



Newsletter May 2015
Volume 16: Issue 1

Hi Everyone,

Well, we certainly live in a land of huge contrasts here in Kitgum. Yesterday it was incredibly HOT!! with the temperature outside measuring **45.8°C** and today it's dropped to **15°C** with **47.6mm** of rain!

Who needs an air-conditioner eh?

Our decision to spend an extra month in Kitgum last year to get as much construction work done as possible, meant that our return to Uganda this year was much later than usual. We apologise for the delay in getting this newsletter out to you all, but as you will read later in this issue, God is pretty amazing at organizing things with precision timing.

Our visit to South Australia:

While back in South Australia we had the opportunity to speak at Birdwood United Church, One Tree Hill Uniting Church and Murray Bridge Church of Christ, and also visited Clare and Berri to catch up with supporters. We were encouraged by the positive response from a number of people.

We also had several medical appointments and issues to deal with before returning to Uganda.

The Annual General Meeting of CFA, held in the Birdwood United Church on Sunday 8th February 2015, was very well attended and provided another opportunity to share what God is doing in Kitgum.

Work Permits:

Our "Work Permit" renewal papers lodged in August 2014 were finally approved 8 months later, on 30th March 2015. The permits allow us to live in Uganda until March 2016. During the coming months we will have to prepare new documents to submit to the NGO Board to renew the Registration of Cornerstone Foundation as an NGO for the next 5 years. Paperwork here demands considerable patience, to put it mildly!

Lois Ford Up-date:

As mentioned in our December 2014 newsletter, our dear friend Lois Ford fell and broke her Femur, and after a "Medivac" flight with MAF from northern Uganda, was operated on in Kumi Hospital, south east Uganda. Unfortunately, the operation was not successful and she subsequently returned to New Zealand for further surgery. She is currently receiving treatment for an infection which is proving a real problem. We spoke with her just yesterday and she is now able to use crutches to walk, but has considerable pain in doing so. Please pray for her healing, and for her medical team to get on top of the infection, so that she can begin re-habilitation soon.



We remain very thankful for the wonderful service provided by MAF at a time when Lois needed it most!

Land Rover in trouble / Toyota to the rescue:

As we described in our last newsletter, the “Landie” has had some serious mechanical issues, and upon our arrival in Kampala on 4th April the engine decided to go on strike. After speaking with a reputable Italian mechanic, who has worked on the engine before, we were advised not to attempt the 450km trip north to Kitgum without some immediate major repairs. With our luggage, computer equipment, a large poly-tub of all sorts of building items from Australia, and 6 months of supplies bought in Kampala; the thought of breaking down “in the middle of nowhere” was pretty daunting. However, to wait for costly repairs to be done was also of concern to us since our 3 workmen in Kitgum had only been paid through until early April, anticipating our arrival back on the property just a few days after getting back to Uganda.

Wayne asked the mechanic if he knew of anyone wanting to sell a vehicle that would be suitable for travel on northern Uganda’s “special” roads. It just so happened that only 2 days earlier, an executive from France, who had worked for one of the oil companies for the past 2 years in Uganda, wanted to sell his wife’s vehicle: a 2002 Toyota Land Cruiser with only 130,000km on the odometer!! We asked the mechanic to inspect the vehicle for us and advise whether to purchase or not. He said: “Land Cruiser’s like this one don’t come along very often” and that “it was in excellent condition”. Priced at \$US20,000 (\$AUD 27,000) with 4 new tyres & 2 spares, roof rack (with attached camping tent), bull bar, long range fuel tanks, and tow bar included, we contacted our CFA Management Board in Adelaide to seek their advice.

The decision was made with their full support, to go ahead and purchase the replacement vehicle.

The transfer of ownership and all legalities were completed in just 3 days, and we travelled back to Kitgum so thankful to God for His incredible way of providing for our situation. Had we returned at the normal time of mid February, the Land Cruiser would not have been for sale!! **Our God is AMAZING!!!**

(PS: We still plan to keep the “Landie” after getting the bare minimum repairs done in the near future, so that it can be “nursed” back to Kitgum “in convoy” with the Toyota. The Land Rover is such a useful vehicle for construction work, with it’s full length roof rack and capability of transporting 4 @ 50kg bags of cement the 3km from Kitgum to the property at Oryang Ojuma.)

During our recent time back in Australia the CFA Management Board decided to focus our fund-raising efforts toward raising the money needed for a “replacement vehicle” for use in Uganda. The recent purchase of the Land Cruiser was made from CFA general funds, so accordingly, any funds raised or donations received for the vehicle will be put back into CFA funds.

If you would like to donate toward the cost of the vehicle, please complete the donation form on the last page of this issue, and tick the box labeled “Replacement Vehicle Fund”, to enable our treasurer Paul Johnson, to keep track of donations received.



The Land Cruiser on-site in Kitgum, (minus the camping tent: removed to prevent deterioration from the sun).

Property Up-date:

Since arriving back in Kitgum, the structural steel work for the house is nearing completion and we expect to start installing gutters and roofing sheets within the next couple of weeks.

Of course, with the constant rain, comes huge growth of grasses and weeds, so tractor slashing will be needed pretty soon. Our workmen have begun slashing and whipper-snipping the house compound, and trimming the surrounding hedge. It looks much better already thanks to the men. They are doing a great job!

We will have a more detailed up-date and photos in the next issue, at the end of June.

As stated in the December 2014 newsletter, we still need help to complete the building program more quickly. Please continue to pray with us for God's timing in sending those He has already chosen to help us.

Birdwood Family Fete:

Just a last minute reminder to people on our newsletter e-mail list, that the Birdwood Family Fete will be held this Saturday 9th May (tomorrow) from 8.30 am until 12.00 noon, in the Birdwood United Church grounds at 71 Shannon Street, Birdwood. The event has been widely publicized throughout the Birdwood region, but if anyone in the Adelaide Hills area would like to go, you will find some great buys, with cooked breakfast, cakes and biscuits, produce, plants and many other items for sale, including a mini auction with trailer loads of firewood up for auction, and live entertainment from 10.00 to 10.30am. There is a secure playground for children. Proceeds are to be shared between the Birdwood United Church and Cornerstone Foundation. It promises to be a great event!

Prayer Points:

Praise God:

- ✓ For His strength and safety while working.
- ✓ For God's perfect timing in the provision of the Land Cruiser.
- ✓ For our faithful workmen who cared for the property while we were back in Australia.
- ✓ For the joy of knowing Jesus as Saviour and Lord.

Please pray:

- For opportunities for "Discipleship Training" for those who became Christians late last year at our "out-reach" evening.
- For His wisdom in knowing where to begin, with teaching sessions in Oryang Ojuma.
- That God's voice will be heard by the young couple or person who will join us, long-term in Kitgum.
- For the many families who are dealing with "Nodding Syndrome" and "Epilepsy".
- For our health and strength to be maintained – Wayne has had some health issues since returning.
- For our dear friend Lois Ford, rehabilitating from the second operation to mend her broken Femur. Please pray for her healing, especially regarding the stubborn infection.



With our love, *Wayne and Bev*

Donation Reply: *(A receipt and thank-you note will be issued for all donations)*

I / We would like to:

- Donate toward Wayne & Bev's personal support Weekly Monthly Quarterly
- Support the ministry of Cornerstone Foundation (Australia) Inc. in Kitgum
- Donate to the "Replacement Vehicle Fund" for the purchase of the Land Cruiser
- Enclosed is my donation of: \$ _____

Name: _____

Date: _____

Address: _____

Postcode: _____

E-mail Address: _____

Phone: () _____

Method of Payment: Cheque Postal Order Direct Debit

Cheque /Postal Order: payable to: Cornerstone Foundation (Australia) Inc.

Direct Debit: Commonwealth Bank Of Australia
Account Name: Cornerstone Foundation Australia Inc.
BSB No: 065102 Account No: 10154438

Please post to: Mr Paul Johnson
Cornerstone Foundation (Australia) Inc.
Unit 8 / 90 Melrose Street
MOUNT PLEASANT SA 5235



Reminder: If using Direct Debit for any payments please notify the Treasurer so that a receipt can be issued for Auditing purposes. Thank-you.

Contact Paul either by postal address as above
or by e-mail: **paul_johnson_42@bigpond.com**