



Paul, Tania and Lana Baker

Kiwoko Hospital,
Luwero Diocese, Uganda

Autumn 2015



CMS Ireland Link Letter

Dear Friends...

Our hope is in Him

When we returned to Uganda in January 2014 for another 2½ year term, we decided (in agreement with CMSI) to take a three-week, mid-term break back in Ireland to recharge our batteries. However, with the entrance of Lana into our lives, this became more complicated than simply booking some flights.

We would not be allowed to take Lana outside of Uganda until we secured Legal Guardianship, but we could not apply for that until we had fostered her for six months. So, as soon as the six months were up in November 2014, we put in our application, and waited...and waited... and waited.

When we hadn't heard anything by May, it seemed unlikely we'd make it home for the summer. So we asked people to pray...and suddenly we got a call that we had to go to court the very next day. The next three months were a whirlwind of court appearances, passport applications, visa applications, lots of conflicting advice, and a whole lot more prayer. God was so good to us through those months of uncertainty. Our mantra became 'our hope is in Him' as we quickly realised that without bribery, we needed God's control over the process.

Happily, I can report we enjoyed three weeks in 'not so sunny' Bangor in August. Lana loved meeting her extended family and they spoilt her rotten. While it was a busy time trying to catch up with everyone, it did allow us some time to recharge and rethink some of our priorities here in Kiwoko. With another year left on this term, and big decisions on what to do after that, we want to ensure we use this time well.

Fashion School

Our HIV department sponsors some of its teenage clients through their education. These are children whose parents have been unable to afford school fees due to their own HIV status, making it hard for them to find or keep work. This year, they asked us if some of their teenage clients could apply for the fashion school.



Most of the girls were still too young and we felt a few more years in formal education would be better for them. But one girl, Dinah, showed great maturity despite being only 16. She looks after her ailing mother and so the skills she is learning at Kiwoko Fashion School should provide a great source of income and be a useful help in the home.

Dinah has taken to the course really well and is always punctual. She is quiet among the older students but listens and understands well and we have loved watching her learn.

The Bible on the screen

In previous Link Letters we've mentioned devotional meetings which we'd started each week for the Workshop staff. These are going very well. Many more staff are wanting to get involved by speaking at the meetings, even men from within the Workshop. It's great to see people willing to serve and we're getting good feedback from all involved. Please pray that they will continue to be impacted by what they hear and that God will transform their lives.

A recent TV miniseries called *'The Bible'* has become available on DVD. As the name suggests, it is a docu-drama that tells the Bible's great stories on the screen. Every Wednesday morning we have begun showing 20 minute sections from the series to the Building team. We then give a brief talk about what they have seen and how God moved in the lives of those in each episode.

So far they have watched episodes featuring Noah, Moses, Abraham and Joshua and David. "God is with us" is a frequent statement made by each of these men of God. Even when they have made mistakes and their lives have come tumbling down around them, they have stayed close to God and He has brought them through major trials.

Please pray for us as we try to help our team of builders relate these stories to their own lives.

The Bible in their hands

Biblica have recently translated the NIV Bible into our local language, L'uganda. This was 30 years in the making and will make a huge impact. Up until now, only the King James version was available in L'uganda, and that can be difficult to understand in any language!

There are no easily accessible Bible shops in Uganda so we found a way to purchase 100 of these NIV Bibles. We also brought some English Study Bibles for

those who are competent with English. Since we purchased a large quantity, we were able to get a good discount. Now local people are able to purchase a Bible in Kiwoko at a really good price. They have been selling out fast. Please pray that people will read and understand their new Bibles.



Thanks for your continued interest and support!

Paul and Tania

Prayer Points:

- With 1 year remaining of this term we are starting to think about our next step.
- Give thanks for the Guardianship Order for Lana and pray for the rest of the Adoption process.
- Please pray for the builders and workshop men ministries at Kiwoko.
- As Tania once again takes on the day-to-day running of the Guest House, pray that she will have opportunities to witness to non-Christian international students coming through Kiwoko.

For more news and views from the Bakers, check out their blog on the CMSI website. You can also support the Bakers financially via the website.



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