

## Summer 2017

### Riding through Rwanda

Richard Follett, Headmaster of Vinehall School in East Sussex, recently visited Rwanda Aid and has made a series of fantastic short films about each day 'Riding through Rwanda'.



Days 1 and 2 document Richard's 165 mile cycle from Kigali to Kamembe, which is an incredibly beautiful but challenging journey, whilst days 3 and 4 highlight some of Rwanda Aid's work in Rusizi and Nyamasheke Districts. You can view all of Richard's videos on the Rwanda Aid website and on YouTube:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sNPhs663uH0>

### Music as Therapy at Ngwino Nawe Disabled Children's Village

Music as Therapy International and UK Programme Manager, Lindsay McHale, and the Rwanda Programme Officer, Hannah Hulin, spent a week delivering music therapy training for staff who work with children with disabilities at our partner centres, including Ngwino Nawe Village. Music therapy provides a stimulating learning environment for the children and can help to reduce the symptoms of psychological disorders which some of the children suffer

from. We look forward to welcoming Music as Therapy back to Kamembe soon!

### Honourable Visitors at Baho Neza Mwana

Rwanda Aid has supported 261 children since the village opened, and in June a large team of honourable visitors came to Baho Neza Mwana to see how our village operates.



The visitors included the Government Minister of Migeprof, the Vice President of Senate in Parliament and the Executive Secretary of the National Commission of Children (NCC). All the visitors were delighted to see how well-run the village is, and in particular commented on how good Baho Neza Mwana is compared to other street children's centres they have visited.

We are always looking for sponsors for our street children or children with a disability at Ngwino Nawe village. If this is something that you would like to learn more about, Emma, our Child Sponsorship Coordinator, would love to hear from you: [EmmaOgilvie@hotmail.com](mailto:EmmaOgilvie@hotmail.com)

### Isha Classrooms Opening Ceremony

Rwanda Aid has now built a total of 12 classrooms at Isha Primary School. The most recent celebrations were for 2 new classrooms, a head teachers' office and staff room. A huge thank you to everyone at Devonshire House School who fundraised and made this possible.



## Enterprise Development

We are now supporting 25 **enterprise projects** and these are providing gainful employment for 384 young people. Some of the projects are showing good potential: the Rusizi Fruit Juice company sold over £1,000 of juice in May.



The milling group in Nyabitekero have now bought their own workshop and have hired a second milling machine; business is growing for the photographers and they are now established in their own little shop in town. The welding group in Gihundwe won a contract for £2000 in May, and they have also attracted a grant for new machinery.



The bread-making ladies' new oven is now complete and they are currently baking 400 loaves a day! The craft ladies have moved into a new and larger centre, and finally the Mururu shoe-making group is selling over £1000 worth of shoes each month and is developing an ambitious business plan which could lead ultimately to the setting up of a shoe factory.

## Isaac Niyonsenga – Teacher Mentor Trainer *'Paying Forward'*

Isaac is an English Teacher at Groupe Scolaire Kibangira in Bugarama Sector. He became a teacher mentor for Rwanda Aid 2 years ago and absolutely adores working with his teaching colleagues to improve learner centred teaching methods in his school. Isaac is so committed to education that he spent his August holiday voluntarily teaching English to some of the village elders. He is so grateful to be a Rwanda Aid mentor, that he believes it is time for him to 'pay forward' and use his skills to better his community.

For more information on the stories within the newsletter, please visit our website [www.rwanda-aid.org](http://www.rwanda-aid.org)

Finally it remains for me to say a huge thank you to everyone who has supported Rwanda Aid over the past 2 years and in particular, my role as CEO. I have had the most wonderful journey with Rwanda Aid and I feel incredibly privileged to have been involved with such a special, unique charity that makes such a huge difference to some of the world's most vulnerable people.

*Karen*

Karen, David and the Rwanda Aid team