

We have only a small percentage of supporters who now require a printed copy of the newsletters, or any other reports or letters that we send out, and if that is the only way those supporters are able to receive the items, we will gladly continue to do just that. We would like, however, to confirm that all those on the postage list are still interested in the work of Christian Development Uganda, so that we are not wasting money in unnecessary postage and printing costs. It is also possible that some of those supporters are now on email themselves, and are unaware that email is the more normal method of communication. If that is the case, we would appreciate if you get in touch with us via my own email of henderson_michael@sky.com to let me know. Similarly, if you are no longer interested in receiving information from us at all, please ring me on 01480 466101 to let me know. For those who need to remain on the postage list, we will, of course, continue to post you all newsletters, plus the occasional WADU report, but we can't promise to post all of the reports because some, like the most recent one, is about sixteen pages long.

Thank you. Mike

To make a donation to Christian Development Uganda, please complete this form and send it with your name, address and cheque to:

The Treasurer, Christian Development Uganda, Mr Mick Lloyd, Greenleas, Orchard Way, Cranbrook, Kent, TN17 3LN.

If you prefer bank transfer, use "Christian Development Uganda", 40-52-40, Acc 00011431

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 the charity to claim back tax on all donations until further notice.

Signed

Date

Website: <https://christiandevelopmentuganda.org.uk>

Membership, Newsletter, and Website;

Mike Henderson, Tel: 01480 466101, or email henderson_michael@sky.com

General enquiries to the Secretary:

Email: secretary.cduganda@gmail.com



Newsletter - December 2023



"If anyone thirsts, let him come to me and drink. He who believes in me, as the scripture says, out of his heart will flow rivers of living water" John 7:37
Gifts of water purifiers have been given to schools to ensure clean drinking water. These have been provided as gifts from the Alternative Gift Catalogue.

A letter from our Chairman

Dear supporters.

May I wish you all a Happy Christmas and New year.

Many of you will have received a recent report direct from our Ugandan partners, Word and Deed. There has been much good news this year. I will highlight two things. First the very fortunate young lad Gilbert. His case showed us just how much Word and Deed needed a decent vehicle to respond at any time to disasters. Gilbert's story is reported later in this letter.

The other news I am so glad to tell you is that due to swift and sacrificial giving, Word and Deed now have an excellent, strong vehicle.

There are many who have been thanked for their generous giving. Here I can also thank our Great God for his mercy and grace in this and many provisions.

I am sure you will enjoy reading all our news.

Colin Townsend Chairman

Vehicle Fund Raising



Our trustees are so thankful for the generous giving and fund raising efforts of our supporters. A big thanks goes to The Gospel Jazz Project, whose members all come from St Ebbes Church Oxford, for a fabulous fund raising evening of jazz arrangements of many well-known gospel songs on 13th

October. This concert and its publicity helped us reach more than half of our funds for the vehicle. As our chairman has indicated, we have been able to release full funds to WADU to enable this purchase and we praise God for this wonderful provision. The appeal fund is still open and we would be grateful for further funds.

<https://www.stewardship.org.uk/pages/CDUvehiclefund>



require fees. This financial burden causes a delay to the start of their education, and in many cases, students have to drop out of school before finishing, due to early marriages or child labour.

By sponsoring a Rising Star you will be providing him/her with the finances to attend a Ugandan boarding school, where he/she will be provided with a safe and stable atmosphere to learn and complete his/her education, and will not lose contact with the family. The boarding school environment provides not only an education, but also a bed, daily food and security for the student, protecting him/her against the threat of an early marriage or child labour.

Your support will also give the Rising Star a school uniform and all of the necessary books and supplies. Create a meaningful friendship with the Rising Stars by sending letters of encouragement to the student you are sponsoring. In return, many students will send letters back with greetings and updates about their time at school. In some cases, arranging a visit to Uganda to meet the Rising Stars may even be possible.

Sponsorship Fees:

£32 per month to take a child through primary school (Five Years).

£37 per month to take a child through secondary school or vocational training (Four Years).

This covers the cost for the student to attend boarding school, where the child will be able to complete his/her education free from the threat of an early marriage or paid labour to support their family. The fees also include a uniform and school supplies for the student.

Will you help to send a child in need to school this year? Please do consider supporting a Rising Star. Or have you friends or family who might be willing to help? WADU have several young children waiting for sponsors.

If you can help please contact me at sponsorship.cduganda@gmail.com

Thank you! God bless.

Abigail.



A New Era of Sponsorship

We would like to introduce you to our new sponsorship secretary. She is Abigail Felce. Abigail and her husband David led a visiting team to Uganda from St Ebbes Church, Oxford, in 2019. They have both remained very supportive of Christian Development Uganda and our trustees are delighted that she has agreed to oversee our new “Rising Stars” sponsorship programme, in close association with Word and Deed Uganda.

Abigail writes:- Sponsor a “Rising Star” this Christmas!

We wish to enable Word and Deed Uganda, to provide education for the most impoverished and at-risk Batwa children. To stop the cycle of unfinished primary and secondary education, Christian Development Uganda is working to find new sponsors to financially assist the students that Word and Deed Uganda are locally supporting.

“Rising Stars” students should ideally be sponsored for nine years (five years of middle and upper primary school and four years of either secondary school or vocational training).

Many of these Rising Stars are facing one or more of the following:

- The loss of one or both parents
- Affected by the AIDS epidemic
- Poverty-stricken family
- Abuse or neglect
- Living with a caregiver who is very elderly, chronically ill, or another child.

Unfortunately, the cost of school uniforms, books, school meals and transportation prohibit many Batwa children from being able to attend otherwise, theoretically, free primary schools, and all secondary schools



Round up of recent news from Word and Deed Uganda

Most of you will have received recent reports from the field for July - August and September - November. We apologise if you have not been receiving these reports. They are distributed via email. We continue to be amazed and encouraged by WADU’s faithful ministry and are seeing God at work. Here is a summary of recent news.

Gilbert

He is a 13 year old lad discovered by WADU in one of the villages suffering from an untreated, severely broken leg resulting from a fall from a tree early in the year. Treatment had been unaffordable. We thank God he was found by WADU, and for generous and willing donors here who enabled the financial resources needed for WADU to get him to hospital for surgery. He is recovering well, as the picture on the right shows and is in the continuing care of WADU.



Literacy Development



Regular one-to-one interventions at all nine schools continue to benefit our Batwa students, improving their reading and writing. These have been facilitated by the provision of the LCD writing tablets as you see in the picture to the left, of Marion with two children.

Community evangelism and a hunger to read God’s word.

As WADU equip the Batwa with reading skills they are able to read the Bible. They write “The good news is that the young Batwa are yearning

and even hungry to engage with scripture and discover how the good news of Jesus is being lived out in our own lives and communities”.



Sponsored students—ongoing guidance and finishing well.

At the beginning of September, all schools and colleges returned for the third term of the year. Thanks to your ongoing support, WADU was able to equip all their students for the new term. So all nine primary schools received school meal supplies, all primary children were equipped for the term, and all



sponsored students, both secondary and college, met for beginning of term meal and retreat and to receive all supplies for the term. This was the final term for some of the sponsored college students. The WADU team has been overjoyed to share the graduation ceremonies with some of those successfully completing courses. We cannot thank those who have sponsored these students enough. Here are some words from Stephen Magezi the WADU evangelist:-

“Finally we have sent the first batch of skilled young people into the world to serve the Lord and put the skills they acquired into practice as they transform their lives and those of the communities around them”. We shall share further news on sponsorship later in this newsletter.



Alternative Giving



In their news report for September/October, WADU remarked upon the hunger amongst many in the Batwa communities for hearing and reading the Word of God and they thanked us for the gifts of many local language bibles they have been able to distribute. These gifts have come through our Alternative Gift Scheme. The very necessary distribution of water filters to provide clean drinking water, as seen on the front cover, is also as a result of giving through this scheme. Blankets to protect against the cold, knickers and sanitary wear for the girls, gifts of goats and sheep; all these have been provided thanks to the gift scheme. So, please can you consider using it this Christmas, but not only at this time - these gifts can be given on many different occasions throughout the year. You were all emailed the leaflet with the last WADU newsletter and the gift list and information on purchase is on our website on the Donate page. Your gift could significantly change a life.