

TODAY'S NEWS

Graduation | Christmas | New Year

Malik's Graduation

17 December Jennie Joy arrived from USA to join in Malik's graduation celebrations and Christmas. Jennie was the First missionary who joined Michelle at IRIS South Sudan and was the one who encouraged Malik in those early days. She continued to support him financially throughout his education.

Clarke University

Formerly Health Sciences International University, which is the name on Malik's Bachelors.

The Chancellor (an Anglican Bishop) gave an excellent speech encouraging the students that by graduating the students have not reached their destination; now the really hard work of finding job opportunities and starting to make a difference in the lives of others as well as oneself starts.

Afterwards a New Zealand pastor and his wife invited the three of us in a celebration meal. (They had been supporting a Ugandan boy to young man for nearly 20-years.



Malik mashing the (Irish) potatoes with Jennie taking photographs.



Everyone making sure that they are getting a fair share of family supper, which is our main meal of each day.



Spicy beef and vegetables served with buttered mash potatoes.



Proud dad and sister at the graduation ceremony.



New Year (& up to)

Saturday 29th December I drove to the airport with Malik, Tony and Ali to pick up our Partners in Harvest visitor Fernando Amaral from Portugal. His flight was a little early arriving at 10:30pm. Malik drove home to Bweyogerere.

Sunday 30th family worship at Oasis Church, Kazinga.

(<http://www.oasischurch-ug.org>)

Sunday evening was our fourth evening of crusades alongside the main Jinja highway through Bweyogerere. The final evening was New Year's Eve; and Fernando preached at both.

2019 A good start!

1st January the van is loaded with our sound system, Village Mission team and Fernando; a bit of shopping on the way for bread, margarine, teabags, cabbages and drinking water.

A comfort stop at Jinja and the last opportunity to have Cafe Latte for 5-days.

We are on our 4 maybe 5 hour journey into the bush of the east side of the Nile Valley to our friends at Kyamatende Village Back to Foundations Church for seminars and crusades.

Friday morning we baptised about 25 people in the Nile river at Kyamatende landing stage.

A random photo of Emmy meeting Jennie, with the boys and I.



Fernando preached then led into a time of healing ministry.



Fernando used what I call the Jesus model: Fernando prayed, then others joined him, then they prayed with others themselves.



Village Mission



TODAY'S NEWS

New Year on a sad note

Saturday 5th Jan

We left Kyamatende at 7.45 am and I drove on the dirt roads via the Nile ferry crossing between Kamuli District and Kayunga District. It's a shorter route than the tarmac, but not necessarily quicker. A good opportunity for our visitor Fernando to experience a little bit more of the Pearl of Africa

Home

We reached home at 1pm and enjoyed a shower then a rest on the bed. All the boys were outside in our back yard preparing the Jack fruit we had brought from the village.

I was very tired and I forgot to close and lock our front door.

My heart is heavy

One of our young friends, 25-years old, whom I have helped from time to time entered the living room, and temptation was too great for him and he allowed the devil to enter his heart and he stole all our best Apple stuff.

The local police arrested him, but his uncle who owns a laptop shop in Bweyogerere bribed them and they released him Saturday evening. Sunday. 3 times, the police were lying to us that he was still in the cell. We had traced the phones Saturday night to the uncle's shop, but Sunday morning these two police officers refused to investigate because it was Sunday. Malik went to the main Bweyogerere police station to complain and OC sent an escort to bring the suspect for interrogation; it was then that we found he had been released, giving him time to shift our property from the shop.

Now the case is in the hands of CID Bweyogerere, but all they are interested in is writing reports. We can tell that they will do nothing, as they make innuendos about us giving them money. Malik has employed a recommended policeman privately to try and retrieve the phones that may lead to the laptops. I'm tracing my phone, but getting hold of it is a completely different matter.

Two top spec 12" MacBooks (Malik's and mine), Emma's new low spec MacBook Air; my 7-month old iPhone X and Malik's new iPhone 7+. £7k of equipment that will cost £5k to replace like for like.

Tired or not I'm still trying to come to terms with how I did not look after His provision and allow this young man to be tempted. On Monday morning I almost gave up, but I found strength in the Lord.

Is this stuff worth more than a man's soul, I keep asking myself. Without my laptop I can't keep promises that I've made: Church accounts for companies House and NGO Bureau; Baptism certificated etc.