



Special news - September 2023

In a few days' time, a small team from The Brickworks will be setting off from London Heathrow to visit friends and partners in northern Uganda and Yei, South Sudan. The team comprises two of our founding trustees, John and Poppy, together with another trustee, Dr Ben Sharpe, who is a GP in Andover and who with his wife Abi worked in Yei at the Martha Clinic for several months. The fourth member of the team is



Dr Katharine Lowndes who is a hospital consultant from Winchester and is visiting Yei for the second time.

Flying to Yei from Uganda now involves chartering a small plane, as there are no scheduled flights. (The photo is of a team visit in 2018.) There is only room for the pilot and four passengers plus a limited amount of our luggage. We are travelling light but will have room in our suitcase for 200 pairs of reading glasses that The Brickworks has bought for the Eye Clinic.

Several of you have asked us for details of the itinerary so that you can follow our progress and pray for us. This is what we have planned so far but flexibility is the key as we respond to whatever needs we find.

Friday 22nd September. John and Poppy fly to Uganda followed by a couple of days acclimatising.

Sunday 24th September. Katharine and Ben fly to Uganda.

Monday 25th September. Taxi from Entebbe to Arua – a long and bumpy journey of 8 to 10 hours.

Tuesday 26th September. Day in Koboko visiting Bishop Seme Nigo and his team of bible translators.

Wednesday 27th September. Morning: Fly to Yei with AIM Air. Afternoon: Settle into guest house in Yei.

Thursday 28th September to Monday 2nd October. The two doctors will be providing some training to nurses and midwives at the Yei Health Training Institute as well as to some of the staff at the Martha Clinic. Poppy will be spending time at the Martha Clinic, catching up with how things are going and finding out their challenges and hopes and plans. John will be visiting the teacher training college to meet up with all the teachers sponsored by The Brickworks, as well as visits to St Philip's Church, Bishop Allison Bible College, the Vocational Training College, and some local schools. We've been invited to visit several homes for meals with friends. Our team is there to learn as much as to teach, to encourage, to strengthen links and to walk alongside and share with our friends in churches and in the Diocese.

Tuesday 3rd October. Fly from Yei to Entebbe. Katharine and Ben fly home that evening.

Wednesday 4th October. John and Poppy fly home aiming to be back in Bristol by Thursday lunchtime.

Please pray for our health and safety, especially in our travel, and that all we do may be helpful and bring encouragement to those we meet and live among. For insight into the local situation and discernment as to how The Brickworks can best support our sisters and brothers in South Sudan.

Thank you so much. John, Poppy, Ben and Katharine.