

Mityana

The area of Mityana is linked with Whitchurch Deanery in NW Hants: from which 12 parishes have special partnerships in Mityana. This area covers from North Waltham in the east to East Woodhay in the west & from Longparish in the south to Ashford Hill and Kingsclere in the north.

Outline of our Itinerary.

Our young people will have an introduction to a different culture, tribal system, language, environment, social issues and more. They will learn for themselves what life is like for young people in Mityana; what they have in common, what they enjoy as well as the challenges they all face as they grow up and become more independent.

Our time will be spent, experiencing the following:
A day visiting a link Primary school, leading craft & art activities and story-telling. Sharing information about school life and what they did when they were at primary school.

Experiencing a day at secondary school with the opportunity to talk to those the same age and sharing a 'day in the life' with a secondary school student.



We will visit a disabled Children's hospital and give the children a happy day in being together, making things, sharing and learning.

Travel to a village and 'do' church – 'African style', whilst seeing how a village prepares a meal for its visitors.

Helping out at a vocational school with their computers, preparing a lunch and digging in their gardens.

We will be joining in at the Kindergarten, visiting a Ugandan home and more..

Our visit to Murchison Falls

(from the itinerary....)

Day One: Early morning pick up from Mityana and drive to Masindi for lunch. This will be followed by a walk in the Budongo forest with the possibility of seeing a family of chimps before arriving at Sambiya lodge for the evening meal.

Day Two: In the morning there will be a game drive on the northern bank of the River Nile. Our guide will help us spot elephant, lion, cape buffalo, Rothschild's giraffe, hartebeest, waterbuck, bushbuck, hyena and if you are lucky, the leopard!

After lunch, we go upstream for a river boat cruise the calm Victoria Nile to the base of the Murchison falls. We will stop to see hippos, crocodiles and over the 17km stretch we may see more elephant, waterbuck and Uganda Kob. This is also the zone of many birds species like: goliath heron, Egyptian goose, pelican bee-eater, hornbill, cormorant and pied kingfisher.

Day Three: There will be a second early morning game drive. After this we will continue to the top of the falls, where we will have the amazing view of the Nile - world's longest river as it explodes through a narrow cleft in the Rift Valley escarpment to plunge into a frothing pool 43m below. Later, we will return to our lodge and relax in the evening.

Day Four: Early morning departure for Zziwa Sanctuary to see the Rhinos. There are 17 Rhinos which were reintroduced after their extinction in the 1970s through poaching. A local ranger guide will lead us on a ninety minute walk for an up-close encounter with the rhinos. After an early lunch we will drive back to Entebbe.



Why do we go?

This is our first Deanery Trip for young people who are 14 or 15 years of age. They come from four of our 22 parishes: Longparish, Whitchurch, St Mary Bourne and Overton.

Some people might say: isn't this just a 'jolly' ?

Well here's an answer of sorts.....

Marcel Proust reminds us that **"we don't receive wisdom, we must discover it for ourselves after a journey that no one else can take for us or in fact spare us from"**.

All of us need to be taken out of our comfort zone. It is there that we will find true human growth and authenticity.

It is also where we will find love, justice and community, and it is where we will find hope for our world and for ourselves.

For us, Mityana is the place, beyond what we know, beyond where we feel comfortable, where we can experience something significant, something life changing and it is here we can really appreciate life itself.

And those who have been say this:

What I learnt about myself:

"that I am able to communicate with people I barely know"

"to keep an open mind about things"

"that giving even the smallest thing can make someone happy"

"that I have way more to give in life than material things"

About how to cope with experiences that are different to ours:

"at first I was completely overwhelmed but I found it easier through joining in our evening discussions"

"I found I would often think about things at night, but it also helped to write stuff in my journals - thoughts and feelings"

What I loved:

"Working with the children, seeing their smiling happy faces when they had so little." "Being able to really talk with my buddy at the secondary school." "I loved being part of the group, getting to know others I hardly knew before."

What I will never forget:

The team feeling like extended family; the happiness / friendliness of the people, how they live with so little and how I carried 20 litres of water in a jerry can – all by myself!

Our Costs:

To get there: Flight £600

When we are there

- a) Travel £100
- b) Accommodation £190
- c) Food £120
- d) Game park £650

Before we go there is insurance, then jabs, anti malarials and visa. Added to that we have admin and contingency as well as spending money and donation money to support projects we are involved with.

So, the total we are raising per person is £1880. Our parents' contribution is £600, we have to raise £600 individually and then we raise the rest together as a team.



Three Mityana Junior School pre-schoolers – linked with Whitchurch Primary School

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Please do follow the link to the Mityana Projects Trust website where there is lots more information and photos

<http://mityana-projects-trust.co.uk/>

This is where we are going...

Mityana town is 45 miles west of Kampala.



Here at Butega, linked with Ecchinswell, we provided the repair work for the underground tank and the gardening tools.



School gardening



Mityana, Uganda February 2019



*"Tell me and I may forget,
Show me and I may remember,
But involve me and I'll understand."
(Ancient Chinese proverb)*

There is a great yearning on the part of our young people to experience life in its fullness. Part of that, I believe is to learn about life from another perspective; and to have the opportunity to respond in what they can offer others but most of all to make a connection between those three aspects of a meaningful life:

faith, hope and love.