

Welcome to the fifth Kumi Courier of 2025

This is the fifth Kumi Courier of 2025. The Kumi Express Team had a fantastic trip and started on the finishes to the teachers' homes. Although the "Express" team is short, it included most of the partner visits and blessings were given and received. Special times not mentioned elsewhere in the newsletter, were Amanda's amazing preaching at church on Sunday and a special prison ministry.

The encouraging news for 2026, is that there are volunteers already signed up on all teams. Why not book your place now.

Great Progress on the Project

Well since the last Kumi Courier, the contractors have been busy, and we returned to find the roof on the homes and the site ready for the finishes. As usual Joseph and his team proved great teachers and the team were soon expert at plastering, bricklaying, and painting.



Anyone with sharp eyes, will notice Daniel supervising. Daniel last worked with us in 2023 at Kumi Primary when Patrick was the contractor. Great to see he has now joined Joseph's team for the Wiggins Project. It was a strange time at the school, as the teachers were on strike (having not been paid for many months) so there were no children to entertain at break. Never mind there is always porridge to enjoy.



The project should be complete by beginning of December, following which the contractors will start on the refurbishment of the classrooms, ready for the new school year in February 2026.

Christmas Gift Card



"If I were a shepherd, I
would bring a lamb"
Christina Rossetti 1872



"What shall I give him, poor as I am?" This Christmas, why not give a lamb, to a needy family in Kumi? We are selling "Sheep" cards as an alternative Christmas gift. Suggested minimum donation £5. If you would like to purchase any contact Janet.bacon@missiondirect.org or by our WhatsApp if you have that. Alternatively, they will be on sale at the Reunion Day, see Louise.

A ram costs about £40 and ewes approx. £30. We will be running this with one of our local partners. Each beneficiary will receive three ewes and each will give back one lamb each year to give to another person, thus growing the project over time.

This is your opportunity to be a Good Shephard this Christmas.

Sad news from Jinja

Many volunteers will have stayed with us in Arise Africa Christian Guest House in Jinja, which we sometimes used as an overnight stop on the way to Kumi. Sadly, the Guest House is no more. We understand the bank foreclosed on the property to recoup unpaid debts. It is already demolished.



Jan and I will be seeking alternatives for 2026, if needed

Village Homes

Specially for the Express Team, here is the completed home we started for Christine and Richard. All is well with the family, and we hope to visit them when we are back in 2026.



Since we left Uganda we have been asked to help another lady, Magdalene. Thanks to funds donated by the Express Team, this can happen, and the traditional roof will be replaced soon.



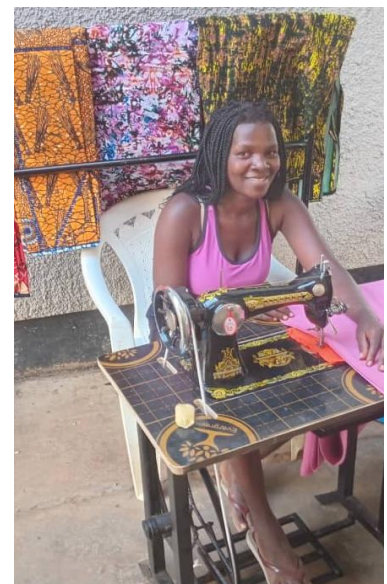
A quick update from Ngora School for Deaf Children

When we visited in September, we found the Solar Lighting system had failed and again thanks to a donation from friends at Christchurch, Downend we have been able to get this reinstated. Here is the message from Stella, the Headteacher. (Received 9th October, Uganda's Independence Day)

Good morning my people 😊 thank you for wishing us happy independence blessings my people we are so grateful we now have light 😊 😊. There is no more darkness.

We were also able to support a young lady "Kevin" (also a girl's name in Uganda) with her tailoring business start-up.

Kevin will start her workshop next week; we were still looking for a place for her to work from.



Team Dates for 2026

What we need more than anything is, for volunteers to come to Kumi for the adventure of a lifetime. It is a friendly place, to show your love for others and receive blessing you cannot imagine. We already have sufficient volunteers on each team to ensure that they will run. However, there is still some space on each team.

Find out what this means and contact Jackie Johnston 01582720056

<https://missiondirect.org/apply-for-your-mission-trip/>

Team 1	Saturday 21 March to Saturday 4 April
Team 2	Saturday 25 July to Saturday 8 August
Team 3	Monday 21 September to Wednesday 30 September Kumi Express

Please Pray For

- For the P7 candidate classes as they take their Primary Leaving Exams (PLE's) in November. For successful study and good results.
- Give thanks that the teacher's strike is over and that the children may return to school.
- For the completion of the Project in 2025 at Wiggins Primary School and the refurbishment of the vacated classrooms over the Christmas and New Year break
- Pray for the teachers and their families who will occupy the new homes.
- For the continuation and funding of the Porridge feeding programme at four schools
- For Kumi Mothers Union and the Elderly and forgotten, that their families will remember them.
- Pray for peaceful campaigns ahead of the elections which are due to be held in January or February 2026

Ruth's Loos



Some of you will have been on a team with our dear friend Ruth, who has volunteered in Kumi. Ruth celebrates a significant birthday in November. Instead of presents, Ruth has asked for donations towards the £7,000 needed to provide latrines and bathing facilities for the teachers at Wiggins Primary School. If you would like to celebrate Ruth's Birthday by donating towards Ruth's Loos.

www.justgiving.com/fundraising/kumipartnerfund

Please put "Ruth's Loos" in the comments

Watch this space.

In the next Kumi Courier – if there is one this year, perhaps news on the handover of the homes and possibly on the environmental / climate change initiatives.

Keep up to date is on the Kumi Facebook Page. <https://www.facebook.com/MDugandaKumi/>

Or you can contact Jan or me, we would love to hear from you.

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Project donations www.justgiving.com/campaign/wigginsprimarykumi

Partner donations www.justgiving.com/fundraising/kumipartnerfund