



APRIL 2025 NEWSLETTER



**HAPPY
90TH
BIRTHDAY
JAJJA
GEORGE**



On 23rd March, Founder/Director George Willard celebrated his 90th Birthday. A special surprise party was held for him and around 40 people attended.

A video was made using photos of his work in Africa over the past 35 years and brought up to date with Videos which included messages from Staff and children and songs brought back by Elizabeth Lansdowne when she visited Uganda with the team in February.

George enjoyed hearing the children singing his favourite songs again including their version of Psalm 23 and also When the Trumpet sounds

Many of you will also remember the songs the children sang when we bought the children's choir to the UK.

Many people have asked if they will come back, but sadly the cost of flights, Visas, new Costumes and travel around the UK would be more difficult now, as we used to receive a lot of free transport and funding, but we Praise the Lord for all the wonderful times we did have and all the Sponsors and Supporters who still support the work of A.F.R.I.C.A. May it continue for many more years.

Thank you to the ladies who visited the village in February and for their continued support to the village and the children. The children received more gifts and many went on the trip to the Lake for a day out. We would like many more people to visit and see the great work that is being done.

Children do not understand why their Sponsors do not visit them and get very upset. Of course, we know it is not possible for everyone, but please send a letter and photo to your children to encourage them in their school work.

We trust more will want to join the team in February 2026.

Just to remind you we are now only producing Newsletter's every 6 months, but you can follow us on Facebook and on the website with all the up to date news.

We hope you enjoy reading all the updates from our team as they tell you about what the visit meant to them.

Our Director, Uncle Grace and staff also thank you for all the wonderful Gifts they receive and help that is given to the Children, may the Lord Bless you all.

WITH GOD ALL THINGS ARE POSSIBLE

UPDATE FROM AUNTIE LIZ – On Wednesday 5th February, 5 of us met at Schiphol airport in Amsterdam to continue our journey to Entebbe, Uganda. We were all happy to meet again and we welcomed Karen, a sponsor who was visiting for the first time.

After a good flight, we arrived in Uganda and were met by Uncle Grace and Wilson, our bus driver for the duration of our stay. We stayed overnight in Entebbe and then travel on to Masaka the next day.

The sun was shining as we boarded the bus to start our journey towards Masaka. We changed money and brought a few supplies and then headed on our way. We stopped at the Equator for photos and some shopping before going on further to enjoy a cold drink and some food. We reached our hotel at around 5pm and after settling in, we shared a drink and evening meal together.

The next day we were all excited to be heading to the School and to see all the happy faces waiting for us. We were treated to singing and dancing by the children and staff and we all enjoyed together. We spent the rest of the day enjoying time around school and talking with children and staff.

The following days were spent sorting all the boxes that we had shipped over previously, including clothes, shoes, books, toys and educational materials. It took some doing but we all sorted everything we needed to do ready to give out to the staff and children.

We held an eye care day with our Ophthalmologist, Salim, which was attended by many people and we gave out clothes and blankets to all who attended including many babies and children. We were blessed to be given many pairs of glasses that were given to those who needed them. The Jajja George Health Centre is being put to good use and is moving on well in the capable hands of Dr Ezra and his team.

Some of the children were taken on a trip to the Lake again which was enjoyed by all who went.

Others were taught how to sew and use a sewing machine and a beautiful banner was made to go in the Jajja George Health Centre.

It was another wonderful visit where everyone worked so hard and I am personally thankful to my team for all the time and effort put into benefitting the School as a whole.

I know you will enjoy reading reports from the team.

I will be going back to the school around mid June (Dates will be put on the Website) so please think about shop orders for your children.

TEAM REPORTS

1 - Having recently returned from a visit to the Africa With Love school, I would not hesitate to recommend considering a visit to the school by those sponsoring children or other interested folks.

This was my third visit and I look forward to returning next year. It is truly an amazing experience. The children are thrilled to see their sponsors and eagerly check to see if their own sponsor may have come to see them. They were very excited to receive the donated items which the team distributed among the many children. Even a pen, pencil or toothbrush were received with sincere appreciation, and the many knitted sweaters and hats and other clothing items or shoes produced very wide smiles!

As well as the children, the teachers and staff at the school were very welcoming and obviously enjoyed their work.

Once again a trip to the lake was a highlight for two busloads of children who thoroughly enjoyed themselves, many falling asleep on the way back to the school.

A great experience, well worth thinking about a visit for next year.

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2 - I have visited for some years now and always find the children and staff a joy to see - always cheerful despite having little

We were busy distributing knitted items, bedding, stationery, clothes, shoes and much more.

The 50 children we took to the lake - 'the tour' as they refer to it - were thrilled to swim, eat a hearty meal, have their faces painted and play games.

Each year we try to take children who have never been before. The 'experience' of being there is difficult to describe - why not join the trip next year and see for yourself.

The children love to see the sponsors.

3 - This was my first trip to Uganda - in fact my first trip to any African country - and I hope it will not be last. I have sponsored a child at AWL for 3 years and I wanted to see for myself the school and the work of the charity. I was not disappointed. It was an amazing experience and I would encourage anyone to go out and see it all for themselves. I don't think any one could visit Uganda without gaining something positive. The trip was enlightening, enriching and rewarding in so many ways but also very humbling.

First impressions are of a beautiful, lush green country with spectacular scenery and lovely warm sunshine but the real 'pearls' in the Pearl of Africa, despite being one of the poorest countries in the world, are the people. Ugandan hospitality is like nowhere else I've ever been. Everyone is so friendly and welcoming with the broadest of smiles and genuine joy to meet you. The journey to the school is a bumpy one on rough road surfaces with clouds of orangey/red dust as it is out in the bush and you have to hang on tight. The red/orange dirt roads are lined with small businesses, shanties and market stalls. People of all ages gather at different meeting places trading and talking. It is a completely different world and children enthusiastically wave as you pass.

The school itself is out in the bush and sits on a hilltop with a 360 panorama of lush green vegetation, banana and coffee plantations and the first feelings you get are of a tranquil, peaceful place - a safe environment for children to learn. There is a real sense of family and community within the school and the children are eager to learn and genuinely enjoy being there. The welcome at the school is totally overwhelming and very emotional. We were greeted with genuine love and affection, hugs and handshakes like long lost family and the happiest faces I think I've ever seen. Watching the children perform forms a place in your heart and you cannot help grow extremely fond of these beautiful, lovely children. During my trip I saw all the improvements made to the lives of the children there through the work of AWL, the sponsorship, fundraising and donations and was actively involved in ensuring the things that were on the agenda for this years trip were completed, a new dining room floor, painting of the outer buildings, a new latrine for the nursery, new beds and mattresses for the dormitories, new uniforms and educational supplies and servicing of the water tank with new filters and UV light. I also helped unpack and distribute all the donated items that had been shipped out there - clothes, shoes, bedding, towels and more educational supplies for the children. I observed in some of the classes, and served lunch to the nursery and primary children and got involved with the school choir teaching them a new song to perform in their church service. A truly memorable experience. One of the other highlights for me was meeting the young girl, Marjo, that I sponsor and to visit her house and meet her Jajas' and little brother. They are all so sincerely grateful for the chance of a better life through education that sponsorship can provide and they are genuinely honoured to meet you. I was more than satisfied that my sponsorship and contribution is helping to improve the lives of children and give them a chance of a brighter future and will continue who went on the trip to the Lake was also a wonderful experience but I also loved chatting to the older senior children who explained to me a lot about the local culture within Uganda and their hopes for a better future which they all attribute to their education. They consider education offers them an opportunity to escape poverty and help their families and community. For girls, they are more likely to enter the work force, earn higher incomes, delay marriage and plan having children better and seek an education for their own children and inspire the next generation. This was the most heart warming of all to hear students of the school speaking like that. Of course it is a completely different world and so very poor so if things don't quite go to plan or isn't quite as expected it is just part of the 'Ugandan experience'.

Staying in a hotel with a bed, my own shower and toilet was a world away from the reality of what most Ugandans have and getting wifi every now and again or the electric going off randomly for a few hours becomes quite normal and accepted, and when you blow your nose and it's bright red orange there is no panic it is just the red dust from the journey on the bus. Certainly won't be complaining about pot holes in English roads for sometime!!

Going to Uganda was one of the best things I have done in my life and I feel I left with many new friends. I certainly hope I will go back again!!!

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4 - It is always such a wonderful experience to go and share a fortnight with the staff and children of Africa With Love on our February visits. It truly does feel like a home from home. It has also been so wonderful to see the children one has known since they were little growing up and becoming young adults. For some years now I have been conducting sewing classes with the children. This year I was able to take out two sewing machines donated by 2 ladies from Norwich and was able to spend a day showing four classes of children how to work them. The two primary classes made themselves some draw-string bags and the two senior classes made a welcome banner to brighten up the waiting area in the Jajja George Health Centre..

REPORT FROM DR SALIM – OPTHAMOLOGIST

EYE SCREENING AND TREATMENT PROGRAM AT AFRICA WITH LOVE SCHOOLS AND CLINIC.

Glaucoma remains the leading cause of irreversible blindness globally whereas Cataracts and uncorrected refractive errors remain among the leading causes of visual impairment among both adults and children.

The screening and treatment program facilitated by Africa with love Foundation schools and Clinic has enabled screening of the students and community members for eye conditions such as Glaucoma, cataracts, refractive errors (Myopia, Hyperopia, Astigmatism and Presbyopia) and other eye conditions like Conjunctivitis, ocular foreign bodies which are common among students.

The program has aided in management of most refractive errors such as presbyopia through provision of reader spectacles mostly helping those above 40 years. Students with different eye conditions also manage to get treatment at the Clinic.

Several patients with conditions requiring surgical intervention, are always referred to Masaka Regional referral Hospital such as those with mature cataracts, where they are booked and then wait for surgery as the cost of surgery is too high for most of them.

The community, teachers and students are so grateful to the foundation as many have been sensitised about safe eye practise including facial hygiene, avoiding scratching their eyes as this would cause them devastating conditions like Keratoconus and also use of Traditional Eye Medicine which was rampant among the community members costing many their vision.

I was most thankful for the donation of many pairs of reading glasses that Auntie Liz sent over. We helped many people because of the generosity of others in the UK. We were able to give glasses in the colourful cases also given by donation. We are most grateful.

REPORT FROM DR EZRA

We greet you all in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. We thank the Lord for keeping you safe.

As Jajja George Health Centre, we celebrate Jajja George for making 90 years of age. We pray that this new age comes with good health for the rest of the years to come. At the beginning of the year, we received a group of sponsors who always do a lot towards the health of our children, the staff and the community around.

We at Jajja George Health Centre, are embarked on health promotion strategies. This promotes disease prevention among our children and community. We thank our sponsors for the maintenance of our 'smart tank' a perfect solution for safe drinking water. The team was able to do maintenance of the water treatment system by replacing the water filters which have to be replaced every 3- 4 months and the UV light which has to be changed every 5-6 months. This provides our students with safe drinking water which will prevent many illnesses.

We aim at conducting regular check-ups and screening for early detection of diseases. So we encourage all those willing to support our strategies in terms of finances and logistics to kindly come on board and we change our community.

We thank the Jajjas and all the sponsors for the support towards the health of our children and the community at large.

May the Lord Bless You All.

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FEBRUARY 2025 TEAM VISIT



New Banner for the Health Centre



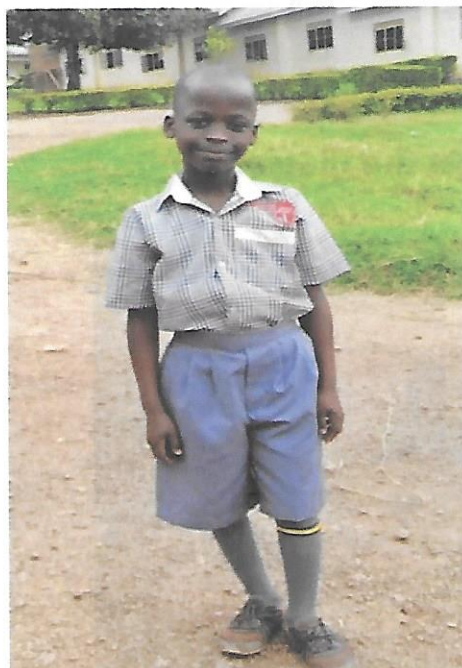
Sweaters donated



New books in the Nursery



Pictures for Jajja George



New Primary Uniform



AWL Senior Football Team

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Donated Dresses



Teddies and Dolls



Dr Salim with a patient



Nurse Tiberius sorts the glasses



FUN AT THE LAKE



SEWING LESSONS

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INFORMATION PAGE

EXAMS - It is time once again to think about Exam fees for the children. Please check the names below to see if your child needs your help. Also please consider helping a child/ children who are not sponsored to take their exams. It is a very important time for the children and they rely on our support to help them through. Thank you.

PRIMARY 7 CANDIDATES

AWL 013 – Gorgina hope Kalungi – £20.00

AWL 421B – Salimah Namujuzi - £20.00

AWL 485B – Anthony Mutumba - £20.00

AWL 504B – Eddie Kimera - £20.00

AWL 709B – Enock Mwebaza - £20.00

There are 22 Non Sponosred children needing help

SENIOR 4 CANDIDATES

AWL 033B – Ian Yiga - £50.00

AWL 120B – Shareau Numubiru - £50.00

AWL 175 – Lodin Mawanda - £50.00

AWL 262B – Sharon Nabuula - £50.00

AWL 300B – Angel Namuli - £50.00

AWL 408B – Phionna Nakalyango - £50.00

There are 40 Non sponsored children needing help.

SENIOR 6 CANDIDATES

AWL 510 – Harnest Kamoga - £50.00

AWL 010B – Susan Nakibule - £50.00

AWL 143B – Brenda Nakyanzi - £50.00

There is just 1 Non sponsored child needing help.

JUNE VISIT – Once again, Liz will be going over to the School in June to check on everything and collect updates on all the sponsored children. The date will be on the website nearer the time.

Please consider writing a letter and sending a photo to your sponsored child, they will be so happy to hear from you. Please send these to the office by the end of May.

Also if you wish to send any shop orders for your children, then please also have these into the office by the end of May

FOOD – Food remains one of our biggest expenses and of course a top priority to our children and staff. Maybe you would consider sponsoring food each month or make a donation to help us provide good meals for everyone. It costs £96.00 for 100kgs of Beans and £50.00 for 100kgs of flour.

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APRIL 2025 NEWSLETTER SHOP ORDERS

Registered charity 1079952

I would like to make a donation to the following; My Sponsor Number is

SHOP ORDER FOR CHILDREN (June) £.....

SCHOOL FOOD - £.....

MEDICINES FOR JAJJA GEORGE HEALTH CENTRE – £.....

EXAM FEES - £.....

WHAT IS MOST NEEDED - £.....

Please send all donations to the UK Office at 2 Drury Close, Bowthorpe, Norwich, Norfolk, NR5 9DD
(Cheque payable to A.F.R.I.C.A) Telephone - 01603 951940

Or make an online payment using the details below and send an accompanying email to
africacharity@hotmail.co.uk OR payments can be made on the website

Association For Reaching And Instructing Children In Africa

Account number 70378151 – Sort Code 20-49-76

WEBSITE - africawithlove.co.uk

FACEBOOK PAGE – AFRICA WITH LOVE

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