



# The Linda Project

## A child has the right to be a child

### Newsletter nr. 2 – August 2016

[www.lindafoundation.com](http://www.lindafoundation.com)

The latest news from Lira, Uganda.

Everybody is doing well. The children go to school and will have holidays in a few weeks. We have a new secretary, in the office, Barbara, since the old one, Winnie, went on maternity leave and will not come back. Everything is going on as usual.

We are busy registering our primary school **Linda Primary**. That takes some doing, since there is a lot of work involved. All kinds of departments have to come and inspect, then write their reports. That costs money. But this registration is important, since the pupils will then be able to sit for their exams in their own school. That saves a lot of hassle.



Concerning **phase three of our School Project**, we haven't done anything about it yet.

The outside of the buildings needs plastering and painting, we need furniture and teaching aids. We also need a fire extinguisher system we were told by the inspectors. But we do not have the means yet to realize these things.

It would be best if we had our own borehole, but .... and Solar is at the top of our wish list, since we have no electricity.

On 21 Augustus I am leaving for Uganda again, since the vacation starts at the end of August and then there is much work to be done. It's always quite an undertaking. At 11.30 my brother comes to pick me up to drive to the airport. Because of extra security measures we will leave a little earlier than usual.

At 16.10 the flight leaves for Cairo. I always travel with Egypt Air, since they have a change of planes in Cairo and that enables me to stretch my legs. There is exactly 1 hour and five minutes to transfer, always tense. At 21.45 I then continue my journey to Entebbe, Uganda, where I arrive at 03.15 (on the 22<sup>nd</sup>). Around 03.45 I will have passed through customs and then Patrick Opio is waiting for me with the car. We continue our journey to Kampala. That is very frightening, since it is a two way road where everybody drives at high speed, with lights or without them, and the lights are always set on high so very blinding. Patrick has booked us rooms in the hotel in Kampala, so we can rest till about 10.00. Then there is shopping to do and off to Lira. That's a long journey and around 20.00 I arrive there. Thank God my bed is waiting so I can rest from this tedious journey.

There was a problem with the sponsors of **Peter Otim**. This young man studies to become a medical officer (or clinical officer), a sort of assistant-doctor. Most "doctors" in Uganda are medical officers.



The university training takes 3 years. He had a Canadian sponsor, a church, and after 2 years they unfortunately stopped their sponsoring. They are now going to help Syrian refugees. Very good, of course, but that doesn't help Peter. He has 1 more year to go and we were at our wits' end. What to do?

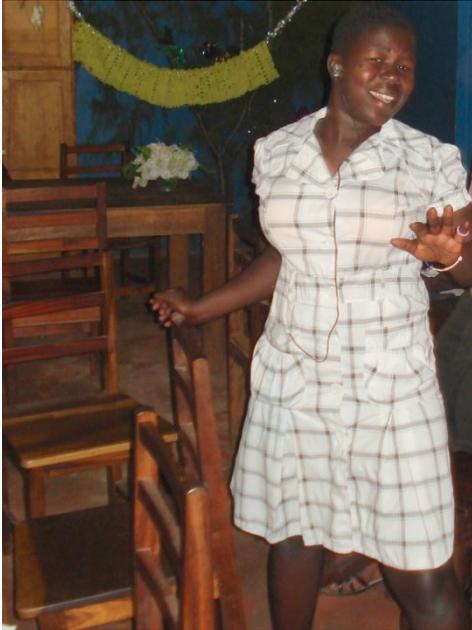
I placed an appeal on our facebook page and told some people about our plight. And guess what?

Yes, he has just returned to university to start his 3<sup>rd</sup> year. More than half of the required money has been given! His first semester is saved. Thank you so much!!

What would we do without your commitment. (a further € 750.00 is needed to finish it all).

Peter is the second born in a very poor family, fled during the war with the rebels of the Lord's Resistance Army. Father died and mother remained with 6 children. The oldest son, Kere John Bosco, was half blind and we supported him. Just after he finished his bachelor in Education and had started teaching at our Primary School, something flew into his good eye and he is now completely blind. Terrible. The hope of this family to have someone who could start to look after them went up in smoke. Peter was also in our program and all eyes are now on him. As a medical officer he can earn money and help the rest. Then they can start thinking about going back to their village, because there is nothing left there and building a house costs money. Peter has studied hard to get this far and so it was terrible to hear that there was no money for the final year. The schools are very tough, no money, no education. To set up a payment scheme is no option. So there is an enormous responsibility upon this young man's shoulders. We are glad we can help him.

The LindA Foundation has no money to pay for university studies, so if someone wants to go to university, they need a sponsor. There is a point system in place in Uganda: if you manage to get 18 points for your A level, then you may, if you are lucky, receive a Government Sponsorship (there are 4000 government sponsorships to share among all students).



That means that the Government pays the fees. All other costs, like housing, food and drink, school - and personal requirements, transport, medical costs still have to be covered by the student. But it saves half.

**Betty Adongo** is the first in our program that has managed to get 18 points (16 for A level and 2 because she is a girl), and she has got a Government Sponsorship. Very good of her!!!

Thank God she has a sponsor who takes care of the other half. She is going to study meteorology.

Betty is the only girl in a parentless family of three. We have helped her brothers also.

In **Dokolo** we have now opened a restaurant, **Momojost restaurant**.

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**COLD DRINKS SOLD HERE!**

**Irene Alobo en Susan Akello** both went to Catering School after Primary School. They did very well, with good marks and a fantastic review for their practical. But: they didn't do O level and therefore they couldn't get a job anywhere. I do not understand that at all. But that's like it is. So, these girls asked if they could open their own restaurant.



And that is how this came to be. In Dokolo, where the 4 boys have started their business in electrical- and plumbing appliances. Lira has enough restaurants, in Dokolo we could only find one. Let's hope the customers will find them. They are very ready to start.

To the disappointment of the pupils we were not invited for the **African Child Day** this year. The venue was too far away.



**The electricity company has not communicated at all** (since 2011), but works full swing at the neighbor's place. Our lawyer has taken note and is pursuing it. How will this ever end?

As you may have noticed already, the **Financial Report for 2015** of The Linda Project has been published on the website. The social report is not yet ready, I didn't receive the details from Uganda yet. But it's coming.

On behalf of everybody I wish you a wonderful summer.  
Till next time, 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.