

COMFORT Rwanda

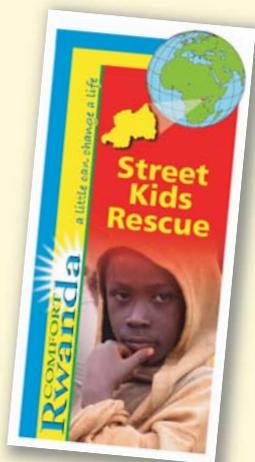
a little can change a life

Website

Find the website at www.comfortranda.org.uk
You can now contact us or give to your chosen project on line.

Ceilidh

In aid of Street Kids Rescue project.



There will be a ceilidh with live music, food and a chance to hear and see news of the Street Kids Rescue project on **Saturday 24th February at 7.30 – 11.00 pm.** *The ceilidh will be at the Church of God, Kilsyth, tickets £6 (concessions £4, family £14).*

We would really value your presence and if you can bring someone else along please do. Tickets at the door but it would help preparation if you let us know you're coming. 01236 452798 for more details (Siubhan).

Change of address

Please note that all mail for Comfort Rwanda or for Callum Henderson should now go to:

82, Arden Grove, Kilsyth,
G65 9NU, Scotland, UK.
(Phone number stays the same)

Newsletter - February 2007

First Charity Shop Opens!



We are greatly blessed by the successful opening of the first Comfort Rwanda charity shop. Situated at 63 South Bridge Street, Airdrie on a busy main road it sells donated goods as well as crafts from our Rwandan partners' widows groups.

The shop was set up with the help of Comfort Rwanda supporters and businesswomen Susan Donaldson and Mary McFarlane. We are overwhelmed by the support of the local churches and Airdrie pastor Jim Martin has been a key catalyst in generating support.

The goods handed in, the increasing number of volunteers helping and good sales have given us hope that the shop will be a great source of help and see many lives changed. The first grant of £1500 from shop proceeds has been sent, half for education needs and half will go towards the street kids rescue project.

A huge, massive thank-you to all those who have helped! Please pray that God will give us wisdom as to when and where to open further Comfort Rwanda charity shops.

Work at Bugesera begins

The area of Bugesera, about 25kms south of Kigali saw some of the worst atrocities during the genocide. It is also the most prone area to drought in Rwanda. Comfort Rwanda has twice been involved with supporting Solace Ministries widows' groups there during times of drought and famine, but we are very excited by the start of a major integrated project designed to provide a wide range of help and support to the widows and orphans of Bugesera.

The freshly planted banana tree (opposite) is one of hundreds of fruit trees being planted, along with a solar powered well, a cattle shed and a Fresian stocked cattle herd, creating a training and demonstration farm. There will also be a programme of education support and house building. The project is attracting some wonderful support for which we thank them and praise God. We are trusting that the three communities of widows and orphans at Kayumba, Nyamata and Ntarama will find their dreams fulfilled and their lives enriched as they are resourced to build towards a hope and a future. Please pray for the success of this project and that it will provide for the groups and be a channel for healing.



"... the orphan and the widow ... shall come and eat and be satisfied, in order that the Lord your God may bless you in all the work of your hand which you do" Deut 14:29

Kabuga continues to be blessed

The project at Kabuga continues to be blessed by God. Widows and orphans like Placidia (who was held captive and raped for three days during the genocide before being macheted and thrown in a mass grave, but survived and was rescued after 4 days in the grave), are receiving the benefits of the new well, the cattle and the crops. The cattle are reproducing and the milk yield is excellent. The solar power is working well and is providing enough electricity for Solace to be considering adding a refrigeration and pasteurisation unit to the project powered by the panels already in place. The well is producing good quality and a good quantity of water and crops are being sold to provide income for the widows group.



Orphans of the Kabuga group enjoy the supply of fresh water.

Sewing project graduates

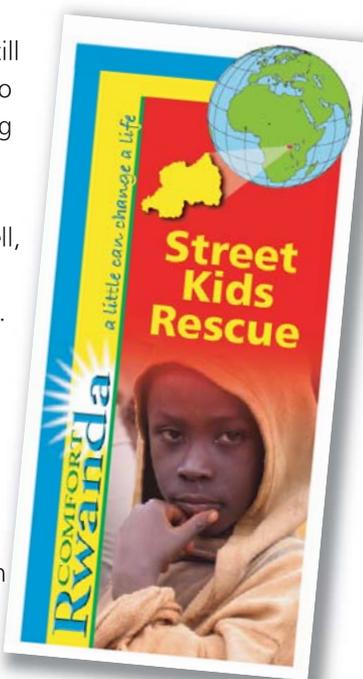


Several years ago Comfort Rwanda funded the purchase of sewing machines and a sewing trainer for a project helping widows at The Living Church, Gatenga. Last year further machines were bought and the project is now bearing good fruit.. Eighteen widows graduated from the training in January and received certificates in a service covered by Rwandan national news. A new intake of 25 widows have now begun.

Street Kids Rescue

The Street Kids Rescue project is still going wonderfully. Many kids, who a few months ago were wondering the streets sniffing glue, drinking alcohol and stealing are now working hard at school, eating well, integrating into the church and looking forward to a bright future. The third phase of the project will put some vocational training and workshops in place and is due to start very soon.

The project is entirely financed by Comfort Rwanda at £800 a month and if you would like to support one place on the project at £8 a month please let us know.



Pastor's training

Around 50 pastors attended the New Year conference at which Phil Arbon from Paisley taught on "The House of God" and Callum Henderson on "Pastoring". In the evenings there was a New Year Convention and Paul Ndahigwa of The Living Church reports that both conference and convention have borne fruit among the pastors and people. The pastors are seen below along with some of the street kids who liked to sneak into the conference!



Beauty From Ashes release

God willing, the book "Beauty from Ashes", will be released on April 11th. The book is written by Comfort Rwanda chairman, Callum Henderson, and tells the stories of survivors from 1994. The book has received some good reviews and will be available either direct from Comfort Rwanda or at Christian bookshops and possibly the web. Callum is hoping to introduce the book wherever possible and use it as an opportunity to promote the cause of those we are helping in Rwanda. So if you can find an opening for a slot on the "book tour" please contact Comfort Rwanda.