



## KENILWORTH-UYOGO FRIENDSHIP LINK

### Newsletter – December 2022

## GREETINGS AND THANKS TO YOU ALL FOR YOUR SUPPORT IN 2022

#### Review of 2022:

As well as working on projects in Uyogo, Tanzania, in 2022 KUFL has worked on raising our profile in Kenilworth. With help from very kind friends in the Inner Wheel, and then by taking a stall on Talisman Square for the first time, many more Kenilworth people became aware of the long friendship link between Uyogo and Kenilworth.



*Sarah Butler and Kit Lawry on the KUFL stall* generous £1,000 grant from the Lions' Club, as well as funding from St John's church and Kenilworth Methodist church.

#### Uyogo Water Project

There is currently no running water to the government-built Umiki Secondary School in Uyogo. KUFL's main project this year has been to pump water from a borehole 0.8 kms distant from the school, using solar pumping power, to the school, taking in another public water point in Uyogo village which is not currently well served for running water. This will avoid the need for school children to have to spend time fetching and carrying water in school hours. The initial pumping test – making sure the borehole has enough water – was positive. Now the main part of this project will be supported with a

#### Hygiene for Girls – making re-useable sanitary pads locally

Girl school students often miss a week of school each month when having their period. This impacts badly on their education. Answering a request from Uyogo, KUFL investigated various ways of getting sanitary pads to girls and concluded that it is best to have them made in Uyogo using local materials, by local women, boosting the local economy. An initial trial was slower at producing pads than hoped so our liaison person in Uyogo, Lucky Mgeni, has now found a more reliable seamstress. We hope this will be an income generating project, whereby pads will be sold to women who can afford to buy them at a price that allows purchasing more materials and giving

sanitary pads to girl school students for free. Once the first 500 sanitary pads have been made, and some sold, we can estimate whether this project can be income generating. This project was designed by a local team comprising 2 Umiki School girls, Lucky Mgeni and Margaret Simons who is in charge of women and girls' affairs in Uyogo Ward.

### **Bikes for Boys now at Umiki Secondary School**

KUFL's successful project has now supplied bikes to all 4 years of girl students at Umiki School. Money is raised in Kenilworth to buy bikes in Urambo, the nearest town to Uyogo. These bikes have made a real difference to the lives of girls in Uyogo. Lucky has suggested also providing bikes to boys who either walk long distances (often > 20km) or who live with a disability, to get to and from school each day. The Bikes project has been highly successful, both in Kenilworth and in Uyogo, because it meets a real need in a practical way and is sustainable. One bike, security marked and delivered to Uyogo, costs £50 – an excellent “alternative Christmas gift” for someone who has everything! (See below for how to donate to KUFL.)

KUFL's **partnership with Kenilworth School** continues to be invaluable for KS and for KUFL. Led by teacher Luke Ovenden, International Liaison officer, the sixth form USU Organising Group publicises what life is like for their school student peers in Uyogo throughout the whole of Kenilworth School and organises events to raise funds for KUFL and another charity working in Africa during the school's Africa Week in February. In addition, lots of individual school pupils organise their own sponsored cycling challenges. Luke Ovenden reports how raising funds for bikes for Uyogo school students also benefits the physical and mental health of KS pupils of all ages, who enjoy their bike challenges and their ability to directly impact another student's life chances.

KUFL committee members worked with Judy Brook of **Kenilworth Books** to allow Kenilworth School's USU Organising committee to design an Africa-themed window display in Kenilworth Books during KS's Africa Week in February. This raised the profile of both Africa Week and Kenilworth Books and is an example of KUFL facilitating mutual benefit within Kenilworth as well as between Uyogo and Kenilworth. The next Kenilworth School Africa Week will be 13 – 17 February 2023 so look out for another eye-catching window design and interesting books for all ages in Kenilworth Books again then!

### **Primary Classroom for Igembensabo School**

Igembensabo is a village in Uyogo Ward. Hearing of the successful joint working of Kasela (another village in Uyogo Ward) and KUFL in jointly constructing a primary school classroom, Igembensabo asked for similar support. This project got off to a slow start, however, because foundations already dug were not satisfactory, and samples of the bricks made earlier but left unused needed to be sent off for government analysis to see if they were still suitable. They are, so this project can now get started. Villagers build the classroom as far as they can and then KUFL supports the purchase of corrugated iron roofing, window and door frames, paint etc. to complete the classroom.

**KUFL and Bees Abroad sponsored a bee-keeping and honey making project** several years ago, with on the ground help and training from Kenilworth former residents David and Anne Blower. The beekeeping group runs as a co-operative. KUFL has provided two carpentry machines for making

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sustainable beehives. The project runs along nicely by itself, generating an income for the cooperative from the sale of honey and of beeswax products like soap.

**Would you like to be part of this long-running local Kenilworth link with Uyogo**, a village community in Tabora District of Tanzania? We are always pleased to welcome new members to the committee. If you're interested in becoming involved please get in touch with Kit Lawry, our Chair, who would be happy to talk with you (email address below).

### **Upcoming Events**

Our **AGM in Kenilworth Methodist Church on Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> April 2023**. 10.30am for coffee and cakes and the AGM at 11.00am. Please put this date in your diary.

**Please do look at our website:** [www.kenilworthuyogofriendshiplink.org](http://www.kenilworthuyogofriendshiplink.org)

This is updated regularly with news, photographs and videos of the current projects in Uyogo.

**Thank you all so much for your generous support this year**, and please remember KUFL in your Christmas giving!

There are a few ways that you might wish to consider doing this. KUFL have registered with **Amazon Smile**. This is a simple way to support KUFL. When you shop at Amazon go to this link:- <https://smile.amazon.co.uk/ch/1032351-0> and nominate Kenilworth Uyogo Friendship Link as your charity. Amazon will then donate 0.5% of your eligible purchases to KUFL (at no extra cost to yourself).

If you save your **used printer cartridges** for us, we can collect these from you for recycling. **Each cartridge will add about £1 to our KUFL funds.**

Finally, we have also recently set up the facility to **donate £5 by text to KUFL** – by dialling 70085 and text-messaging 5R4UYOGO This can be gift aided if you wish.

**Together, we work with the people of Uyogo towards a better future. That's a gift worth giving!**

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