



Annual Report 2017

*Changing hearts, lives
and communities*

**Friends of African International
Christian Ministry (FAICM)
Supporting AICM in S.W. Uganda**



A message from our chairman



I am delighted to present an expanded and illustrated annual report for FAICM, supporting the work of AICM in South West Uganda.

My first duty is to thank our retiring chairman, Gordon Ogilvie for his wise oversight of our trustees for the last seven years. I must also warmly thank our trustees here in the UK for their continued faithful hard work, and, most especially, our loyal, prayerful and generous supporters. Without their prayers, encouragement and support much of the ministry of AICM in Kabale would not be possible.

We have indeed a great deal to be thankful to God for in this last year 2017 and I hope this will become evident as you read this report. Our trustees have been overwhelmed at times by the prayerful and generous support of our Friends of AICM. The vision of AICM to reach out to the many rural communities around Kabale, and especially to the very needy Batwa communities is vast, but during this last year your generosity and prayers under God have enabled us to achieve much.

Rejoice and give thanks with us as you read on and we pray that you will be encouraged to pray on and continue with your support for this valuable ministry.

Colin Townsend



Mutwa woman proudly shows off her cabbages



Happy primary school children



Friendship and fun



Agricultural training



Improved nutrition and hygiene amongst rural families

AICM Senior project manager Denis Mucunguzi gives essential nutrition and hygiene training to Batwa and Bakiga women community groups. Senior officer Amos distributes beans to the Batwa. AICM have four senior staff responsible for overseeing community interventions throughout the Kabale and Rubanda districts of South West Uganda.

They received salaries thanks to the regular donors to FAICM in the UK. Regular giving also enables AICM to fund five extension workers.

Whilst we are so very grateful for our supporters who donate regularly to our general fund, we need more to do so, as our current monthly salary commitment exceeds what we regularly receive.



Batwa children come for baptism

A faithful friend brings hope to all and can be life changing

Andrew Buhungiru Tomson is the AICM evangelist. He has had a busy year. He travels daily into the hills visiting communities, individuals, always with the Bible in his hands. Much of his work is with school children and their families. As a result of his faithful teaching, in July several Batwa families brought their children to be baptised, with Bakiga

couples standing as god parents; a change indeed as relations between these two tribes have not been good.

A restricted fund has salaried Andrew for this year. His work in communicating God's love through Bible teaching remains at the heart of AICM's ministry. It is our hope to preserve the evangelist's salary.

These children have a new school! Thank you!

"Please know that we, and the Batwa community whom we serve, sincerely appreciate your love for us , your support, prayers and generosity that will forever stay in our hearts and is evident in the visible work in Rwamahano Primary School. You have made a real difference to the lives of the young children which we work so hard to improve."

Faith Tushabe—Executive Director AICM

AICM has provided an opportunity for primary education for children within two Batwa communities for many years. School buildings have been very poor but, for the children of Rwamahano Primary School, 2017 has been remarkable. They now have a new school. Four classrooms, a head teacher's study and a staff room have replaced an old timber structure and a classroom destroyed by storms. They also have new class room furniture and, by May 2018, will have new latrines.

This is thanks to the fund raising efforts of the FAICM trustees. We owe thanks to trustee Mike Peachey, a civil engineer, who prepared plans, tendered the project, commissioned the builder and had oversight of the project during construction. We also owe a debt of gratitude to the Allen Trust, who match funded the project, to students of Penrhos College in North Wales, who made a start on the foundations, and to very many generous friends and supporters.

Grateful thanks too for a memorial fund set up in memory of Garance la Mache, a student who visited Rwamahano school in July 2013, who sadly died in



No shortage of Batwa volunteers keen to help.

2015. Trustees and friends are looking forward to attending an official opening of the new buildings in May 2018.

Making a difference to daily visits to rural communities.

Daily visits to the hills surrounding Kabale can be hazardous, and the picture, taken in October 2017, shows how bad travel can be. Floods may not be the norm, but narrow muddy tracks and many potholes are. Motor cycles get very heavy wear and tear and some of the bikes AICM have had in the past have not really been man enough for the task.



AICM evangelist, Andrew, proudly surveys the new AICM motor cycle.

Life changing experiences for volunteers and communities



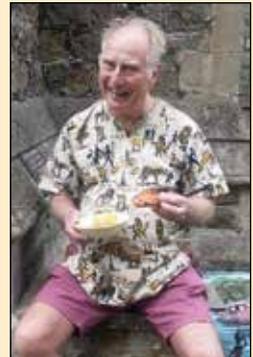
July 2017 saw the sixth visit by a student team from St Ebbes Church in Oxford to AICM, pictured above with their Batwa friends. The ongoing encouragement from these visits is so much valued by all at AICM and the communities they serve, especially the children. It was a life changing experience for the students also.

Fun in the sun

After a visit in 2016, Trustee Rev. Roger Smith, from Holy Trinity Church in Folkstone, decided to encourage his church members to raise funds for a new, heavy duty motor cycle.

By the end of 2017 £3,000 had been raised and AICM were able to purchase a Yamaha DT 125, which they took possession of in January 2018.

The bike will primarily be used by Andrew, the evangelist. Much thanks to Holy Trinity for their fund raising garden parties, African evenings and coffee mornings.



Reverend Roger Smith gets stuck into goat stew!



Great fun for children in July 2017

Changed lives as a result of gifts generously given

The happy children on the front cover are at Murubindi primary school enjoying lunch thanks to gifts received from FAICM Alternative Gifts and Batwa funds. These children, and those at Rwamahano, have regularly received breakfast and lunch thanks to these funds.

In this picture are the grateful recipients of gifts of underwear and warm blankets. These were distributed by AICM to victims of autumn floods and landslides in Nfasha Village. Many items are available through the gift scheme and these can make excellent birthday, Christmas or wedding presents. Our Batwa Fund also is always glad of donations.



Practical interventions to improve the lives of teenage married mothers



AICM is always searching for local partners who share their vision of caring and changing lives for those in need. Local partner 'Independent Development Fund' (IDF) successfully partnered with AICM in 2017 to raise hope and standards of living for many young girls and also married teenage mothers within the rural communities.

Some of these girls are married at a very early age and therefore

miss any chance of education or training. 430 girls were returned to school under the scheme. Four support groups for teenage mothers were formed for mutual encouragement to offer training in good nutrition and hygiene and to encourage vocational skills such as hair dressing and mat making.

These groups play a vital role in raising hope and living standards for these young mothers. Two were encouraged back into secondary education.

How FAICM supported AICM for the year 2017

Our treasurer writes “due to the humbling generosity of our donors we were able to support our friends in Uganda in the following ways”

Uganda office costs	£1,180
Alternative Gifts	£1,1851
School meals and educational materials for the Batwa	£2,400
Solar audio bibles	£2,875
Motor cycle for field workers	£3,768
Sponsored students	£ 7,153
Teachers, field workers and Administrative staff salaries	£36,328
New school buildings at Rwamahano Batwa primary school	£49,993
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Total: £105,548	

A full statement of FAICM accounts for the year ending 2017 can be found on the charity commission website.

Life changing opportunities for young people

A big thank you from this young man, one of several who completed secondary and vocational education this year. He is receiving a gift from his sponsor of a start-up kit to enable him to start work

Our ongoing sponsorship scheme has this year provided 21 students with life changing secondary education. This is one way in which an individual can have a profound impact on the life of a young person. AICM have many youngsters hoping for secondary education.

Our picture shows a past sponsored student who has now set up and runs his own hardware business in Kabale.

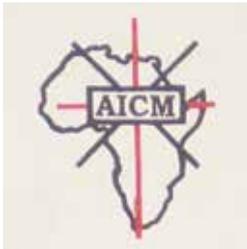


If you can help do please contact:

Mrs. Gill Henderson,
Oak Cottage, 1 Church
Lane, Hemingford Grey,
Huntingdon,
Cambridge PE28 9DE



Thank you Friends of AICM from Faith and the team in Kabale.



African International Christian Ministry (AICM)

"I am come that they may have life and have it to the full"

John 10:10

Patron:

Most Reverend John Sentamu,
Archbishop of York

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Colin Townsend (Chairman)
Sue Townsend (Secretary)
Mick Lloyd (Treasurer)
The Venerable Gordon Ogilvie
Mike and Helen Peachey
Mike and Gill Henderson
Canon Trevor Williams
Kate Potter
Revd. Roger Smith
Betsy Glasgow

Friends of AICM Contact details:

Email: faicm.secretary@gmail.com

www.aicm.org.uk

Facebook: AICM-UK Friends

Treasurer:

Mr M. Lloyd, Greenleas, Orchard Way, Cranbrook,
Kent TN17 3LN

Registered Charity Number 1011451

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