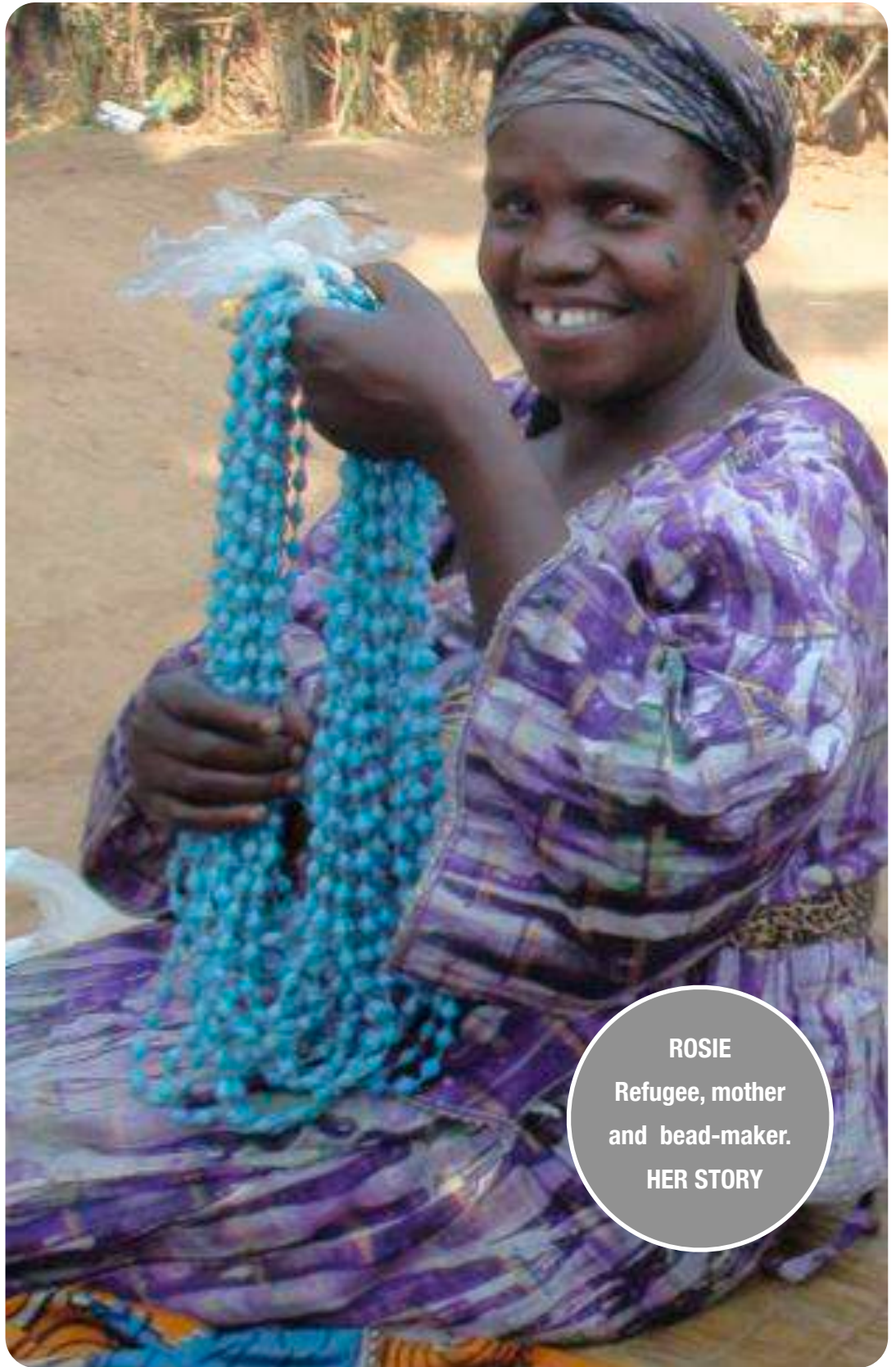


# 7 1 0 2 4 E C O N O M Y



**ROSIE**  
Refugee, mother  
and bead-maker.  
**HER STORY**

## THIS ISSUE:

Bill & Norma report on their timely visit to our partner projects in Nakivale, Kibogo, Kyabyoma, Kamwenge and Arua, Uganda.

## A DAY IN THE LIFE OF ONE HOPE SCHOOL STUDENT

Meet 15 year old Diane, one of 30 original students still attending our school in Nakivale Refugee Settlement.

## A HAPPY DAY IN KIBOGO VILLAGE

Exciting things happening in this remote village where a HOPE School is transforming the region.



# BEAD LADIES



## War, rape, loss & atrocities

has not destroyed these women, nor has it deterred them from pursuing a God given opportunity when it comes. They see making beads as a privilege which they enjoy, and also make some money to improve their life.

HOPE has sold \$23,500 worth of beads since 2009. Your purchase does make a real difference!

## Rosie:

**Her story is heart breaking.  
Her courage is Inspiring.**

With the bead women gathered together, we listened with open hearts and ears to hear each of their personal stories of the tragedy and courage which brought them far from their beloved country to Nakivale refugee settlement, where upto 90,000 people now call home.

Rosie's story broke our hearts and we wept together with her as she unfolded her story. Rosie was happily married with 8 beautiful children until one fateful night in 2011 when the Congolese Government soldiers smashed down her door, kidnapped her husband and one of her sons, then proceeded to brutally rape her. In the ensuing turmoil and frantic search for her children, she managed to find only 3. Some time after she arrived in Nakivale, she was reunited with another one of her children who had been swept up by neighbours and taken to the safety of the refugee camp. She has never seen her husband or other 4 children since.

As an Australian mother, it is unimaginable to even dream about this happening to me, but the reality is that thousands upon thousands of women suffer

these tragedies. It is our privilege at Australia HOPE International to stand with some of these women whose tenacity of faith and resilience is awe inspiring.

One way we can help them, is to sell the beautiful beads at our shop 'Jambo Sana', 72 Main Road, Nairne. 97% of the funds raised from the selling of these beads goes directly back to these women, to buy food, clothes, seeds, hoes and among many other things, paying for their children to attend secondary school.

If you would like to help, you may wish to visit the Jambo Sana shop and purchase some beads, or sell some yourself to your friends, or host a "Beads of HOPE" party at your place. If you would like to hear more of these women's stories, we would love to give you a FREE DVD which we recorded at the refugee camp.

**Norma Osborne**

**For more information or to collect your free dvd, please ring 81880398 or email [norma@ahi.org.au](mailto:norma@ahi.org.au) or visit Jambo Sana, open Wed-Friday 10-4 or Saturdays 10-2.**

You can view our bead range ...

[CLICK HERE](#)

Or go to [www.jambosana.com.au](http://www.jambosana.com.au)

**Norma  
and the 'bead  
ladies'. Ruth,  
Adele, Jen, Rosie  
& Odetta**





# DIANE: ONE CHILD'S STORY

## Education is Transformation

For an African child, education is a serious goal, a dream to be pursued at all costs. For 700 refugee children, their dream is realised at the Nakivale HOPE School. Dianne, and 70 other refugee children were in the first class held under a tarpaulin in 2007.



## To a refugee child, Nakivale is 'a promised land', especially in the HOPE School

Our hearts went out to the 70 children who became the inaugural students of the HOPE School in Nakivale. The first school house made of mud collapsed in a storm, then they sat under a UN tarpaulin. Today they proudly attend a 12 classroom 700 student school with caring and committed teachers.

In December we interviewed some of the children to get their stories of why they were in the camp, and what they remember of their homeland.

Diane was nine when conflict broke out around her village in Rwanda. She fled amidst gunfire and terror; most of her family were killed except an aunty and an uncle. The memory of the loss of her grandparents is the most painful for her.

Asked how she got to Nakivale, she has little memory except that she walked day and night for many days with other survivors.

I asked Diane why she looked sad in the photo (above) from 2007.

"Because I had an empty belly" she said, as did all the other children; they were all so hungry. This led to my next question "So do you have breakfast Dianne?" (after explaining what breakfast was!) "No" she said. "Do you have lunch at school?" "No" again. "Do you have supper at night?" "Yes, most times".

I learnt that if she and her carers do not go and dig, they do not eat. But despite the apparent lack of food and relying on the World Food Program to bring in maize flour each month, they consider their life as blessed, because in Nakivale, there are no guns, or fear of being scattered away.

Diane is now 15 yrs old, is in Primary 6, and wants to be a nurse, because she sees the great work the nurses do in the camp.

**"gunshots  
dead bodies  
and nights of  
walking"**

## Life is still hard but 6 years in a HOPE School makes an amazing difference!



2007



2013

Ruthy



2007



2013

James



2007



2013

Florence



# KIBOGO CELEBRATES

## In One Big Day...

We were greeted with the results of weeks, months and years of rewarding work and hundreds of happy children.



## The River Mpanga no longer separates two regions and will no longer take lives in the wet season flood waters

After 8 drownings HOPE was determined to build a bridge over the river to make a safe way for villagers to get from the other side to the church, the Good Hope Health Clinic, and a market. We received just one donation for this work, and one for the painting, but it was enough.

The opening celebrations were a formal and happy time for hundreds who came to hear speeches and see the delegation to a team for keeping the bridge safe and maintained.

It's amazing what a little support from Australia can do!

### 2 communities joined

Following the bridge opening, the Kibogo HOPE School has enrolled many new students from the previously isolated village.

## Hundreds of Students acknowledged for their Achievements in 2013

Our big day in Kibogo included laying a foundation stone for a new community Hall/ Church building, meetings with our engineer, a spontaneous dance celebration, and the end of term award presentations.

Both students and teachers showed great pride in receiving and presenting awards which may have only been a pen, or some paper, but

the message was clear. Despite the hardship of life for African village children, their school experience was changing things for the better.

But we have much to do! A secondary vocational school, school fuel efficient stove kitchen, boarding houses, a library, a computer room, solar power, water bores and a Bio Gas Project are some of the key areas waiting for development.

Indeed, the fuel for our motivation to meet the future challenges comes from the children themselves. Their hearts are bursting with hope, enthusiasm and pride in their education, so we are spurred on to support them with all we can in giving them a future.

We now have a nearly completed House of HOPE in the school grounds for Australian visitors. Our prayer is that people with teaching, medical, agricultural, building and administrative skills will come and visit this project and be part of the development journey.



### On bridge opening day

An exciting soccer match was held between the 2 newly joined villages. Bill presented a goat as the trophy to Kibogo who won 2:0. We have since purchased soccer uniforms for both sides as they many weren't wearing too much for the match!



Home and out of uniform in Kibogo





## Building Building Building!

A successful grant of \$30,000 from DAP Australia High Commission in Nairobi, was a great boost to urgently needed finishing work on 2 HOPE Schools. Nakivale HOPE School (2 right) has now all walls of 12 rooms plastered and rendered, and Ebenezer HOPE School in Kitokye village is having floors and plastering/rendering completed. This work was urgent as several years of bare mud brick walls exposed to the wet seasons greatly weakens them.

Funds from the CFC Murray bridge BIG BID Auction and Norma's Pasty Bake provided \$33,000 which is being spent on 2 new fully completed classrooms (3 right) in Nakivale HOPE School.

## Forests - Funding - Food

Children do not learn well on empty stomachs. And most children in HOPE Schools do not eat all day. We are currently considering raising funds from forestry in Uganda to fulfill this need. Our picture below of the P1 class at Kyabyoma Primary School tells it all. Behind the children on the 6 acres of school land is our Eucalypt trial plantation.

These 5,000 trees will be worth around \$200,000 in 5 years after harvesting for

We are excited about this building work, and look to other projects where funds are needed. Kyabyoma HOPE School (1 right) has had a P1 class mud room collapse in the wet season, an alert that new safe permanent rooms must be built there. Sinichi Suzuki said 'Where love is deep, there is much to do!'

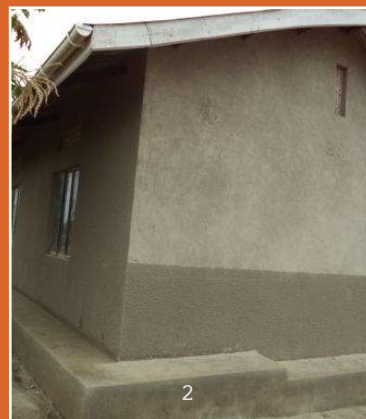
Work has been steadily progressing as funds become available in Kibogo HOPE School, with recent work (4 right) aimed at fitting all windows with glass and working on rendering and plastering of all walls.

The Ugandan Army gave HOPE 3 disused houses on former refugee camp land where several teachers now reside, just 3 kms from the Kibogo School. With \$10,000 we can renovate these structures and make them beautiful for our dedicated teachers who give

electricity poles for Southern Sudan or Uganda.

Currently we are seeking funds for establishing over 150 acres of forest which is a strategy we are considering to make all HOPE Schools self sustaining. And along the way, students can learn forestry, carpentry and furniture making as vocational training.

It is planned that we also raise funds for other ongoing HOPE school costs including paying teachers, books and curriculum.



*"Where Love is Deep;  
there is much to do"*  
Sinichi Suzuki





These 3 guys are doing this



**RIDING BICYCLES FROM WESTERN TO EASTERN-MOST POINTS ON THE AUSTRALIAN CONTINENT, CROSSING FOUR DESERTS AND COVERING MORE THAN 5600KM IN 6 WEEKS.**  
-- Our Goal --

For them!



Major Sponsors

**Follow the action with this amazing fundraiser...**

The AHI/HCLS Project in Bunia DR Congo needs all the support it can get, and this fundraiser inspired and coordinated by Steve Schoemaker will give businesses and people the best chance to support 450 war and AIDS orphans in Congo.

Scheduled for July/August this year, you can find out more, SPONOR or DONATE and follow the progress online at [www.hopeacrossaustralia.com](http://www.hopeacrossaustralia.com)

**HELP US HELP THEM!**

**Abandoned Widow's and Orphans Dig Food Gardens on our 150 acres**

Changes to AusAID following the last election contributed to HOPE missing out on a grant to establish a forest on our land at Kamwenge in western Uganda.

Until funds are available, we have permitted well over 150 widows, orphans and destitute landless families to dig a food garden each for their survival. Small plots are allocated by our CVM partners John and Kaazi, and many times they have to clear the land first.



This is not only providing HOPE for these people, but also it prepares the land for forest plantation in the future.

A big challenge for the gardeners is the continual raiding of their harvests by monkeys. A transistor radio is left on all night and coats are hung on branches in an effort to deter these unwanted hungry local inhabitants.

**Africa Frontier Mission News**  
(a non tax deductible project)

Jono Osborne will have a separate newsletter by Robbie Mayne coming out regularly to report on the exciting things happening from his new base in Arua, Northern Uganda.

**HOPE Sponsorship rates increase**

HOPE has held sponsorship rates down for several years now, but the falling Australian dollar and inflation in Africa have required us to lift rates to help our partners cope with the rising costs of funding AHI Projects. Please note that all new sponsorships will be at the new rates below, and existing sponsors are invited to pay at the new rates from now on.

We ask all sponsors to advise our office of a decision to pay at the new rates, thankyou!

- NEW SPONSORSHIP RATES FOR...**
- CHILD:** \$45 per month
  - CHILD IN SECONDARY** \$60 per month
  - WIDOW:** \$60 per month
  - CLASS:** \$145 per month (\*or any amount)

**Australia HOPE INTERNATIONAL**

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HELPING OTHERS POSSESS EMPOWERMENT