



# The Linda Project

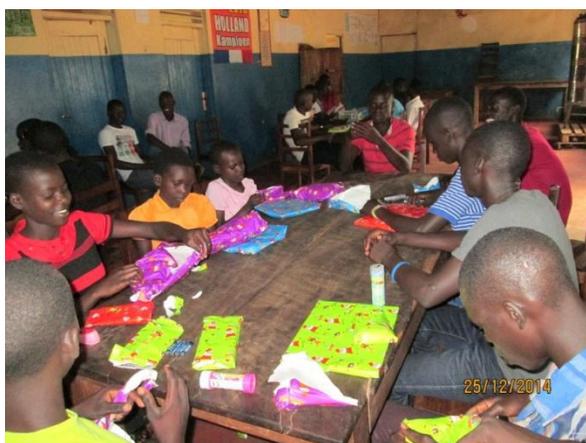
**A child has the right to be a child!**  
**Newsletter nr. 1 – 2015**  
**March**



Since the last letter, in December 2014, no rain has fallen. It's very windy, dry, hot and we are desperate for the March rains to come. The "lake" in front of our house is still there and people have started fishing!

The municipality has started to fix the road. The way they are doing this will give us many problems because they have not done anything about this little river and our driveway. As soon as the heavy rains come, it will only create more flooding. Water management is not known apparently.

Although it's been a while, I don't want to keep these pictures of our Christmas celebrations 2014 from you. As usual it was very nice and the presents were much appreciated. We had delicious food and enjoyed us tremendously. Thanks to the sponsor that makes this possible.



There is **news of our S4 candidates**, who had to have such patience to finally hear their results. Benjamin and Bonny had good results and have joined S5 (A level). Susan unfortunately has to repeat S4, her results were insufficient.

And then there is Absolom: the guy who wanted to **play football (soccer)** so desperately. By **“coincidence”** we found out how that works in Uganda.”

There are so called “football schools”, where boys that are accepted can study on a bursary from the school while they also learn how to play football. In January there is a week of try outs, where all the football minded boys go. Coaches are there to select the best. Then the boys are allocated to a school and there you go: you play football. There is a Coca Cola competition where the various teams meet. Absolom is in the Nelson Mandela Secondary School in the city of Hoima, attending S5. It’s not easy, a very heavy program, but if he hangs in there he has a chance at a good football career in future.

It goes well with **Linda Primary** . Thanks to generous donors (and 1 in particular) we have managed to reach our goal of € 6.000 for **phase 1**. We are very happy. Normally the rains start beginning of March and everything was ready, including even the wooden frame of the roof, and then the money ran out. Panic: we needed a roof! Thanks to this very generous contribution things could get finished and the roof is there. Now they are busy with the doors and windows. By the end of the week all will be ready and then the rain can come. Thank you so very very much. Now the children can follow lessons in a proper structure.

**Looking good eh!**



We are not there yet, unfortunately, now comes **phase 2**.

The floor now consists of marram (a kind of sand) and that still needs concrete. The walls have to be plastered, the black boards need to be painted in the walls. Then they always build a veranda around the building, to prevent the rains from washing away the foundation. All this demands an enormous amount of cement and cement in Uganda is expensive, at the moment 32.000 sh per bag of 25 kilo (€ 10.00). But teaching is going on in the new



building, the rest can be done hopefully in the May vacation. **Maybe you can help some more?**

**Phase 3** is still to come: another similar building, with the remainder of the classrooms. Then a fence, a gate. Oh boy, we still have a long way to go.

But it means that the children in our community can now join a (good) school. They are mostly orphans, living with some relatives. These people are poor and naturally their own children come first. Without our school and our support these orphans would be at home, doing the heavy household chores. Now they can develop themselves and that is so good. Every day we also give the pupils breakfast, porridge, and lunch, beans and posho (maize). There are over 100 pupils at the moment and the demand is far greater. In the Romney shed we couldn't house so many children, now the option is there. There is also a great demand for a nursery school, but: not everything at once eh.



From House of Grace 11 pupils are still attending Linda Primary, the rest of our kids go to technical and secondary education (small children grow up!)

The only government school in the neighbourhood has about 250 pupils per classroom, one sits on the sand floor and the level of education is very poor. And it's not free either: a child has to buy a uniform, black shoes, books, pens, pencils and a schoolbag. They also have to pay a contribution of € 10.00 per trimester. There is no provision of food, so not really good.

While listening to **the news** I hear of the terrible atrocities performed by **Boko Haram in Nigeria**. And I can't help comparing this with the atrocities performed here, in Northern Uganda, by Joseph Kony and his LRA (Lord's resistance army) from 1986 – 2008. Because these acts are very similar. If you then experience how long it takes for a country to rebuild, for the trauma's to get out of the systems, then that really makes me wonder: what are they doing!

I don't know what it is with our car, but for the 3rd time now someone, a cyclist this time, thought to cross the road through our car. This time it was Patrick driving. It's just unbelievable. As if the car is invisible. Again the cyclist had a broken leg and a concussion and again the front of the car is a total mess. It's so depressing.

We need your **financial and personal help** very much to continue with our work.

Maybe you can organize a stand during an event for instance. In the picture you see our secretary Philip and his wife, Jaap Hassefras of the reformed church in Lisse and myself. After the service, in which we received a nice donation, we were allowed to set up a stand to sell some stuff and could inform people about our organization.



Maybe you could start a fund raising activity in your church or community or at the school of your (grand) children, proceeds for The Linda Project? For assistance you can always contact the secretariat.

Do you know that you can deduct your gifts from the income tax (If you give in UK or The Netherlands)? Considering the interest rates on savings at the moment that might give you a better result on your money. I don't want to sound like a beggar, but we do need money urgently.

On the picture you see **Peter Otim**. This young man now attends the medical school for clinical officers. He is doing well. He is a real fighter. "No" does not appear in his vocabulary and that's how he got where he always wanted to be. His older brother, Kere, became blind and so he, together with all the other siblings and the mother will become totally depended on him. A church in Canada has accepted to support him. Thanks so much.



We are very busy preparing for Easter. I imagine you are too. On behalf of the team I wish you a **happy Easter** and I hope that during your egg eating you will also take a moment to consider the Risen Lord.

All the very best wishes from all of us, Jozina.

## **The Linda Project** **Care and education for orphans in Northern Uganda**

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The Linda Project UK is a registered charity under no. XR918667, we are also on the SA return list, no. BAS60KG. On our website, under "contact", you can find all our details, including BIC and IBAN data. Also you can find the details of our Dutch banks there, as well as the details of the Dutch secretariat.