

# NEWS LETTER

Thanksgiving | Treasures | Reflections

## Time Flies By

Having realised that I am already late in circulating what I usually refer to as my prayer update for September; I search for my last one to find that I missed August. Why was that I ask myself?

## Family reflections

From my parents (and Barbara's) generation through to the latest generation, our grandchildren; we have always been a close family.

Babs and I enjoyed bringing up our children through many joys, some challenges and our times of sorrow.

We watched, shared and enjoyed our children doing a great job at raising our grandchildren. Me a few more years than my beloved wife, who went to be with Jesus 11-years ago, 20th September, our daughter Caroline's birthday.



## Gifts (Presents)

During my 8+ years living in South Sudan and Uganda I have many memories of people and God's providence and a few treasured presents. Hung on the wall of my lounge are three original paintings. I wonder if the ones who painted and gave them to me remember? (I remember who gave me each one).

This one is from my time in Yeï, I think it is a water colour on parchment or local paper? The next one was painted here in



my home and is a visualisation of me and my Toyota Hilux @IRIS in South Sudan.

This was a

commissioned painting as a gift for my 75th birthday. It is painted on wood with local fabric frame.



## Friendships of old

At the now young age of 76+ years; I often reflect on my many friends, even from Tyersal Infant school, through Bradford Moor Junior and Hanson Grammar schools.

Neighbourhood. My teenage and early twenty year old friends.

Where are you, I ask myself; will we meet again in this life or in heaven? I know I can answer yes for many that I have been able to keep in touch with; others I find time to lift up to Him, who knows each one.

## Church Friendships

Since being Born Again on the 17th February 1966, I have so many Christian friends; many who I manage to keep in touch with; others who somehow encourage me, simply by me remembering them.



## East Africa

So many new friends and family; I love my life and I love the people. Do I miss my family? YES, but, PTL some of my family have been able to visit me.



I have two other treasured gifts that are not paintings:

This one was made by a poor widow, from local grasses, who gave me it after my teaching at a village way in the bush. This gift reminds me of Mark 12:41-44. **...but she, poor as she is, has given everything she had to live on.**

This basket is made from different



parts of the banana tree and it was given to me this year, by Carolyn Figioli, director of IRIS South Sudan and Uganda to remind me of the time that Rolland & Heidi Baker stayed at our home with their team from Mozambique.

## Family Visiting here

Most of my African sons and myself were abundantly blessed when my first born granddaughter Hannah and her boyfriend Jack visited us in July 2017. Together we were one big family enjoying cross cultural entertainment; doing some touristy things and a Village Mission to Kyamatende.

August this year my first born, John, wife Caroline, their daughters, my last born granddaughters, Melissa and Imogen visited us. We did two weeks of seeing the 'Pearl of Africa'.

November 10, Hannah & Jack return with my 2nd & 3rd born granddaughters Ruth and Beth along with Jack's dad, Mark.

## My annual holiday

My holiday to England is a little shorter than a month this year. I fly on Friday 5th October arriving Saturday morning at Manchester to be whisked off to Morecambe to conduct a Marriage Blessing of my niece Jeanette and her husband Mark. They will have been married at the Registrar's Office on the Friday.

Sunday morning I hope to reach the Well Church family at Ansdell.

Monday morning 9am a dental appointment, maybe a couple of fillings then to Preston to catch the 12:58 train to London Euston; four days of refreshment at Partners in Harvest Europe conference; Oasis Church, Colliers Wood.

Sometime during the four days I will meet up with Wendy Parker, whom I worked with @IRIS Children's Village, Yei, South Sudan.

Back home to Lytham Thursday evening for a week around Lytham, maybe a trip to Yorkshire.

Wednesday 17th I will be sharing with the Well Church House of Light, Ansdell.

Saturday we go for our family holiday to Northumbria; the past three years we have holidayed in Snowdonia, so a big change this year. From remembering the Welsh Revivals to travelling back in time to Christianity reaching Northumbria and England, if my memory of history is anything like correct?

Thursday 1st November 06:10 flight from Manchester to Brussels then onward to Entebbe with a stop at Kigali, Rwanda.

Please pray:

- for safe journeys, refreshment and good relationships, new and old.
- My next news maybe December, but I'll try for mid-November whilst I'm in England with reports on our recent crusades and testimonies from our Encounter course last week and others.
- On October 12th Safari will graduate with a first Bachelors Sustainable Agriculture; I think Kennedy will join Malik in attending this important milestone in my journey with my IRIS sons. Safari is already studying for his Masters; a further two years toward his aim to be South Sudan Minister of Agriculture.
- Briefly, Stephen has been suffering from a heavy chesty cold; Malik has chicken pox; for me a mild chest cold.
- Benjamin has struggled a lot this year with bacterial infections that gives him much pain in certain bones due to his Sickle Cell Disease condition.

