's faces makes it all

worthwhile. Toys were hugged, clothes tried on, balls were bouncing everywhere and colouring books and stickers eagerly explored. Message cards and letters

from the UK were translated and the children and guardians clearly felt loved and valued that someone had taken time to send them a message as well as a gift. It took three days to meet all the children, take their photos and give them time to write to their sponsor. The children and their guardians really value the opportunity to send their love and thanks in a letter.



## Clean Water Saves Lives

A newly constructed Protected Spring donated by "No More Dirty Water" was officially opened and is now serving a community with clean water. It is difficult to assess the new sites for Protected Springs, as many of them are reached by long journeys on bumpy and dusty roads followed by a steep descent on foot. It is so heart breaking to see how many thirsty children have no choice but to risk their lives by drinking dirty water that we are determined to continue to provide these lifesaving projects. Along with our water engineer, we were able to identify two more communities who will soon receive this support.



## Bible Based Holiday Club (BBHC)

The teachers at the BBHC are a joy to watch, as they are full of enthusiasm and energy and are just as likely to dance as were the 480 children who were present. Some of the children's guardians attended a session to learn more about the programme and we were all enthralled with the dancing, singing and drama stories performed by the children. It was such a lively, colourful and blessed afternoon.



## Foster Carers

We were able to arrange a loving and secure foster home for another little orphaned boy. He looked so happy and well settled when we visited him again. He is bonding well with his new family and attending a Nursery School near his new home.

## News

**Two Homeless Families** – a widowed lady with three children came to seek our help, knelt down in front of us with tears rolling down her face and begged us to help her provide food for her young children. We praise God that we were able to move her into a house near our Children's Village and her three children are now settled in the Bridge of Hope Nursery School.



Another lady had been sleeping out in the bush with her young daughter who is very malnourished; she had fled her previous home due to domestic violence. They are also receiving support and as soon as the little girl is strong enough she will have a place in the BOHCM Nursery School.

**Community Building Projects** – an elderly grandmother looking after three orphans joyfully moved into her newly built house. Two more families now have a kitchen and a place to cook even during bad weather and latrines were built for families who did not have this basic requirement. We aim to continue providing families with these essential facilities and more building work will continue over the coming months.

**Water & Food Crisis** – there has been no substantial rainfall in Rukungiri for several months. The rain water harvesters at the BOHCM School & Children's Village are all dry. It was very hot and dusty during our visit in May and even then Ben, the BOHCM Manager, was undertaking the daily task of driving the truck to the nearest water source to fill enough jerrycans and tanks to keep the School and Children's Village supplied. People have watched their crops fail and food prices rise and the poorest people are really struggling to feed their families.

## Prayer points

- Give thanks for the safe birth of baby Leah to Doreen, our Senior Field Officer. She is now enjoying three months maternity leave
- Pray for rain to provide water for families, crops and livestock
- Pray that for orphaned and abandoned children we can find more loving homes for them
- Pray that we can provide accommodation to homeless women and their children

**Psalm 30: 11-12**  
*You turn my wailing into dancing;  
You removed my sack cloth and clothed me in joy,  
That my heart may sing to you and not be silent.  
O Lord my God, I will give you thanks forever.*

