



There is excitement in the camp of the Joseph Odeke Community Development Fund Committee with the return of Joseph, Ian and Kaye Windebank and Keith Goodall from Uganda.

They have brought with them news and amazing stories from the village and most importantly the answer to the million dollar question. 'Are we doing the right thing?'.....

The answer is a very firm **YES!** The group could clearly see that the way out of poverty for these villagers is through agriculture.

It was an important trip for the project, enabling first hand knowledge of conditions and state of the country to be cropped, as well as being able to see which implements are most suitable to the job at hand. Qualified mechanic, Ian was able to teach the keen farmers on the use and a certain degree of maintenance of the machinery whilst long time farmer, Keith could show the best way to plough the soil.

The committee now has a better understanding of what is needed to continue the success of the project and further the production of crops. This being said, changes are being made to what will go over in the second container next year. It is the general consensus that more agricultural equipment is desperately needed as it will in turn improve the standard of living and ability for the people to afford things like medical treatment and education.



Plans for the medical centre will be put on hold to be undertaken at a future date.

As well as working with farmers on their 20 day visit, the group also spent time distributing clothing and educational supplies to students. They were moved to tears when students sang beautiful songs, saying things like:

*'We wish you happiness when you are with us,' and 'thank you for your help, helping with our future.'*

On their departure, it was, *'We are so sad that you are leaving forever, will you write a letter to us?'*

Omdodi Primary School has over 600 students with just seven teachers and their school mission is, *to fight ignorance through education.*



It was a humbling experience for our committee members with a strong theme felt wherever they went that they had arrived and everything was going to be OK. On the first day that they started ploughing with tractors, the men heard some villagers saying, "All our troubles are over."

It is a big responsibility but we are keen to grab it with both hands and do all we can to help these people who are truly appreciative and so, so thankful for what we are doing, from the village elders right through to small children.



We look forward to the New Year and the shipping of our next container with gusto and will welcome your involvement, no matter how great or small. We are really starting to make a difference both practically and emotionally. The villagers are as keen as mustard to shape their future into something bright and fruitful.

We are most appreciative of the financial and time commitment, Keith, Kaye and Ian have made to travel to Uganda for the project. The feedback and education of the farmers is vital to our success.

Some things to think about:

For our next container we are looking for narrow tillage equipment in particular, off-set discs and ploughs, a heavy duty slasher, grader blade, variety of welding rods and tools, 9 inch angle grinder, iron and guttering for water collection, 12 to 240 volt inverter and sporting equipment for the children particularly soccer balls and computers.

The cost of shipping the goods to Uganda is astronomical. Any small monetary donation will go a long way in ensuring our next container arrives sooner than later.

*Tilling the ground with oxen takes three days, with their new tractor, the Ugandan farmers can till the same area in half an hour!*



For contact details and further information take a tour of our website, [www.josephodeke.com.au](http://www.josephodeke.com.au)  
Mig: 0427002648, Email [brookman@activ8.net.au](mailto:brookman@activ8.net.au)  
Heather: 0438566075, Email [hcozens@bigpond.com](mailto:hcozens@bigpond.com)



Distributions of goods

**Gift Cards**



**A Gift that makes a difference**

Consider giving a gift of value this Christmas for those less fortunate than our selves

Donation Gift Cards for the

Dr Joseph Odeke Community Development Fund

Values from \$10

Cards, \$10, \$25, \$50, \$100, or your nominated amount.  
Available to purchase from [www.josephodeke.com.au](http://www.josephodeke.com.au)