

#ChallengeYourself in 2016 for African Revival!

Annual Golf Day Thursday 21st April 2016

Following many fantastic years at the award-winning Stoke Park we are changing the location of our golf day for 2016 and are taking up the kind offer to hold our event at the Warren Estate, near Maldon. *Enter your team today!*

RideLondon-Surrey 100 Sunday 31st July 2016

The UK's best festival of cycling – a 100 mile closed road route through the capital and leafy suburbs. *Get your place now!*

Climb Kilimanjaro 13th-23rd October 2016

Join us for an adventure of a lifetime as we scale Africa's highest peak. *Register to race to the roof of Africa!*



African Revival

Winter Newsletter | Jan 2016 | Issue 28



School Demonstration Gardens: high hopes for 2016!

At the end of 2015, we distributed the first proceeds from our School Garden project amongst members of the parents' groups. While the groups encountered challenges throughout the year, particularly from a prolonged drought which affected crop yield, they still succeeded in generating a good profit from their farming activities. A portion of the money was reinvested back into the garden and school, and the rest shared between the group members.

At the start of the project, each member set savings goals for their profits. Most members included paying their children's school fees as a top priority, as well as saving for future medical needs and investing in their home farming or business. Bosco, part of the marketing team at the Lujoro Primary School Demonstration Garden, hopes to use the profits to increase his agricultural

productivity at home in 2016:

"I will use part of the money to buy two pigs. So I will be keeping pigs. And also part of the money I will use to pay the exam fees for the children."

As well as determining the best use of their profits, parents' groups have been busy choosing which crops to plant this year and planning their farming activities to ensure that they maintain a high level of productivity. We wish them the best of luck in 2016 and hope they enjoy fruitful harvests!



"My wish for 2016 is this. I want to change from this humble farming (by hand) to some simple machine techniques, where I use a cow to plough. I want to be a commercial farmer."

- Alice, School Garden member, Labala Primary School

Meet Maxwell!

Maxwell joined African Revival in January 2015 as an Early Childhood Development (ECD) Monitor and is one of our staff implementing the Jumpstart! ECD Programme. Here, Maxwell gives us an insight into his work with African Revival:

I joined African Revival because I wanted a new job with opportunities to learn and grow. African Revival, and my position in particular, is an excellent match for my skills in promoting access to quality education for vulnerable children.

I have many different responsibilities in my role. I conduct community sensitization to raise awareness about the Jumpstart! programme and the importance of early childhood development. I am the link between the community, nursery schools, African Revival and the District Education Officer. Furthermore, I support the nursery teachers in lesson planning to ensure that the quality of education in our Jumpstart! nursery centers remains high.



The best thing about African Revival is that the organisation does not only help children and the community, but it also does a lot for staff development. I also enjoy being with all the amazing staff who work together as a team. This makes my work easy and enjoyable.

I love so much that this work with African Revival is giving me the opportunity to interact with disadvantaged children and help them realise their full potential.



Play into the New Year with our Jumpstart! playgrounds

In 2016, we will complete the construction of four playgrounds in Nwoya District, as part of our Jumpstart! programme, which is implemented in partnership with East African Playgrounds, and funded by the UK Department for International Development's UK Aid Match grant, made possible by you – as the government matched all donations to our Jumpstart! appeal pound for pound.

The playgrounds reflect the local environment in northern Uganda, so they are familiar to the children. As well as the usual seesaws and swings, pupils will be

"By providing an environment that encourages unstructured play, the playgrounds encourage children to think for themselves, thus gaining vital problem solving skills"

- Richard Ayella, Education Programme Coordinator

able to ride model elephants, giraffes and bodas (motorbike taxis which are a common type of transport in Uganda). Plenty of excitement for your average school day!

The playgrounds will provide children with an engaging, stimulating outside space that will allow them to play, explore and develop in a safe environment. Learning environments make a huge difference to a child's learning, and we now know that stimulation in early childhood is crucial to brain development and school readiness.

Overall, our goal is to improve the quality of nursery education in a holistic manner – by focusing on all aspects of a child's learning experience, both inside and outside the classroom.



Thank you....

A huge thank you to everyone who supported our fundraising last year. Our annual ball, held in October with a 'Secret Agent' theme, raised a whopping **£125,000!**

We were also delighted to host a private exhibition at Pioneer Underwriters in November with artist Emily Kirby, who was born in Zambia. The evening was a great opportunity to spread the word about our work whilst admiring Emily's beautiful art.

