

Dear Jim and Eileen,

We have done it!.....Been to Suubi, packed up, delivered belongings to friends, said many goodbyes and shed tears. Now we are back in Inverness, being kept busy with our grandchildren, Jean helping with Little Fishes (toddlers at our church here), moving furniture around in both the main house and the annexe, helping set up the new Drumscool studio, unpacking, sorting and repacking (!) and Maurice preparing for the 3-day Discipleship Conference. We still love our life on two continents and can't wait to tell you the next episode!

We are very grateful for the prayers that kept us peaceful during our two weeks on Suubi, and for the energy to keep going through the enormous



amount of physical work that had to be done. We thought it would be simple to pack while everyone else was in school, but no! The visitors started early on the first day and continued right through to our departure. We also went to Cell, held Bible Studies, Maurice taught a baptismal class then helped baptise lots of people on the first Sunday, followed by an outreach to another school in the evening, and we hosted friends for meals. It was so normal!

The Suubi 2 teachers held a special meeting, each saying something about us and then giving us material which is being made into a shirt and dress, and a beautiful picture. That was a tearful time. Maurice had a similar thank you from his teachers, but had to sit through a long staff business meeting first! He was given a shirt which he had to wear the next day. We also spoke at assemblies in each school and that created lots of tears – us, teachers and pupils. Our 'son' Eliajah was given a week off work so he could spend time with us, and he organised a lovely meal for our student Bible study friends – lots of laughter and hugs! The 'official' goodbye party came on the first Saturday, but lots of people were away as it was a public holiday. That made it less overwhelming, and we had fun singing and dancing. Finally, we were commissioned by the church on our last day, for the work that God has for us in the future. Jean sang and we both spoke, the mums and students cheered, and it all felt surreal. The general feeling was that no-one could believe we

were leaving, especially in the middle of the year, and we were very glad that we could tell everyone that we would soon be back to visit.

Our immediate plans are to fly back to Uganda on 27th November, ready for Maurice to preach at the church leaders conference and for Jean to attend Awards and Graduation ceremonies on Suubi and Bbira. Then we will witness the wedding of one of the Suubi 2 teachers, and possibly be part of an outreach mission, before flying back on 13th December.

As we expected, doors have opened for our future work in Uganda, and we will wait for God's timing before we settle permanently to anything there. Four or five people have offered places for us to stay in the meantime, which is wonderful, and our friends, Davis and Diana, have invited us to join their ministry, Haven of Hope. This is where Silvester and Katelyn worked for a year, and we are already on the



Board of their school, Oasis of Hope. We would be free to continue our passions of preaching and teaching – Davis is also the Director of the Association of Christian Schools International (Uganda) so has many links to schools where encouragement is needed, especially in Maths and English. We are expecting to return to Uganda for about four weeks in April for 3 weddings, and Maurice has been booked to do a 1-day marriage conference and another 3-day pastors conference. This may well extend to a longer stay and hopefully working in several schools and churches around Uganda.

Watch this space!



God has also opened another door for us, through the church our son, Daniel, and his wife, Sarah, have settled in in Slough. Sheila is a member of their church, but also Ugandan, and, having survived cancer

herself, has set up Patient Relief Mission (patientreliefmission.org) to provide physical care, meals and education to those who are suffering and neglected during their treatment in Kampala. She has rented a house to provide a safe place and care for those who cannot return to their homes between treatment. We have joined her Board and introduced her to Davis and Haven of Hope, and look forward to seeing where this leads. Sheila ended up organising the main transportation of our furniture, and we are joining her at a fundraising lunch in Slough on 24th November. Ask us for details if you would like to come!!!!

Other news – our family here are keeping us busy. It's wonderful to share in so many excitements like school achievements and swimming, and we're looking forward to the city fireworks and bonfire on Friday. Daniel and Sarah skype regularly and we stayed with them when we travelled, which is always fun. God has provided Daniel with a job in Slough which will save him hours of expensive travelling by train into London. It's also special to be able to spend regular time with Maurice's brother and sister-in-law, and we are so grateful for their support every time we fly.

Silvester and Katelyn flew to the USA the day we flew into Uganda! We now see photos of Silvester learning a new way of life, and praise God that they have both found paid employment already. Jonal is still waiting for his first paid job, but has something in the pipeline. It is partly dependant on funding, but is a ministry that we might, in the future be helping a little, and it will use all his skills from his degree and his volunteering. Please pray for this to work out.



Thank you again for all your support and encouragement – we had so much after our last newsletter! As our Suubi years have now ended, we realise that some friends might want to stop receiving our letters as we are no longer involved with Watoto in Uganda. If that's you, please just let us know. We understand! If not, we hope you will

continue to pray for us to know God's timing and direction for the future. Life is still very exciting so there should be lots for us to share!

If you feel able to support the work with church leaders, we are still needing to buy more Luganda Bibles. There are now 650 people booked into the conference! If you would like to support Davis and Oasis of Hope School, we have attached an email which explains an urgent need – the purchase of the land on which the school stands! We can vouch for Davis and confirm that the school is meeting a huge need in the community. Thank you!

We will try to update you regularly but have a feeling that the next newsletter will be in 2017! So, we wish you all the joy of celebrating our Saviour's birth, and pray you see miracles and grow closer to Him in the coming months.

With much love,
Maurice and Jean