

## **Africa solo safari**

On Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> January I fly from Gatwick on RwandAir direct to Kigali, only stopping for an hour in Brussels. In Africa I rely on our 30 year old Toyota Land Cruiser, which I bought in Holland years ago, as it needed to be left hand drive. Pastor Charles, with whom I share it, says it will not have passed its MOT by the time I arrive, so I might have to make some other arrangement for the programme I have planned! That is to drive across the Rwanda/Uganda border to Kabale where I will visit the Bishop Barham University, whose Principal stayed with us before Christmas and issued an invitation to speak to the students. We have been helping to build a hostel for women there and I would like to see how far they have got with the building. I plan to drive on to Kisoro, at the foot of the range of volcanoes, where the Mountain Gorillas live. Many years ago, when I was doing some pastoral teaching at the invitation of Bishop Festo Kivengere, I built a small house there. Last week I wrote to the Bishop to say I plan to come and hoped my house was not occupied (he often uses it for overseas guests). He said "We like to keep your house ready, hoping you will visit us again"! In those far off days we also built a rural dispensary in a very remote part of Uganda (Kisoro) very near the border with Rwanda. I would hope to visit that and see how it is doing. Then cross back to Rwanda and head for "The Land Beyond the Forest" where I can stay in my own house and go out and visit some of the clergy occupying the pastors' houses we are building through our builder John. For the three weeks, Jill will be on her own, so please pray for her. We will be in touch by mobile phone daily and I would fly straight back if the cancer started spreading. The Oncologist is arranging a scan, which should be soon.

Yours in the service of The King.

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