Dear Friends

It is exciting for me to be writing to you at this time. I have recently returned from Uganda with many stories of God's faithfulness. It was a busy but very productive time.

The first two houses and a toilet block have been built. I would like to say a very big thank you to the friends in the congregations of St Thomas, Delph, and Kings Way, Sale, for the £16500 currently raised to build the two houses. Thank you to our friends in Solihull for the money raised to build the toilet. Attached are photographs of the work so far. Thanks you also to all of you at Hope (Eden Valley) who are sponsoring the third house. We are so grateful to God for you - this vision cannot be completed without your partnership. May the Lord richly bless you all.

Thank you also to those who are helping in various ways and those who have come and worked with me in Uganda. It has been a joy and a privilege to share the experience with you.

God willing, we anticipate that the first children will move into the Children's Centre in the summer of this year. We are excited about this prospect and what the future holds.

We have begun to establish a Kampala–based Team to coordinate the work from Uganda. God has provided a beautiful and spacious premises for our **Kampala NDE offices** with extra space for a **Guesthouse,** (see photo below). So, for any of you planning to visit Uganda we look forward to offering you affordable, peaceful and comfortable accommodation. Please contact us at the following address for more information info@ndenetwork.com.

Our vision is to house 1000 children and that each 'family' of nine children and their carer will own and care for a plot of land and some livestock in order to learn the skills and responsibility of farming. They will thus be able to produce their own fruit, vegetables, eggs and milk. To this end we have begun to establish a farm on the land. Thank you to all of you who have sponsored or pledged to the purchase of our 16 goats and 5 cows so far!

In January, we travelled to the north of Uganda where there has been ongoing war for 18 years. We wanted to witness first hand what the situation is there and assess how we can help. It was a gut-wrenching and humbling experience! Many millions of people, mostly children, have been displaced from their villages and homes and are living in Camps and donated land without food, access to healthcare, education or the freedom to establish a life for themselves. In one settlement, 52 children out of 200 hundred had died from malaria in one week due to lack of medicine and mosquito nets. The people are living in constant fear of attack. In one of the camps that we visited, people had been killed by the Rebel Army only days before and another was burnt down by the army two days after we left. The situation is serious and many children's are at risk. We are looking to God for the ways to give help and give hope to these children who are suffering the ravages of war. It has been an honour to employ five individuals from the North - giving them jobs and the opportunity to start a new life in Kampala and send something back to their extended families in the north.

And so…where are we heading from here?

In April a team will be travelling from the UK to Uganda to put some of the finishing touches to the houses. We also will be spending some time training the Kampala-based team and will hopefully begin further building work on the site. We are planning that another team will travel to Uganda in the summer for the opening of the Children's Centre. We would love for you to join us and be very grateful for your help. Please contact us for more information if this is a way you feel that you can partner with us.

We are currently having an NDE website built and anticipate that it will be operational within the next few weeks. You will be able to contact us, find out information, register for sponsorship schemes and keep additional track of our progress in this way.

Once again, we are very grateful to you for all of your love, prayers and support. We are fulfilling this vision together – thank you for your partnership.

Much love,

Arnold Muwonge and team