

### New Partnership

We are delighted that Comfort Rwanda has developed a new partnership to work in the west of Rwanda. Ben Kayumba is developing an organisation "Good News International" that will work in partnership with ourselves and the Free Methodist church in the Karongi district south of Kibuye. We have worked in the area before at a place called Bisesero and hope to start building a small village over the next 12 months. The Free Methodist bishop of Rwanda, Samuel Kayinamura is a lovely man who has a heart to build communities which promote reconciliation and help for the poor and is very supportive of the partnership.

### DR Congo

There are exciting developments in DR Congo. We have bought 4 hectares of land through Comfort Congo with the expectation, God willing, of another hectare to follow. The land will be farmed by refugees from the fighting and raping of Northern Kivu. Carys Williamson from Dollar has spent three months in Congo helping re-equip and re-energise two sewing projects (they have also set up a wedding dress hire business through donated wedding attire) and four craft and stove making projects.

One of our big concerns is support for women giving birth and women who have been raped. Amy and Eliezer Haguma have set up "Valued" ([www.valued.org.uk](http://www.valued.org.uk)) to provide focus to the drive to raise funding for a maternity unit and surgery and medical care for raped women.

### Visits to Rwanda

We have had tremendous visits to Rwanda over the last few months. In April a group from Bishopbriggs Community Church went out to help set up the New Partnership for Karongi district. In June pupils and teachers from Kilsyth Academy got stuck in to everything from painting walls in the VTC, building rockets with schoolchildren in Mutara and multiple activities with the Street Kids Rescue/ Friends of Jesus. In July a group of 25 spent time up in Mutara where St Mungos, Balerno are developing relationships with the churches, saw progress in building and bee keeping projects at Jari where Dumbarton Rock church are active and exhausted themselves with the primary school kids at Gakagati. One more group visit is planned this year. 2012 visits are now being planned – please be in touch **now** if interested.

## Newsletter – September 2011



### Ihumure Vocational Training College

The Ihumure Vocational Training College is being built to equip ex-street kids and other disadvantaged youth with vocational and technical skills to help them enter good employment, escape the poverty trap and help build the country which is short of skilled labour. Progress has been steady over the last few months and the structure of the Ihumure VTC is now complete. Informal training should begin at the end of this year and then about a year from now, God willing, a principal and technical expert from German organisation Christian Services International will take on a three year stint to help develop the college and capacity build local ownership and running of the college. If you are trained and skilled in any of the areas below you may be able to spend time in Rwanda working at the facility.

**Computing – Welding – Electrics – Mechanics**

**STREET KIDS VOCATIONAL TRAINING COLLEGE  
TOOLS NEEDED TO FILL A CONTAINER  
DONATIONS CAN BE HANDED INTO ANY COMFORT  
RWANDA SHOP OR CALL FOR AN UPLIFT  
THANK YOU!!!**

**Hairdressing – Carpentry – Plumbing – Building  
Painting & Decorating**

## Healing and Reconciliation Housing

There are now 45 houses fully or nearly completed in this remarkable project. One man said "I was a servant of Satan – the light had not come to me. I joined the group that was killing Tutsis and looting their wealth. But I came out of these things and I have received Jesus as my personal Saviour". Another called Rukayija, said; "The work here is to reconcile. Those who have the heart and are ashamed of what they did can work together. God made us come out of the prison and be reconciled. When I came from the prison I found this lady had no house because we had broken it down, so we started to build her a new home."



A woman with her new home in Kamonyi – Built by members of the healed community including those who destroyed her family and home



It was a joy to see many many people respond to the gospel and receive healing during the outreach which took place at the CTCR. Reports from Gitarama and Nyamirama indicate that many churches have had people added to their fellowship in the aftermath of the outreach.

## Accident

Thank-you for all your support concerning the recent tragic accident in which the church driver was killed along with three people in the other vehicle. Two of those injured from the Living Church are still recovering. Thank-you for contributions to the hospital costs.

## NEWS CLIP

- Ndahigwa Paul will be with us, God willing, from 29th October until November 14<sup>th</sup>. He will be visiting churches and supporters of Comfort Rwanda and we will have a ceilidh in his honour on the 5<sup>th</sup> or 12<sup>th</sup> of November. Details to follow.
- Check out this link to see the progress of some youth who were on the street kids project - <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vwVhwN2gYWc>
- **2010 Annual Report is now available! It has full details of projects, partners and finance. Contact us for a copy or download from our website.**

Although there have been some difficulties in getting a really good flow of reports and letters from the street kids rescue sponsorship it is good to know that the sponsorship programme is very very important. This is a letter received recently from one of the sponsored children.

*Hello, praise God, my names are Nyinawumuntu Grace. I am 15 years old and I'm in Senior 2. I'm very glad to know you, with my family. Glory be to God. I love God and I love praying. I don't have either parent. My father died in 2006 and my mother died in 2005 and I thank God for protecting me. We are nine in our family, seven are boys and two are girls. We stay with our brothers and God helped us and protected us. I used to think that I have no parents and felt lonely and I felt no one could take care of me, and I started praying and started loving people but whenever I remembered that I had no parents it hurt me and I said to God, "Please God, heal my hurt and my wounded heart and give me a pure heart." That's when I entered the program at L'Eglise Vivante in Gatenga in Friends of Jesus (the street kids rescue project) and I was very happy. Until now they have paid my school fees. Amen. Then God proved that I have second parents because the first parent is God who is in heaven and you're the second parents. I'm fine though I have small problems because I am an orphan but the bible says, "Blessed are the poor in spirit for theirs is the kingdom." And another thing, "The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom." And I hope to see you when you come to Rwanda Thank you, God bless you, and we welcome you in Jesus' name, and I continue praying for you, as you continue to pray for us too. Amen.*

We are very keen to get more sponsors for the kids – if you can give £20 a month to change the life of a street kid please get in touch on 01236 827251/738067 or [enquiry@comfortwanda.org.uk](mailto:enquiry@comfortwanda.org.uk)

Kids showing off their gymnastics

