

July 2017 St. Ebbe's mission trip to AICM, Kabale

St Ebbe's Church in Oxford is excited to be sending another team to work alongside AICM in Kabale in July this year. A team of eight, led by Richard and Melanie Eves, will fly out on 3rd July, arriving back in UK on 19th July. As in previous years, two trustees of FAICM, Colin and Sue Townsend, will be part of the team. They would all value your prayers for safe flights, transport whilst in Uganda, and for effective and encouraging ministry. The team will share bible teaching each morning with students and staff at the AICM college of Science and Technology, will interact with several of the AICM rural communities, and will be involved in bible teaching and fun and games with children at the Batwa primary schools at Rwamahano and Murubindi. They will also be visiting Rugarama hospital and sharing the gospel with inmates at the local prison. These visits are eagerly anticipated by both those who go and by all at AICM who are always much encouraged by them. We shall be most grateful for your prayers.

Colin & Sue



To make a donation to the work of AICM, please complete this form and send it with your name, address and cheque to:
The Treasurer, Friends of AICM, Mr Mick Lloyd, Greenleas, Orchard Way, Cranbrook, Kent, TN17 3LN.

I enclose a cheque for £.....

For general funds/specific purpose (specify).....

I am a UK taxpayer and under the Gift Aid scheme, I would like FAICM to claim back tax on all donations until further notice.

Signed

Date

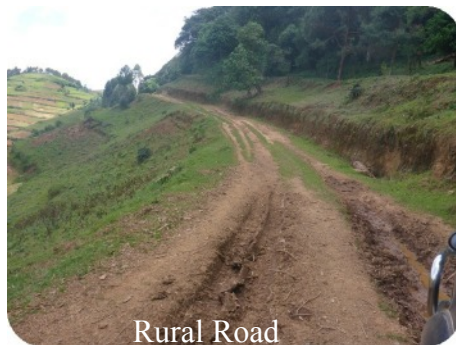
Friends of AICM Newsletter

May 2017



In February last year, four of us Trustees went out to Kabale, and one of my lasting impressions was the crucial roles the field workers and Andrew, their evangelist, play in their daily work within the Batwa peoples in the high mountains up and beyond the Kabale headquarters; AND the urgent need for a another decent, strong and reliable

motorcycle for them to use, because a good fit-for-purpose extra one is urgently needed. The roads and tracks up to these peoples and the two schools we help fund up there in this somewhat inaccessible terrain (Rwamahano and Murubindi) are in extremely poor condition! My churches at Folkestone (particularly many of our congregation of Holy Trinity Church) have set about over this past year to start a motorcycle fund for this purpose. To date,



Rural Road



Track

thanks to their generosity, the considerable sum of £2,592 has been raised through donations including two Ugandan goat-stew dinners, plant sales and other events. We still need extra funds for this urgent project and we, as Trustees, would be delighted if you might consider helping us to reach our target of some £3,500 which we estimate will be needed for a suitable, reliable vehicle. If you feel able to help,

Mick, our Treasurer will be very happy to receive your gift.

Two former very stalwart Friends of AICM and members of Holy Trinity congregation, Tom and Brenda Broderick, have sadly passed away recently and Brenda's retiring funeral collection for AICM was also put to this fund, with thanks to their families. Tom and Brenda actually started FAICM support here in Folkestone back in the 1980's, and I'm sure they would have held this project close to their hearts, just as they would have the Rwamahano School rebuilding programme, which is ongoing at this time.

Thank you in anticipation,
(Revd) Roger Smith



Sponsorship News and Appeal

A new FAICM sponsorship leaflet has been produced (which is attached for those on email), and we would like your help in distributing it to friends, family, colleagues and church congregations please. If you need it printed off, please let us know.



Those of you who already support a student know what the chance of a secondary education means to these youngsters. It is a lifeline for many of them, in that it can be life changing. Thank you all for your continuous support. There is another, slight variation in a way to help these disadvantaged students, and that is to join together with others to form a named group to support a student. This will spread the cost, currently £26 per month, which covers fees, meals and lodging.

We have a Sponsorship Fund, which accepts donations of any amount, to cater for unexpected medical needs, uniforms and stationery materials for poor, needy children in rural communities.



Thanks to good leadership from Faith the executive director, and the evangelist, Andrew, the Orphans' Sponsorship Programme is progressing very well, with many students gaining good results in GCSEs, and in practical courses they have attended at the AICM College of Science and Technology (previously the VTC). Students at the ACST, having finished their courses often cannot afford the money to buy kits to set themselves up in business. A one-off donation, however small, will

go towards providing a "start-up kit" of tools for plumbing or engineering, or a sewing machine for tailoring as examples.

FAICM is committed to sending as many orphans to secondary school as possible. We have a long waiting list! Every penny raised through the sponsorship scheme goes to the children, so please help us to achieve our aim. Thank you.

Gill Henderson (Sponsorship Secretary)

The following letter was sent a few days ago from Faith, AICM executive director, to all supporters.

Dear FAICM, Brothers & Sisters in Christ,
Warm greetings from African International Christian Ministry (AICM)!

I am writing on behalf of AICM, parents and of the young children from the Batwa community whose lives you have changed with your contributions to Rwamahano Construction Project. For children who have for a long time studied from a wind-blown wooden classroom, your contribution for a concrete classroom block is a testimony of your love for the vulnerable Batwa. Thank you for your generous donation and unconditional love that will change the lives of these school-going children. We are truly humbled by the knowledge that we are bound by God's love and grace that the Lord gives.

Because of you, the teachers will be able to comfortably teach without fear of the cold seeping through to the young children.

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.

Wishing you God's blessings,

Sincerely,

Faith Tushabe
AICM Executive Director



Membership, Newsletter, Website and Sponsorship;
Mike & Gill Henderson, Tel:01480 466101, or
email: henderson_michael@sky.com

General enquiries:
enquiries@aicm.org.uk

The Rwamahano Project

In our November newsletter it was reported that, following a Trustees' visit to the Batwa communities at Rwamahano and Murubindi, it was apparent that various major improvements were needed for them to provide adequate protection for the children during the extreme weather conditions associated with the communities' locations. This was especially true for the timber classroom building at Rwamahano. This school currently has approximately 140 primary age children attending school and Murubindi has 88 and these numbers are rising.

External repairs
to the building at
Rwamahano to
improve
protection from
wind and rain



This shows the
temporary internal
repairs to the
classroom

We can now report that most of our recommendations have been completed and the children have dry and relatively windproof buildings to continue their schooling.

However, this was only a temporary solution, and in July 2016, FAICM launched an appeal to raise sufficient funds to construct a new brick building providing four classrooms and a head teachers office at Rwamahano. Plans were prepared by one of our trustees and this formed the basis of our appeal. A team of trustees researched the various trusts and grant funding bodies, launched internet appeals, spoke to friends and supporters and held various fund raising activities. We were greatly encouraged early in the fundraising process when a funder was found who was prepared to match fund the project so every pound we raised was worth two.



Mike Peachey, Faith and Colin Townsend

Meanwhile, Mike Peachey sent out his plans to recommended builders in Kabale interested in tendering the contract. Receipt of the tenders provided a better idea of how much we needed to raise, as it was impossible to know how much the difficulties associated with the site location, in getting labour and materials to it would cost.



Part front plan view (just over one half)



Other end of front view, plus end elevation

The tenders were reviewed in detail and then In February 2016, Mike and Colin visited Kabale to interview the best two contractors. By this time we knew we had raised £46,000, with promised gifts still to come, and were in a position to appoint a contractor. After a gruelling week of site visits, meetings with contractors and AICM Board of Directors, we were all in agreement on the best contractor and he was duly appointed. After a couple of weeks getting the contract document together and signed we are pleased to confirm that works commenced on 12 April 2017.

Completion is due in about 5 months with a further visit to Kabale planned for September for handover.

The foundations complete and concrete floor slab being laid (Note the stunning although very exposed location)



We praise God for the generosity of our many supporters without whom this much needed building would not be a reality. A big thank you to you all.

We are also very aware of similar needs of the Batwa community at Murubindi and will be looking to continue our fundraising to provide them with a similar building.

Mike Peachey

Please remember to look at the new Alternative Gift Leaflet for possible presents and gifts throughout the year. Ask for one through the post, or as an email attachment. It is on the website too, under "Get Involved/Alternative Gifts". Remember too, about using EasyFundraising, when you buy on the internet. Information on how to use it is on our website. It costs you nothing except a few minutes of your time.