

# – A NOTDEC Story Book –

**In West Uganda, many mums die giving birth.** NOTDEC cares for the motherless new-borns and other abandoned tots till they can look after themselves!

**At age 5-6,** the Government insists **they go to live with relatives** – if any – willing & able to have them. (This is to prevent institutionalisation.) So, kids at NOTDEC in Kabirizi are mostly under 6.

**But NOTDEC's care continues** after they move – even if they go to live with family miles away in the Rwenzori Mountains.



**That's what NOTDEC is all about!**

# – One for Sorrow –



## Difficult Young People

All children are different. But let's face it: some teenagers can be very hard work indeed! One girl refuses to go to school! And some older boys were so problematic they were expelled! Happily, they've since been accepted at other schools and their behaviour has greatly improved. But tomorrow another child may be kicking off. Please pray for staff trying to help them.



## Death Trap Trip Hazards

Uganda doesn't really do road safety. As a boda-boda passenger on NOTDEC business, accountant Annah has been in 3 accidents: one put her in hospital and still gives her back pain. A relative was killed after collecting his son from school for the holidays – his son was badly injured. So NOTDEC staff put themselves in harm's way travelling for work – or just going there! Please pray for their safety.

Accident Kasese 14/08/25



## No Power When it Rains

Solar power is great for the environment, but it can be frustrating. The rainy season is cloudier than the rest of the year, so solar systems generate less electricity – which inevitably then runs out sooner. And when it's raining, there's not much you want to do outside. It never rains but it pours, darkness descends, and you can't even work!

## – Two for Joy –



### An Uncle for Andrew

When Andrew was 2, his dad parked him with Dorothy (NOTDEC's founder) to search for his partner who'd taken off after a row. He never came back. With no known relatives, Andrew (now 18) lived at NOTDEC. A local leader near Dorothy's former home thought his father might be ex-resident & drinker Magoba Sambira. NOTDEC Social Workers soon found Magoba died in 2018-9. But they've now tracked down his brother Sambira Kandukulu – Andrew's Uncle. Wonderful news!



### Bumper Harvests on NOTDEC's Farm

2025 yielded lots of honey and excellent crops. Best of all, the farm produced 18,000 coffee seedlings from its own coffee seeds and is now selling these to local people – many of them small subsistence farmers trying out coffee as a modest cash crop. The picture shows staff working on the coffee seedling beds.



### Staff Going Home

Since Kabirizi opened, most staff have lived on site, going home only at weekends. It was bad for their families, but most couldn't afford to do anything else. Now they can! As of June, NOTDEC UK pays for daily return travel – by bus, boda-boda etc. Staff are delighted. Family life is stronger – and the subsistence farmers amongst the staff can tend their crops or animals more often!

## – Three for a Girl – (another Joy!)

Joy is a NOTDEC success story. Now 21, her NOTDEC support ends soon, as she has her first job. Yet Joy isn't a nurse and doesn't work in a nursery!

As a baby, Joy was abandoned. Her clothes in an old bag, she was brought in by a neighbour.

At school, her best subjects were Computer Studies & Fine Art. But in May 2024 she insisted on work experience at a garage in Kasese – allowing her to live at home with her sister. All other training options were rejected.



So Joy is now a trained car mechanic and can drive. In West Uganda, that is mould-breaking!!

Joy works in a casual role for engineering & construction multi-national DOTT Services – finding her feet there *and* trying to keep up with new developments.

In feedback, Joy admitted she was struggling. Without her own tools, she had to share with co-workers – limiting her output. So NOTDEC has given her a start-up tool kit – for a racing start!

## Job done!

## – Four for a Boy –

When it was time for Boy A to leave NOTDEC and live with family, his father was in jail for poaching. His relatives agreed he would live with his father's brother & wife. So, on release, the father found him living with his uncle. NOTDEC had even given his aunt a sewing machine to assist her tailoring business.

But as Boy A's father saw it, his own brother's family was living off his son's NOTDEC support!

Then the brother died suddenly, with the rest of the family accusing Boy A's father of witchcraft – and murder!



So Boy A's father demanded his son back, taking him (& his own new partner) to live way up in the mountains hours from everywhere.

Eventually, NOTDEC social workers traced Boy A, finding him very ill & badly malnourished. His father agreed to let him be taken back to NOTDEC where he now lives, goes to school and is slowly recovering.

Even putting in lots of staff time, there are no quick fixes. NOTDEC offers Boy A a neutral home now, with perhaps family mediation via the local children's officer later.

Please pray for Boy A (& NOTDEC).

## Work in progress!



## – Five for Silver –



Steadily, we're rolling out solar-lighting systems – here in Kabirizi bungalows, and also in the family homes of 6 more of the children. Solar lighting turns out to be great for doing homework by – so not always quite as popular as the young recipients first thought!

## – Six for Gold –



### Angela's GOLD!

On 28<sup>th</sup> April 2025, Angela McKay got a gold medal for finishing the London Marathon. AND she raised £5,015 for NOTDEC – to be spent on new solar batteries for House 4 at NOTDEC Kabirizi, and on the new solar electricity systems we're installing at the family homes of NOTDEC children. The picture was taken just after Angela finished her run – fresh as a daisy. Very well done Angela – and thank you!

### Golden Oldies Bow Out

For years, child sponsorships haven't covered their full costs. We couldn't crank up fees enough to meet all the bills, so a generous charitable trust paid the deficit. Sadly, that trust is closing in 2026. We thank them for their long & loyal support: they will be very hard to replace. Increasingly, our "big issue" will be making ends meet month by month. So we will need donations or monthly standing orders to help cover on-going costs like school fees and food.

# THANK YOU

## – And Seven for a Secret – (never to be told?)



If you feel able, please pray for more monthly standing orders to NOTDEC UK to help with on-going costs such as school fees, clothing and food.



If you feel able, please pray for helping hands. NOTDEC UK needs regular hands-on admin support either on-line or in Leamington Spa.

## “God bless us, every one!”