

Reprinted from *Church and Village*, July 2007

(Parish Magazine for Ickham, Littlebourne, Stodmarsh and Wickhambreaux)

Ickham - Uganda

Denis Ball, who has just returned from his sixth visit to Uganda on our behalf, writes as follows:

“We have now saved 35 lives from malaria, typhus, TB, and one case of lassa fever, and we have sent over 30 young people on computer, nursing, teaching, secretarial and hairdressing courses to enable them to get jobs.

It has been very moving meeting these people who owe their lives to us, and to see how grateful their desperately poor families are for saving them. They have no water, no electricity and no jobs and they live in appalling conditions. We have repaired houses and provided toilets and water.

We are grateful to all those who have given financial help - over £50,000 has now been raised, and no money at all has been spent on administration or expenses. We are grateful for second-hand lightweight clothing, soft toys and unwanted costume jewellery which give these poor people such a thrill. Discarded mobiles or outdated laptops are especially welcome (the latter for those on computer courses). The ‘watch man’ in Can-

terbury Market has given over 100 watches, our local Silverline Travel has helped with transport to Heathrow, and British Airways has kindly given over £1000 in excess baggage.”

Many good people have been moved to help, but the need for our work remains desperate. Cheques payable to Ickham PCC should be sent to the Treasurer at Ickham Hall, and any of the above items for our next visit can be delivered there (Tel 721100) and would be such a help.