

MEDIA RELEASE

The Joseph Odeke Community Development Fund

Uganda Bound

Keith GP, Joseph Odeke has seen the first wish of his ambitious ‘*three wishes*’ project to help the people of his home village of Atirir, Uganda come to fruition.

Last Saturday saw groups and individuals from the communities of Keith, Tintinara and Padthaway converge on Keith business, Keith Seeds to pack the 40 foot shipping container with goods bound for Uganda.

By the end of the day, two beautifully restored Fordson Major Tractors, various farm implements, equipment and tools, clothing and educational supplies were all weighed, labelled and packed into the container ready for its departure to Mombasa on July 3.

The excitement in the air was tangible as the packing of the container is the culmination of 18 months of work and organisation for Dr Odeke and his volunteer committee.

“It is fantastic...I am very, very excited that we have pulled this off and very grateful to the communities who have put in a lot of time to see this project come to fruition,” Dr Odeke enthused.

The achievement of this first wish will enable the farmers of Dr Odeke’s village to establish productive farming and farming practices far beyond their wildest imaginings. The mechanised equipment being sent from Australia to Uganda, whilst outdated here has the capacity to revolutionise the primitive farming currently practised in the rural area.

It is Dr Odeke’s hope that enabling more productive farming in his home village, will give the people an opportunity to break, or at least dent the poverty cycle currently gripping the community.

The tenacity and true resilience of rural Australian’s has really come to the fore in the duration of this project. Communities gripped by drought and facing hardship of their own have been able to pull together with donations of time, money and equipment to help others who are less fortunate.

Chairperson of the Joseph Odeke Community Development Fund, Mig Brookman said she is amazed and thankful to the many people who have helped in one way or another to make this project the success it is.

“It has been fantastic. People who really have so much have been able to do something for people who have so little,” she said.

“It has been so good to see the different communities pull together on this project with many not even knowing each other beforehand.”

For further information and comment please phone Mig Brookman on 8756 5019 or 0427 002 648.