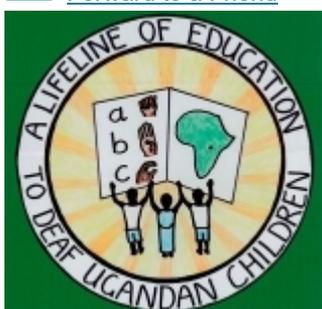


[Subscribe](#)[Past Issues](#)[Tr](#)[View this email in your browser](#)

# Jinja DEAF Newsletter

## May 2017

[Friend on Facebook](#)[Donate online](#)[Forward to a Friend](#)

### Welcome to our first newsletter of 2017!

We are immensely grateful to all of our supporters who make possible our work to support deaf children in Jinja. In this edition we will tell you about some of our work in late 2016 and early 2017, and our thoughts about future developments.

Communication with our friends and supporters is very important to us. At the next meeting of Trustees we will be discussing ways to keep you informed about the children and their progress. If you have any ideas and suggestions we would be pleased to hear from you. You can visit our [website](#) which has a Contact Us page (where you can send messages), a wealth of information on our work and a gallery of images from Uganda and the UK. and you can also contact us through our [Facebook](#) page.

### How to donate

We are grateful for all donations received. Jinja DEAF is a small volunteer-run charity. It does not have an office and is able to keep expenses to a minimum and so ensure that as much as possible is spent on the vital work of providing access to education and support for deaf Ugandan children.

Various ways to donate can be found on our [website](#), or email [contact@jinjadeaf.org.uk](mailto:contact@jinjadeaf.org.uk).

### How you can help

We are always looking for volunteers to help us administer the charity and/or run events and so we are compiling a register of volunteers we can call upon. If you are interested in being on our register, please contact us on [contact@jinjadeaf.org.uk](mailto:contact@jinjadeaf.org.uk), and tell us what sort of things you can help with.

### FUTURE CHALLENGES

Jinja DEAF, with the backing of our supporters, has been able to make an important contribution to the education of deaf children in Jinja District. We have done this through our full funding of Signing Instructors and Interpreters in Kyomya and Walukuba West Primary Schools. We have also sponsored the education of individual children in primary, secondary and vocational schools.

We are now asking ourselves questions about how to support children to gain full benefit from their education. In the context of Uganda many children end their education at the end of primary school. Employment is a problem for hearing children and even more so for the deaf child.



### **NEW MEMBER OF THE TEAM IN JINJA**

We are very pleased to have appointed Lydia Nakitende as an interpreter to work alongside Juliet Wabukawo, our long-standing Sign Language instructor in Kyomya Primary School. Lydia is the fourth of our sponsored workers, joining Victoria Nanyonga and Nawedde Yazidi, signing instructor and interpreter respectively in Walukuba West Primary School.

Lydia is a fully qualified interpreter for Ugandan Sign Language (USL). She has an excellent background in education and will be a strong member of our team of sponsored workers. Having Juliet and Lydia working together will greatly strengthen the educational support for the deaf children in Kyomya Primary School. The Head Teacher, Mupere James, has agreed to link electric light into the classroom for the deaf children so that they can start evening classes for the deaf children. The Trustees have agreed a request from Juliet and Lydia to fund lessons on Saturdays in term time for the deaf children so that they can catch up. The deaf children are taught in classes alongside hearing children by teachers with minimal signing skills. The evening and weekend classes will help them by going over what has been taught during the week.



One of our sponsored children, Henry Gawole has just completed a carpentry course. Jinja DEAF has funded the purchase of tools and wood so that he can start to work. It is not easy for him to begin to support himself. We see the same for the deaf children who have left primary school. They struggle to earn a living and be independent.

Trustees are keen to consider ways to support programmes to assist the deaf children to become independent and self-sustaining when they finish their education.



To help us in this objective we have provided a grant to the Organisation for Parents of Deaf Children (OPDC) in Jinja (Sebastian Waiswa and Fred Mugabe above). The purpose of the grant is to support OPDC to strengthen the network of parents of deaf children so that they can press for better educational provision. We are also asking OPDC to consider ways in which deaf children



### **SIGN LANGUAGE COURSE FOR PARENTS OF DEAF CHILDREN**

We have received excellent feedback and thanks from the parents of deaf children who attended the week long residential course in basic sign language in September 2016. Our chairman was frequently asked if this would be repeated when he visited Jinja earlier this year. The most successful way for parents to develop competence is to attend a 5 day residential course. Hence while it is an excellent initiative it is very expensive to run.

For the last course, we were fortunate to have had a donor to cover about half of the costs of the course. We will continue to monitor our capacity to run these courses in future because they make such a big impact in families, not only in giving parents the signing skills to communicate more fully with their child, but also to develop a much better understanding of what it means to be deaf, and of the potential for their deaf child.

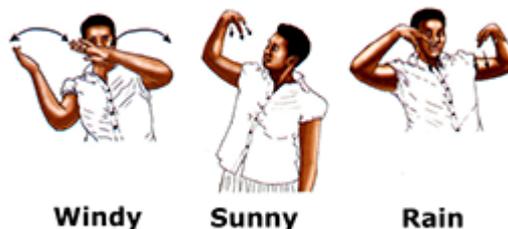
### **CAN THE TEACHING OF DEAF CHILDREN BE IMPROVED?**

Our Chairman, David Johnstone, spent time with our sponsored workers in each school on his self-funded visit in February and March of this year. He also visited Busoga Junior School in Jinja, where there are 40 deaf children in a school of 300 children. He was impressed with the enthusiasm and dedication of the teachers of the deaf children. So when the Trustees received a request to organise a weekend workshop for the teachers of the deaf children in Kyomya, Walukuba West and Busoga Junior School we were happy to provide funding. The workshop will share the experiences of the teachers, so that they can learn from each other about what is working well in their school, and how they have

and their families can earn better incomes. Alongside this we will learn as much as we can about helping the young deaf school leavers to use their education to improve their circumstances.

### **COST OF LIVING IN LONDON VS UGANDA**

Living in London means spending less on many things because so much of what you earn needs to be spent on a mortgage or rent. But what are other costs in London versus living in Uganda? The website [www.numbeo.com](http://www.numbeo.com) allows an instant comparison. The cost of living is 53% lower in Uganda than in the UK (excl rent), and rent is 80% lower. The website also allows specific price comparisons. A three course meal for two in a mid-range restaurant in London: £55 vs £13. A litre of petrol in London: £1.17 vs 80p. A pack of cigarettes in London: £9.50 vs £1.35. A dozen eggs in London: £2.17 vs 90p. But of course people earn a lot less in Uganda. Our sponsored teachers are paid £100 a month. The school fees for the boarder children we sponsor in primary school are £90 a term. The average wage for an unskilled worker is between £2.50 and £5 a day. The good news is that our funds have much greater purchasing power for projects and activities, than in London. So every £ we receive goes a long way in Uganda. And of course our treasurer Robert Welsford also casts a critical eye on spending to ensure that the money we spend in Uganda is well used.



### **LEARNING USL: YOUR TURN**

The Charity Deaf Child Worldwide (DCW) have produced two books to support the teachers, parents and carers of deaf children who want to learn USL. A few more phrases from the DCW book are shown above.

overcome problems that they have faced. It is very encouraging to see these local initiatives emerging, and Jinja DEAF is very pleased to be able to offer support.

### **CHARITY NAME**

Some of you may have noticed that we have tidied up the charity's name - from Jinja D.E.A.F. (Jinja Deaf Education Access Fund) to Jinja DEAF. However, this change has no effect whatsoever on our work.

[Friend on Facebook](#) | [Forward to a Friend](#)

Copyright © 2017 Jinja DEAF (Charity registered in England and Wales, no.1124205), All rights reserved.  
[unsubscribe from this list](#) | [update subscription preferences](#)

The MailChimp logo is displayed in a white, cursive font within a grey rectangular box.