



# AUSTRALIA BRINGING HOPE INC.

Heart and Hope for those in Need  
[www.abhinc.org.au](http://www.abhinc.org.au)

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Issue 7

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**Australia Bringing Hope Inc. (ABH)** is a development and relief organisation set up to work in developing countries and we are currently working in Uganda. Our aim is to work along side local people assisting them in areas of health, welfare, housing and income generating projects so that they are able to become self sufficient. We partner with a Ugandan organisation, Bringing Hope to the Family and are involved with supporting their orphanage, medical clinic and vocational school. Our CEO is based in Uganda and has set up a honey extracting plant and a workshop, training and providing employment in areas of mechanical repairs, engineering and carpentry.

**Hi there supporters of Australia Bringing Hope!**

Once again it has been some time since our last official newsletter! Much has happened over the last number of months and hopefully this newsletter will bring you up to speed. Our plan (which will hopefully become a reality!) is to get newsletters out a lot more regularly and thus making them not such a big read each time.



Irene and Phill Grigg

**Time in Australia..**

As many of you would know, our CEO, Phill Grigg and his wife, Irene, were in Australia this year from April 13 and returned to Uganda on July 12.

It was a time of rest and recuperation, while also giving Phill the opportunity to introduce Irene to his family and friends in Australia. The board spent a lot of time working on administration tasks and consolidating the vision of our work in Uganda.

Phill and Irene spent a lot of time speaking to different groups to increase the support for ABH in Australia and to raise much needed funds. They spoke to a number of groups within the Mt Barker Baptist Church and the Clare Uniting Church. Other groups that were blessed with a visit from Phill and Irene were Northern Highlands Christian Outreach in Jamestown, Clare Valley New Life Church, Farrell Flat Primary School, Blyth Primary School, Port Wakefield Uniting Church, West Torrens Rotary Club, Dernancourt Uniting Church, Clare High School, Saddleworth Combined Churches group, Clare Anglican Church and a group function known as a 'Clayton's Party.'

Irene presented a talk "A Ugandan Story—One Women's Experience" to a large group of women towards the end of their visit. Irene is an incredible communicator and was well received. Many were moved to tears and it was unanimously requested that Irene continue with part two of her story when they next visit Australia.



Blyth Primary School teacher, Jillian D'Cruze, with board members, Irene, Phill and Katherine.



West Torrens Rotarian, Wally Young, presenting a cheque to Phill and Irene.

## Situation Back in Uganda

(Taken from Phill's emails July 26, July 29, August 3, August 8, September 22 and October 16)

### Reality in Uganda..

"On our arrival in Kampala, we were greeted with a power black out, we spent the first night in candle light, it seems here in Kampala the power goes off every other night."

"Yesterday a three story building collapsed, just leaving the ground floor. They seem to save money by not putting enough cement in their concrete!"

"I read in the paper that the rate of people coming to hospital with malnutrition has risen from 86 to about 800 per month. Some crops here have done well but the rising prices are a big problem to people who do not have land. In the north and in places like Somalia many people are dying because of the drought."

"The unemployment rate for youth 18 to 24 years is about 80% which shows how important our work is here."

### Accidents and tragedy..

"While we were away, our mechanic had an accident on our motor cycle, he and another suffered serious head injuries, they are both now recovering but have been badly affected. Robert has lost the use of one eye and still has some memory loss. Last week my friend Sunday the builder also had a motor cycle accident. They hit a bicycle at night. He and another passenger were injured. They both have lost a lot of skin on their faces and legs."

Phill informed us that at the end of July ABH Uganda's head carpenter's wife died. Phill described Justus's wife as "humble, honest and a hard worker." She was the mother of five children, one of whom died unexpectedly last year. She was HIV positive, having contracted this from her husband a year or so ago, and then more recently had suffered with Meningitis. At the time of her death, Justus and his wife had a three month old baby, Patience. An email from Phill on October 16 informed that this baby girl, who is also HIV positive, has now been



to train others. I have given him five hives of his own which he will pay back when we start producing honey. He spent two years doing an agricultural course including bee keeping so I think this will put him in a good position to become a good teacher and apiarist."

### Improvements..

Phill reported being very pleased with how the ABH Uganda team managed problems and challenges while he and Irene were in Australia. Using funds raised while in Australia, several machines have been upgraded, power has been upgraded to three phase and the storage shed has been extended. A storeman has been appointed to account for all stock, tools and equipment.

### Training..

As documented in Phill's recent Annual CEO report: "Most of the training during the past year has been 'on the job training,' however Adolf has completed his six month welding course in Fort Portal and is doing well as the head of Steel Fabrication. All leaders are being trained in small business management (on the job) and in improving customer relations. No workshop training has yet been offered to Bringing Hope to the Families vocational school, as our team still need refining to be able to offer teaching, but my hope is that in the near future that offer will be able to be made."

Phill Grigg—CEO

diagnosed with TB.

### Bee Keeping..

"The seven projects for Nature Uganda have not managed to catch many swarms, so I have gone around loaning some of my catch boxes and doing more training. I need to soon do a film of management practices as that would be easier than having everyone working with live bees. The main problem being that I do not have enough protective gear. In just a few weeks I hear they have caught several swarms and are keen to have them put in their hives, I will give them a little time for the bees to get established and when doing this continue to train about 120 people. I have started working with one young man and hope to get him



### Australia Bringing Hope Australia

Our Annual General Meeting (AGM) was recently held and our board has all been re-elected. Phill Grigg has been re-elected as our CEO. Graham Jenkin is going into his second year as the board's Chairperson. Katherine White is continuing as the Secretary and Public Officer. As of this year's AGM the role of Treasurer has been split into two positions. Phill has been elected as the Treasurer of ABH Uganda and Katherine has been elected as the Treasurer of ABH Australia.



Left to Right: Board members, Dean Schunke, Katherine White, Greg Telfer, Maria Toholke, Phill Grigg, Irene Grigg, John Bartholomaeus, Raelene Bartholomaeus and Graham Jenkin.

We have recently begun monthly sausage sizzles in Clare with the support of the Clare Uniting Church. They occur on the fourth Saturday morning of the month outside of Mathie's Butcher Shop. Come along and buy a sausage or two while also supporting our worthwhile cause! Our next sausage sizzle is on November 26.

We are currently looking at getting together a group of interested and motivated people who will join with us to become part of a fundraising committee that will be managed by the ABH board. Your involvement can be as big or small as you would like. You might have ideas to share with us, you might like to set up a fundraiser at your place of work, you might like to offer your assistance at an ABH fundraiser. If you would like to be involved or if you have any questions, please contact Katherine by email or by phone.

As always your support is greatly appreciated. Please feel free to contact us with any questions, concerns, ideas or feedback.

Katherine White—Secretary

On his return to Australia, Phill brought with him a letter for Australia Bringing Hope in Australia. This letter acknowledges the incredible work of Australia Bringing Hope in Uganda and the need for it's ongoing commitment and support from Australia.

Below is part of the letter we received (unedited)..

I Timdyebwa Frank would like to take this opportunity to thank Australia Bringing Hope specifically Mr Phillip and Irene for the great help and blessing they have offered to me to acquire the education skills, training.

When I completed my Senior 4 in the year 2009 I stayed at home hopeless but it was a great opportunity when I heard Pastor Abel telling me that he had requested Mr Phillip to allow me to study from his workshop. When I heard this I came immediately to prove whether it was true. When I reached at workshop I was warmly welcomed and admitted to start there and then.

My humble appeal to you sir and people from Australia is that I request you kindly to continue supporting Australia Bringing Hope such that the youth and children who are in the villages hopeless as I was can

also get a chance.

Thank you.

Timdyebwa Frank

## Australia Bringing Hope Inc.

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