



# AUSTRALIA BRINGING HOPE INC.

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

November 2013  
 Issue 10

**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.

Hi to the supporters of Australia  
 Bringing Hope Inc.

Sorry that it has been some time  
 since our last newsletter. My wife,  
 Irene, and I returned to Australia in  
 early June due to the unexpected  
 death of my 31 year old brother,  
 Ben. While this was a difficult time  
 for our family, it has been good to  
 be able to catch up with family and  
 friends. I must take this opportu-  
 nity to thank those who provided  
 funds towards our airfares so that  
 we were able to return home.

Having all of the ABH Board mem-  
 bers in Australia has given the  
 Board opportunity to consolidate  
 and make plans (over numerous  
 meetings) to keep us travelling  
 well into the future. We thank Jo  
 Takacs who has been updating  
 our web site and there are plans  
 for more updates to occur over the  
 next few weeks.

## Bee Keeping Project

Since April, Patrick Tusiime and I  
 have been busy teaching bee  
 keeping with Pastor Fred in Ma-  
 yuge and also another Pastor Fred  
 in Kamuli.

Patrick has been working with  
 ABH for several years now. He is  
 a carpenter but has learnt welding,  
 mechanics and bee keeping over  
 the time that he has been with  
 ABH.

In Kamuli we spent several days  
 checking out their hives and meet-  
 ing with a group that was visiting  
 from Australia that was lead by  
 Alan from Orange NSW.

We then went east, and had a

good time with the Mayuge group.  
 We seem to have gained their  
 confidence and are expecting  
 them to be a very enthusiastic  
 group in the future. The African  
 bees can be very aggressive, so  
 people need some time to become  
 confident in handling them.

We have moved bees to Mityana  
 and the Mabira Forest, the later  
 seems to be going well but the  
 Mityana bees have mainly died.  
 Not the result I was hoping for!  
 Back to the drawing board!



We also did on site training in  
 Kaihura with two guys from  
 Mityana and also another two  
 from the Macadamia farm in  
 Kyenjojo. This included a guy  
 called, Richard, who I have  
 been working with for some  
 time. This has largely been  
 practical as we have been  
 working his bees in his village so  
 it was good to teach him some the-  
 ory and start him teaching others.

Honey production has been disap-  
 pointing, however to add another  
 \$200 to \$500 to the income of  
 someone living in the village when  
 their yearly income is as low as  
 \$500 is very helpful. Of course  
 the bees also improve the produc-  
 tion of their garden with improved  
 pollination.

In an attempt to improve honey  
 production ABH is also looking  
 into research and development.  
 This will include trying different  
 hive designs, queen breeding,  
 management techniques and  
 searching for new honey produc-  
 ing areas and crops.

A donation from Jill and Dean  
 Schunke (ABH Board members)  
 allowed us to buy some bee suits  
 and smokers. These have been  
 distributed and will make a huge  
 difference to those who received  
 them as until then they were-  
 n't able to work their bees but  
 had to wait for my arrival so  
 that they could borrow some  
 protective clothing.

Chris from Kyenjojo Macada-  
 mia Nursery took us to his



property in Fort Portal. There he  
 introduced us to several people  
 who are keen to get involved with  
 bee keeping and we worked bees  
 on his land. He also took us to the  
 NARO Research Centre where  
 they are just starting their research  
 with Langstroth hives. Later I also  
 visited his 2,000 acre property at  
 Masindi with CEO of Eden Forest  
 Co. I see great potential in working  
 with these bigger players to get  
 things off the ground and develop  
 the industry.

Late May was spent checking hives and preparing Patrick Tusiime for our return to Australia. I was fortunate to be able to get another guy, Patrick Mutaleesa, to join our team part time to oversee our projects in Uganda. He is now the main contact person for ABH in Uganda. We are having regular contact with our team in Uganda via the phone and email and it seems that the two Pat's are working well together. They are also coping well with the small budget they have to operate with.

Sadly Irene's visa wasn't able to be renewed and therefore she returned to Uganda in September. I hope that she can return to Australia before Christmas. I have a return flight to Uganda booked for 10 June 2014, however I may be required to return in late January to advise on an agriculture project that I am involved with in the north of the country.



ABH advising Ugandan company with machinery purchase

Just as a matter of interest, Patrick reports that he measured 450 mm of rain (18") in a seven week period over September and part of October. These months are normally very wet but this is probably three or four inches above the norm.

### The ABH Board

At our Annual General Meeting in September our Board decreased by one following the resignation of Maria Toholke, who despite her ongoing support of ABH, has chosen to resign to allow time for other areas in her life. We thank Maria for her

enthusiasm and commitment to the Board over the last number of years and wish her all the best.

ABH is run by a small Board, but despite this has been able to accomplish great things.

ABH is very proud of the fact that having a team based in Uganda we are able to ensure that all donations are distributed to exactly where the donor requests.

There are increasing amounts of government regulations that charities are required to abide by that can take away from an organisations resources, however ABH is also very pleased to report that more than 97% of the donations that we receive are used directly to assist those in need in Uganda.

### Please Consider Joining With Us

We thank God for all that He has done. We have come a long way since ABH began in 2007 and are well positioned to go on and continue to change many lives. We often assist in changing the lives of people one small step at a time. Like the two year old boy who I have helped care for after discovering that he is abandoned each day while his cousins go to school and his aunty, who is his carer, goes to work.



Chareman, the little boy who Phill found naked and hungry

We also thank the Blyth Primary School who have recently raised over \$600. This money has been sent to help a small village school in the Mayuge District. Pastor Fred from GIDCO Ministries intends to use these funds for teacher's wages and to purchase black boards for their classrooms. It isn't uncommon for teachers in Uganda to work for little or no income. A lot more needs to be done for these children as the closest drinking water for the school is about 1.5km away and is a muddy pool that is shared with cows.



Some children in the school that has recently received a donation from Blyth Primary

Please consider praying for us and the people we work with. You could support us by passing this newsletter onto your friends and family once you have read it so that others will learn about the work of ABH. You could consider financially supporting us. Even a regular contribution of \$10 a month can make a big difference when many people make this pledge together.

I hope that you have enjoyed this brief update. Other information can be found on our web site [www.abhinc.org.au](http://www.abhinc.org.au)

We look forward to continuing to work together as ABH continues to assist people in Uganda to realise their full potential and raise their standards of living.

Blessings Phillip. J. Grigg (CEO)

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