



*Happy Rising Stars outside Rise and Shine school. Kabale*

# BI-ANNUAL REPORT 2024 – 2025

*"I am the Light of the World. Whoever follows me will not have darkness but will have the light of life."*

*Jesus in John's Gospel  
Chapter 8 verse 12*



## A message from our chairman

Dear Supporters,

I do hope you enjoy reading this report of the work in the last two years of Christian Development Uganda and our partner Word and Deed Uganda ( WADU ).

WADU have done well in so many ways. I have often been anxious about how we can keep up with their efforts through our fund raising.

I have been consoled by some of the words in Psalm 111 "Great are the works of the Lord: they are pondered

by all who delight in them" (Do read the whole psalm). The work is the Lord's and we thank Him. However we must not just rest.

We are usually the means by which God works – not least in our financial support.

You will find pleas for substantial increases in funding to which we pray you are able to respond.

**Colin Townsend**

## Maintaining the WADU ministry month by month

### Rural Schools ministry

Throughout 2024 and 2025 the schools ministry has grown. WADU now support over 200 Batwa children in 9 different rural primary schools. Supporting this ministry month by month is one of our major responsibilities. Through the schools WADU can maintain valuable contacts with Batwa families and wider communities.

These children regularly require uniforms, shoes and all school equipment. WADU also undertake to feed them daily. This means providing food, cooking facilities and a cook. This strategy is costly but this education is key to the transformation of these communities.



*Daily lunches*



*An education opportunity for all*



*Food supplies for nine primary schools*



*Regular provision of new school uniform*

## Centre Days

These are another aspect of the WADU regular ministry and have become more and more effective throughout these two years. They are regular gatherings of children and their families, often courtesy of one of the schools, where everyone gets to know one another and there are fun and games to share. Regular hair cutting and health checks are done and a good nutritious porridge lunch

is always served to children and whole families. Health improvements are obvious. Rarely does WADU have to deal with jiggers in feet nowadays. These gatherings are opportunities for evangelism and it is exciting to see Batwa children and families growing in the love of God. These centre days generate a regular cost which is also part of our monthly funding.



*An enriched nutritious porridge lunch*



*Regular hair cutting*



*Health monitoring*

## WADU team welfare and maintenance

We believe the Lord has called the WADU team to work amongst the Batwa. We are overwhelmed by their selfless commitment and excited to see how God is using them. It is our responsibility to ensure a realistic salary so they are able to care properly for their own families. Also to ensure an adequate working environment and necessary equipment and to enable their transport to the rural communities they are serving. Throughout 2024 and 2025 we have maintained good salary levels and provided office overheads. Also we have maintained and provided fuel for the vehicle. This all comes at a cost which is regular.



*Lunch for all hungry children*

***"Now, our God, we give you thanks, and praise your glorious name" 1 Chronicles 29:13***

We give thanks for the amazing way in which God has always provided for all the monthly needs of WADU throughout these two years. It is never fully met by regular standing orders. Projected costs for 2026 currently stand at more than twice the amount our treasurer expects to receive.

As you join us in thanking God for His faithful provision please consider whether you can help sustain this valuable ministry by increasing your current standing order, or by deciding to make a standing order. All donation information at the end of this report.



*Our precious WADU team*

***“I know the Lord secures justice for the poor and upholds the cause of the needy”***

**Psalm 140:12**

**Gilbert Akanyihayo.** You may remember this young boy was thankfully discovered in 2023 with a badly broken leg left untreated for several months. Gilbert is recovering now from a second operation in December 2025 and is a lively Rising Star student thanks to generous donations for his operations and to his wonderful sponsor who now provides for his care.

**Gilbert’s family.** With generous help from donors in 2025 WADU have made a dwelling waterproof and more habitable providing somewhere dry for a new baby. Also funding has helped add a room to the grandmothers home where Gilbert and other children often sleep in school holidays.



***Gilbert’s family homestead***



***Timothy and Joan (left), Emily (right)***



**Timothy and Joan.** In 2025 these two were found starving and taken to hospital and then into WADU's care and onto the Rising Star programme.

**Monica and Emily.** Two young girls nearly abandoned after recently losing their mothers. WADU have taken



***After some renovation***

them into care and we are thankful we have sponsors for them.

We thank God for our many generous supporters who are quick to respond to these needs. Your gifts are life changing for these children and families.

**Community care Latrine building**

As part of the very necessary aim to encourage better hygiene WADU have embarked on a programme to encourage use of proper latrines. Three have now been built with the help of those trustees and friends



***Learning to construct a latrine***

visiting WADU in 2024 and 5. Again funding has been generously provided. More funding will be needed but WADU now expect Batwa men from the villages to construct the latrines themselves.



***2025 team completed latrine***

## Maternal care and adolescent girls care

The WADU ladies, Marion, Phiona and Ovia regularly meet with young girls to counsel and encourage them in feminine hygiene and behaviour. This year, helped and advised by one of our faithful supporters and visitors, Dr Mike Dobson, they have embarked on a programme of Maternal Care.



*Phiona with young mums*



*Marion with a mum and young family*

## Visits from trustees and friends to WADU—a highlight of each year.

*(Please note that all visitors cover the costs of these visits themselves)*

May-June 2024: Colin and Sue Townsend and Mike Peachey, trustees, Abigail Felce, sponsorship secretary, with her husband David and two children, Simeon and Miriam and Catherine Atherstone, year six teacher from

Stanton Harcourt primary school in Oxfordshire.

July-August 2025: Colin and Sue Townsend, Mike Peachey, Mick Lloyd, treasurer, with his wife Janette and daughter Charlotte and Dr Mike Dobson.

## Highlights

Sharing daily morning worship with WADU team. Sharing in programme planning . Meeting family members. Observing the selfless commitment, dedication and remarkable abilities of the WADU team members.

Visiting all the rural schools and meeting staff and children, always joyfully greeting us and never wanting us to leave. Seeing the lack of facilities and provision first hand. Experiencing the long and arduous journeys involved in accessing all the communities.

In 2024 seeing Catherine from Stanton Harcourt School inspiring boys and girls alike to play netball, having

enabled the provision of netball posts and bringing balls and kit. Also seeing her model teaching in the class room and inspiring Phiona and Marion in their efforts to help our Batwa children. As an aid to teaching the school gifted LCD tablets. Making a live link with her school in the UK from a remote hillside school in Uganda was a first and a great success!

We thank God for Catherine.



*2024 visitors with WADU team*



*Catherine teaching netball skills*

Also in 2024 seeing Abigail and the Felce family becoming embedded in the WADU family and especially getting to know all our Rising Stars sponsored children.

In 2024 and 2025 the men folk on the visit, had the privilege of helping the Batwa of Kinyarushengye and Murambo communities in constructing a latrine in each village.

In 2025 it was the turn of Mick Lloyd, our treasurer to see at first hand the extent of the WADU ministry. He too participated in the building of another latrine and experienced much "African massage" on long arduous journeys.

Janette and Charlotte brought with them a vast amount of art material and textiles as well as the talent to go with them. Their art sessions in the rural schools and the textile bag designing and making with the Rising



*Abigail and Sue with Rising Stars*



*Abigail with baby Miriam*



*Janette teaching textiles*



*Charlotte and proud Rising Star boys*

Stars at Rise and Shine School were amazing and it was inspirational for all the children.

Dr Mike Dobson also accompanied the 2025 visit . His research and preparation for the visit and time spent with the WADU ladies has been a kick start to the maternal health programme.

## School links

2024 and 5 have seen the continuation of the link between WADU and Stanton Harcourt primary school . In 2025 a new link began with St Peters primary school in Alverscot, also in Oxfordshire. These links are so valuable for the children both here in UK and Uganda.

Several teachers from Stanton Harcourt led by Catherine Atherstone, who visited WADU in 2024, were sponsored for the Oxford 10 k run in 2025 and raised £1000 which has enabled another rural school at Mukitojo to install play equipment. They had already raised funds for play equipment at Kinyarushengye . The school has now formed a special link with these two schools. The school is now hoping to provide football goal posts for these two schools.

St Peters School decided to partner with WADU in 2025 and raised funds for water purifiers which the visiting team were able to present to two schools. They also



*Thank you Stanton Harcourt for our play equipment"*

organised a school sponsored walk and £800 donated was able to provide some playground equipment for Rise and Shine School. This is the school attended by most of our Rising Stars and St Peters have formed a link with this school.

## Rising Stars Programme

The Rising Stars sponsorship programme has established itself during 2024 and 2025 as one of the most important aspects of the WADU ministry. The key WADU strategy for effective transformation of the Batwa communities through education is proving a major success, but it was becoming clear that a higher standard of education than that in the rural primary schools was needed. As the better schools are fee paying our Rising Stars programme aims to find sponsors to support able Batwa children.

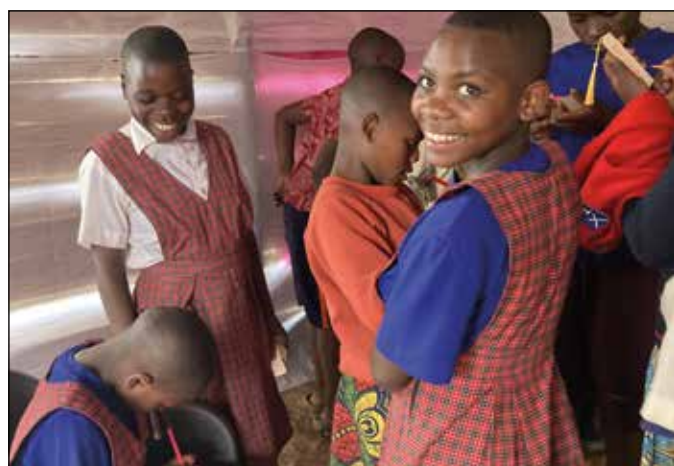
As of February 2025 we had sponsorship for 17 Rising Stars and by the end of 2025 we had placed 23. Most are at primary school and after an experimental trial at Future Generations School in Rubanda, WADU now have all primary children happily settled at Rise and Shine, a Christian foundation school in Kabale near to WADU HQ. The chosen secondary school is Rock High School, where two students are currently placed and to which it is expected others will progress. WADU has found sponsored vocational training for one or two older Batwa, too old to embark on full time education. As the schools are all local to WADU and the children board WADU staff have maximum opportunity for interaction with all of them in evenings and at week ends.

We believe this programme is transformational for these children. Please join us in praying.

If you might be able to offer sponsorship please get in



*Rising Stars ready for a new term—"how smart we look!"*



*Rising Stars enjoying times in class*

touch with [sponsorship.cduganda@gmail.com](mailto:sponsorship.cduganda@gmail.com) or make this need known amongst friends and family.



*Livestock, mattresses, blankets, the Word of God in my language – all life changing gifts*



## Alternative Gifts

Every gift given through this catalogue makes an enormous difference to a life and plays a vital role in the WADU ministry . 2024 and 2025 have seen gifts totalling well over £1500. We would love to see this total tripled and folk giving these gifts throughout the

year for birthdays, anniversaries and other special occasions. Currently most are given around Christmas. In 2025 maternity kits have been added and are a vital contribution to maternal care. The gift catalogue can be found on our website.

***“But these words are written so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name” John 20:31***



*Stephen and Phiona share from the Bible “Let the little children come to me”*

Demonstrating and teaching the love of God as seen in his Son Jesus, and as we read in His Word, the Bible, is at the heart of the WADU ministry. Throughout 2024 and 2025 school gatherings, assemblies and centre days have given opportunities for sharing Bible teaching. Christmas and Easter is always celebrated

with large evangelistic gatherings. Our Rising Stars gather for church each Sunday and once a month share special times of teaching and fellowship with WADU staff. Home and small group visits are always times to share God’s Word.

## Fund Raising and Special Events

2024: A special reunion tea party hosted by Abigail Felce at her parents-in-law’s lovely home in the autumn of 2024 was a lovely time for old friends, previous visitors to Uganda and most trustees to meet, hear recent news from WADU, pray together and discuss future plans.

Autumn 2025 – we give thanks for a wonderfully generous gift of over £18,500 given as part of the Harvest offering from St Ebbes Church, Oxford. This will help our funding provision for WADU for 2026.

2025: Colin and Sue celebrated their golden wedding and Sue’s 80th birthday with a wonderful reunion party at St Ebbes Church in Oxford. This was another great opportunity to give thanks for past ministry in Uganda and also to share updates from the WADU team. A special anniversary Fund raised £3000 for Christian Development Uganda.

### What could you do?

Maybe your church or small group could plan a gathering or fund raising event to further our support of the WADU ministry? Or undertake a sponsored event like the Stanton Harcourt school staff sponsored Oxford 10 k run? Stewardship and Just Giving are available for funding appeals.

## From Mick Lloyd, our treasurer

How we have supported Word & Deed Uganda in 2024 and 2025

	2024	2025
<b>Word &amp; Deed running costs:</b>	£39,881	£ 42,160
Salaries, rent, audit, overheads, web site, vehicle maintenance, equipment		
<b>Ministry:</b>	£40,268	£50,576
School dinners, educational materials, catering, health monitoring & equipment, uniforms, Gilbert’s surgery, toilet construction, lightning conductors, playground equipment		
<b>Sponsorship:</b>	£10,100	£12,907
Fees, supplies, uniforms		
<b>Alternative Gifts</b>	£ 1,352	£1,417
<b>Grand Total</b>	£91,601	£107,060

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We would be so grateful for donations:

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Account Number: 00011431 Sort Code: 40-52-40

or [www.stewardship.org.uk/partners/20036722](http://www.stewardship.org.uk/partners/20036722)

We are a registered charity with Just Giving and have an Easyfundraising account.