



A brief report on the recent visit to WADU by Colin & Sue, Mike Peachey, Catherine Atherstone and David & Abigail Felce with Simeon and Miriam.

We give thanks to God for safety and protection throughout our two week visit. It offered us great insights into the ministry of WADU. This is a brief report . There will be more to follow as we think and pray over all that we did and all we learned.

1. We delivered much in the way of gifts and goods, including 22 more LCD tablets and netballs, footballs, sports bibs and equipment from Stanton Harcourt School and Catherine. A vast quantity of knitted goods. Many gifts for sponsored students plus numerous other gifts for the team and families and for use for any children in future.
2. First Sunday was a visit to Rukungiri, neighbouring diocese to Kigezi—to the cathedral, home church of Precious and family and for fellowship with two CMS Australia missionaries serving this parish. Also to meet and share with Rev. Muhereza Brian who heads the oversight Board for WADU. It was a good opportunity for Precious to share more widely the mission of WADU. Rev Brian is known to us as he spent one term a few years back at Wycliffe College ,Oxford, and attended St. Ebbes Church. He is a great guy and excellent choice to oversee the WADU Board. Really good to connect with him.
3. First week was visits(long journeys) to many of the rural schools at which WADU have placed Batwa children.

Generally we were greeted by whole school and head or deputy. At some, we led an assembly, told stories, there was singing and dancing. Catherine (and Sue) had much class room experience and learned much about the deficiencies of the Ugandan education system and the lack of resources and low teaching quality. It was brilliant to witness lunch time for our Batwa children. We visited 7 of the 9 schools. Catherine and the rest of us led games and sport activities especially netball training skills---much enjoyed.

One of the favourite and much repeated stories was The Enormous Turnip (changed to a carrot as turnips not known) !!

**Mukitojo**---500 on role---11 staff---24 Batwa children enrolled.

Two netball posts , funded by us, have been put in place here. The children enjoyed Catherine training them in netball skills. This school has good playing space.

**Kavumanga**—365 on role---6 staff—34 Batwa enrolled. In a high position with no playground, just a yard. We shared staff lunch –beans and vegetables (we didn't take the posho) The staff were the best we came across –keen to share with us and interacted well with students. We saw one of the WADU water purifiers in use here. It has poor classrooms and one very substandard wattle and daub class room.

The P6/7 girls gave an excellent dance and poetry demonstration .

**Kinyarushengye**---this is where the playground equipment is installed and still in good use. It has the biggest site with plenty of space.

It is in the same area as two other primary schools used by WADU—**Kaato annex**—which is the Anglican church annex to Kinyarushengye, which is Roman Catholic. The annex is fairly close , although a fair walk! 13 Batwa are enrolled at Kinyarushengye and 34 at the annex.

There is also **Kaato Primary School**, further along the track and there are Batwa enrolled there also I didn't get the number. For centre days and other meet ups the Kinyarushengye site is used because of the space. The deputy head here was concerned for the regular attendance of the Batwa students and also requested that the WADU funding extended to the provision of test papers for these students to enable them to take the statutory exams.

**Kagoma** This school is right on the border with Rwanda. 13 Batwa are enrolled. Its location is high but it has some playground space but hilly.

They had dug a rudimentary netball pitch into a hillside in order for WADU to place two netball posts, and plan to grass it over. Netball training skills were a great success here. Also football as they had the space for this.

This was also one of the better standard schools. We noted progress between P1 and P2 students and between P3 and P4.

4. The first week also saw the construction of the first latrine. This was in the Batwa community at Kinyarushengye. Preparatory work had been done—digging of the pit, placing of the concrete slab and half bricked walls on three sides. Colin, Mike and team erected the wooden frame, iron cladding and doors. It was a great effort and will make a huge difference.
5. Abigail and David and family arrived safely on the middle Saturday to a great welcome. Their role during the following week was such a blessing and the effect of their two children on everyone everywhere we went was wonderful. Our lovely hostess Peace cooked us a wonderful welcome meal at the place where we stayed—and the WADU team joined us.
6. Middle Sunday—a wonderful church service at Kaato Church—(long journey and long walk!!) very close to Kaato Annex school. A huge gathering—so full church---mostly in the local language but Stephen translated. Our Batwa students all arrived late as sadly they had lost a young child at its mother's breast during the night and all needed to gather to share in the corporate grief. But they did all come and they contributed with a song, which was lovely.
7. Monday of week 2. We joined in a centre day at two more schools. **Ncundura** and **Rwabarwindi** primary schools. It was a bank holiday (Uganda Martyrs Day) so the schools were not in session. But our Batwa children were there, plus some older girls at Ncundura. The children had their hair cut by WADU and were given the term supplies of soap and petroleum jelly. Also their lunch of nutritious porridge. We played more netball with the older girls and games with the younger Batwa. These centre days were slightly shorter than the normal as we fitted in two. They are usually on a Saturday.
8. Tuesday. We visited Future Generations Primary School which is where WADU have placed their primary Rising Stars. The school put on a big show for us—a welcome meal, a lunch and entertainment by the school. All the school was gathered. It was an impressive show and the standard is obviously good. Our Rising Stars were present and we had opportunity to speak with each and give them their gifts from their sponsors.  
There is more to be said about the school and the Rising Stars project ---Some of the Batwa children are unhappy---the routine, the discipline and the use of English as opposed to local language requires a lot from them. It was always going to be a challenge for them and this is fully recognised. It is plainly a good school. WADU are in close touch as is Abigail and ourselves. We will monitor the students carefully. It was so important that we were able to be there and understand the situation and challenges.
9. On Wednesday evening we all shared a lovely meal hosted at Stephen's home. Wonderful fellowship and hospitality.
10. Thursday. We visited all the other sponsored students at Secondary school. We visited Moreen, a previous supported student, now running her own knitting and sewing business. Then we went to Rock High School and visited the three students there, chatted with them and gave them gifts for sponsors. They all seemed happy. One young man, 18 years old, had

absconded---but we think he is now back. At 18 years old to be embarking on a secondary school course is a brave move, so we pray for him. Then we visited one young man who is on a part scholarship at another excellent school and doing well, heading for A Levels. Finally we visited one young man who has just transferred to the African College of Commerce and Technology. He was delighted with the gifts from his sponsor and seemed to be so happy. These opportunities to visit these young people was such a privilege. We owe thanks to Abigail who is doing such a brilliant job in liaising with WADU, the students and their sponsors.

11. On Thursday also the second latrine construction took place. This was in Murambo. David and Mike travelled to the site with Precious and Benjamin (the WADU night porter—a lovely and very useful guy) across lake Bunyonyi. The site was prepared as before and they completed the construction in one day, finishing at 6pm and returning across the lake after dark. A brilliant effort.

12. Friday was catch up and feed back day with a meal in the evening altogether at the White Horse hotel.

This is just an outline of the visit. There is much more to report back on. We need to keep Stephen in our prayers. He was with us throughout but plainly not fully fit. Since we've left he has been poorly again and is seeking further medical advice. Let us please keep him in prayer He is a vital part of the WADU team. I will try to send round some photos to give an impression at some point.

