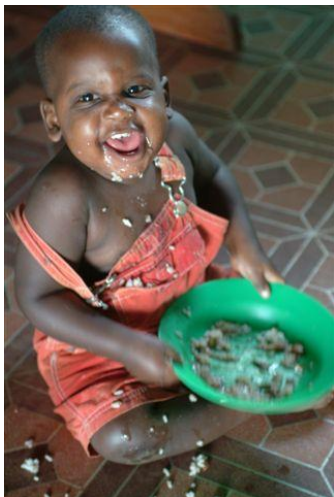


# THANKS

June 2008

I would begin this with my heartfelt thanks for all the prayers and expressions of care and compassion for myself and my family during the past months. We really do appreciate it so very much.

This feels more like an update than a newsletter. Yesterday was my last class at ICC – I am hugely grateful for a wonderful opportunity to study and I have made some lovely friends, yet I really feel glad to finish now! It has been difficult to balance study, deputation talks, time with family and friends and time for myself, and now I do feel very tired and a bit drained. I am looking forward to a summer of chilling out, relaxing and having time with family.



The deputation talks have gone incredibly well and I have been so encouraged by the amount of interest and support for myself and the work of Dwelling Places. When I first began with AIM in 2000, it seemed weird to go up to the front and talk about myself – but I realise that of course it's not about me talking about myself but I'm sharing about what life and ministry is like in Africa. I know I have mentioned this in previous newsletters but please forgive me when I am not at my best for some

of these talks – it is never a reflection on the occasion or the people there; rather it's much more personal to myself. I am usually quite sociable but I find it difficult at times, as I don't feel gifted at public speaking, and also meeting lots of new people, and talking constantly about AIM, DP or Africa. I know a major factor in all of it is that I am very much still grieving for my Dad, and feel tired with so many things going on around me and travelling.

I have been accepted by AIM for long-term status, after 8 years!



Many here and in Africa ask me about a return date to Uganda and at the moment I am saying that September is still possible but I am waiting to see how the summer goes and if all is well, then I hope to return. Part of my heart is hugely excited to return to Africa and my life and work there. I have missed so many aspects of life there. And yet I do realise that I am tired and need this time to rest and prepare to return feeling refreshed and ready for life there. I need to be realistic about my workload on my return, especially as I feel I want to study the Luganda language more. I feel it's an important aspect of my life and work

with the kids, especially at the counselling level where I often feel my language skill is inadequate to either hear what the kids are expressing or to respond appropriately in their language. Rita often tells people I am fluent in Luganda but she is just being kind as I can communicate generally with people and manage in most areas in health care, but I feel I would love to acquire more depth in the communication for the sake of the kids. Having found theological study tiring, I really wonder what I am letting myself in for with Luganda – but I will certainly try! I also need to find somewhere to stay on my return. I would really love to settle somewhere as quickly as possible, and want it to be comfortable, safe, quiet and bug-free!

Rita had a lovely trip to the UK recently and was able to meet with many groups; some may even have heard her on the BBC radio! A short update before I send this out. I have been chatting to Rita and they are struggling with the financial situation at Dwelling Places just now. It is affecting all areas of our ministry and we are even having to cut

back in certain areas. I am particularly concerned about the health bills, mostly for the care of my special Sylvia. For those who have not heard me talk about her, Sylvia was found on the streets in 2003 and she has complicated medical problems including heart, lung and liver failure as well as sickle cell anaemia. Sylvia has always required a lot of health care but her condition is deteriorating. She has required intensive care a number of times this past year and it's expensive as we get no government aid for any of our work. I and DP are always so thankful for all the gifts that we receive. If anyone is able and interested to give towards the great work of DP, please contact Deborah Kong at Africa Inland Mission - [www.aimint.org](http://www.aimint.org)

Thank you and God bless you for your partnership in this work. I am enclosing a few photos of some of our kids, and also a photo of a recent 'Campbell clan gathering' which was a wonderful day when different generations got together in Inverness.

LOVE FROM MARSALI

