



## New Hope Special Needs Programme Newsletter: October 2011.

Dear Friends,

As we write this we are well into the third term of the first year of our Special Needs Class and we have much to thank God for. Last week we were very privileged to receive a **visit from the Queen of the Baganda Kingdom**. She chose Kasana Children's Centre for the location of her visit to our district and especially wanted to see the work that we are doing with children with disabilities. So, last Wednesday we all gathered in Hassan's House along with the babies from Hope Family and eagerly awaited her arrival.....she came with a whole convoy of cars and other important people but what excited the boys in our class the most were the soldiers who came with big guns to search the house before she entered.



The Queen visiting Hassan's House.



*Hassan, Auntie Jane, Allen and Auntie Christine.*

### NEWS FROM HASSAN'S HOUSE:

Since we last wrote we have added a **new 'lodger' to Hassan's House; Allen** from the Special Needs Class has now started staying with us during the week so that she is able to attend school all 4 days and also so that we can try and help her gain weight and get over her food phobia. When she returned to school after the last holidays she was again dangerously malnourished. Her Mother shared with us that the Father in law and his parents that she and her children stay with, were putting a huge amount of pressure on her to leave Allen to die as they see her as a 'burden' and a 'waste of time and money.' We will continue to send food home with her at weekends and hope to do further home visits to the family so that we can hopefully change their attitude towards this precious girl; please pray with us about this!

**Hassan himself is doing relatively well and the Doctor`s have thankfully decided not to operate** after a Spinal Tap proved unsuccessful and on a more positive note, a medication that can help to reduce pressure in the brain has definitely helped to reduce his fits and vomiting. 😊

Unfortunately, **Kakulu`s Grandmother did not return from her trip to care for her sick son until we got the police involved.** Although she denies it, from what her neighbours told us she had decided to leave Kakulu with us and ‘disappear.’ Now that he is back in her care at weekends again, please pray that God will provide her with the energy, strength and patience she needs to care for Kakulu. Please also pray that her relatives will also support her in this task. In our investigations during the time she was away, we discovered that Kakulu had an aunt and uncle locally and they in turn told us that his parents (whom the Grandmother had told us were dead,) are actually alive somewhere in the country!

### **CLASS NEWS:**

We are happy to be able to share with you that another **member of staff has joined our team;** **Auntie Gertrude** who recently moved to Kasana to be with her new husband Christopher who works in the Accounts Department. Gertrude has completed a degree in Community Rehabilitation and will be working with us part time. This will be a great help as **Auntie Kate is going on ‘home assignment’** from mid November until the end of January.

Sadly, **Nalubega`s Father decided not to bring her back this way** and so we will be looking to give her place to someone else in the near future. Please continue to pray for her and her family. We have heard reports that she is being left alone in the house all day whilst her Father is at work and her siblings go to school. We are planning to get in touch with the probation officer where they live so that they can investigate further.



*Auntie Gertrude with Ivan.*



*Isma and Kakande digging in our class garden*

As a class, we have finally got **started on our garden** and will soon be planting some vegetables which we look forward to eating in the future!

Since the Dangers` family came back from America, we **have enjoyed having their daughter Julia come and join our class** for P.E, Art and Craft, Fine Motor Skills and Music. **Najib has continued to be part of our class** on Mondays and to have weekly signing lessons with Uncle Eric on Fridays. Last

week they went with his Mum to Luwero to look at a school that has a unit for deaf children where we hope to send him next school year.

### COMMUNITY OUTREACH NEWS:

At the beginning of September we were very pleased to welcome a team from 'The Father's Heart Mobility Ministry' who came and distributed wheelchairs to seven of the children we support in the local community as well as a lady who attends our church and lives at Kiwoko hospital. Many of the children had never sat in any wheeled 'vehicle' before and we had mixed reactions; both excitement and some terror (which soon disappeared once they realised they were now free to move about!) Having a wheelchair will make a huge difference to each of the recipients as well as to their parents / carers!



**LEFT:** Seezi in his new wheelchair. **MIDDLE:** Francis and his team assembling a wheelchair. **RIGHT:** Brian trying out his new chair; freedom at last!

This last Friday we had our October community outreach and **one of our nurses, Jenny Aitken gave a talk on some common disabilities;** the causes, how they can be prevented and what simple things can be done at home with children who have them. The parents were also given an opportunity to ask questions and share their experiences.

**In November and December we will have two community sessions instead of one;** an additional one in November for assessing and registering new children and a special Christmas session for each group in December. As well as having different speakers each session, we are also trying to have different activities for the children and their parent / carer to do together; last month we had Uncle Rukundo come and play his guitar and sing with the children. They all enjoyed this and had a go with different percussion instruments.

### **POINTS FOR PRAYER:**

**As well as the things we have already mentioned above, we ask you to pray for:**

- **The support staff who are a valuable part of our team; that they would really capture the vision and have a heart for the children. Many of them are struggling right now as living costs continue to rise and they are feeling discouraged.**

- **That things would run smoothly whilst Auntie Kate is away in England and that she would be able to rest and trust the children into God`s hands!**
- **That God would give us wisdom and finances as we plan for the future and look to build our own classroom on the main primary school site.**
- **That all of us involved in this ministry (both staff and children) would grow closer to our Father God and be increasingly aware of his presence with us in each moment of our lives.**

We pray this also for you and once again thank you for being part of us in making a difference in the lives of these precious children.

Many blessings from us all here at Kasana Children`s Centre.

**New Hope Uganda ,**

**P.O. Box 16**

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**[www.newhopeuganda.org](http://www.newhopeuganda.org)**