



Latest News

Father Boniface Celebrates 25 Years in Ministry



Taken on Father Boniface's recent visit to the UK

In August this year Father Boniface reached the milestone of 25 years in ministry, almost 20 of these years being spent in seeking to give the children in his locality, an education. In September this year he spent a month here in the UK and, during that time, was able to speak to the many donors who attended the EVC Concert. The highlights of his speech follow.

'I bring you warm greetings from my Bishop, the Rt Reverend John Baptist Kaggwa, Bishop of Masaka Diocese and, with me also, I have the cheers from the Ugandan children and the other people of God there.

I wish to thank you for what you are doing for us, for all the fundraising which has taken place, the promotions, marathons and sponsorship of our children. Also, deep seated thanks to the schools, the RC Chaplaincy at Newcastle University and the men's group in Riseley, all of whom have given so generously to us. Thanks also to the churches in and outside Bedford which EVC members have visited and, to their parish priests. We really have the same Lord and the same mission. The mustard seed which was planted at St Joseph's Church in Bedford has grown into a big tree with many fruity branches, one of which is EVC, whose fruits we can now see and harvest.

The money you have contributed has made wonders in St Kizito and St Matia Mulumba. Even refugees from Rwanda have shared the fruits of it. With the money contributed, we have built the dining hall and kitchen at St Kizito and the girls' dormitory at St Matia Mulumba is nearing completion. Classrooms have also been built and many poor orphans and vulnerable children have been helped and cared for. We are grateful for what has been done so far and admire all the plans for going forward. We pray that God, who began this noble work, may accomplish it.

What is now needed is to finish the girls' dormitory and classroom at St Matia Mulumba and also build extra classrooms at St Kizito. Water bore holes are needed as well as more sponsors to help our vulnerable children. We promise to continue to use the funds honestly, as we have already been doing.

Last, but not least, celebrations to mark my 25 years as a priest will take place on December 2nd 2017. You are invited. The ceremony will take place in Uganda.

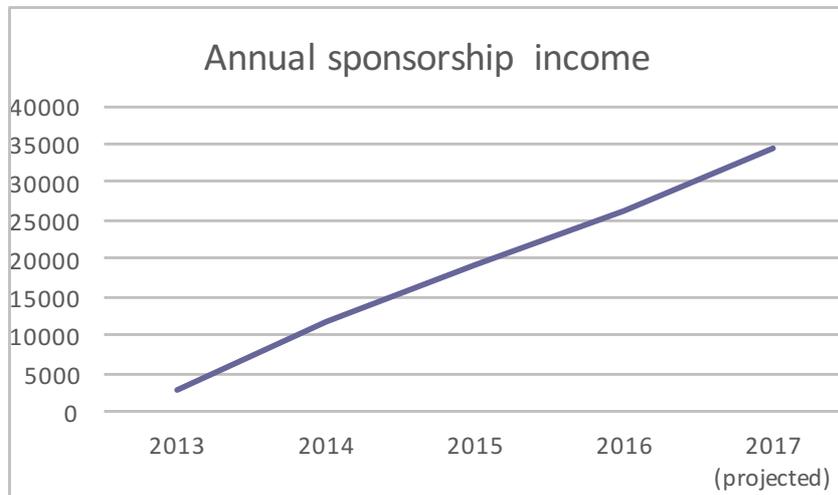
All for the greater Glory of God.

Father Boniface Kaayabula

EVC Finances during 2016/2017

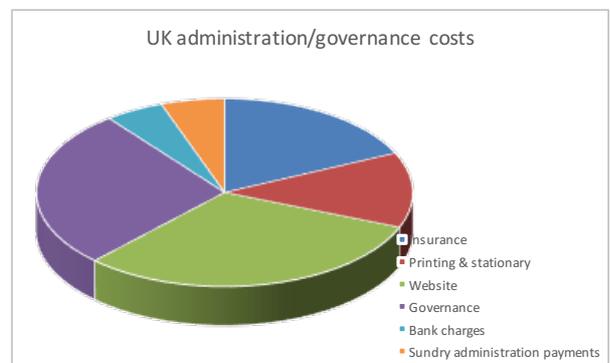
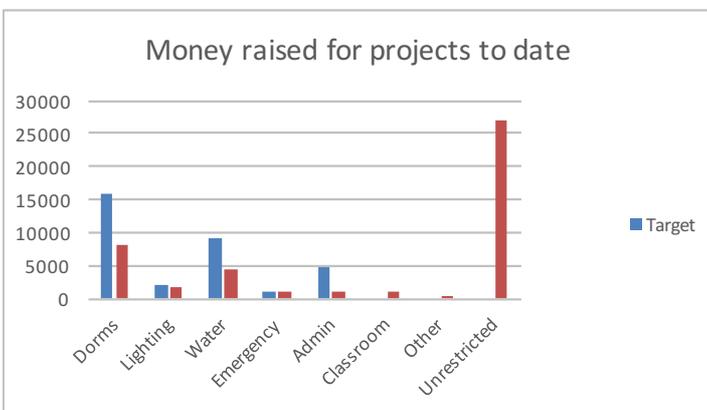
Our 2016 year end accounts have now been registered with the Charity Commission and are now available to view on their website.

100% of our sponsorship income is transferred to Uganda and we are pleased to see how far we have come with sponsorship income over the past few years.



In addition to sponsorship income, we have raised money for several projects in Uganda, some of which are shown below. Unrestricted funds from general fundraising are spent at the discretion of the Trustees and, during 2017, some of these were used to assist the dormitory project and also to provide bursaries for some children in secondary and further education.

In 2016, only 2.9% of the total income raised during the year was spent in the UK. The chart below shows how this UK cost was spent. All money donated for a specific project goes to that project and fundraising is carried out to raise what is needed for administration costs.



A Miscellany of News in Brief

- This month saw us reach 150 children sponsored from the UK.
- Bad weather in early summer halted progress on the dormitory, but it is hoped it will be finished soon, together with toilet and wash facilities.
- The Church Appeal programme is going well - 3 more before Christmas and already some planned for 2018.
- The EVC Concert, held in September, raised in excess of £1,000. Newcastle University RC Chaplaincy continues to raise funds for us and this term, at a welcome meal for new students, raised £52.32.
- Recently we visited Workaid who send refurbished tools to four countries in East Africa - Uganda being one. We hope to work in partnership with them and see tools sent for use in our schools some time next year.

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Empowering Vulnerable Children (EVC) Uganda, Registered Charity Number 1158189