



FRIENDS OF RWANDAN RUGBY NEWSLETTER SPECIAL EDITION MAY 2023 – RUGBY FOUNDATIONS TOUR



26th May 2023

17 volunteers flew from Heathrow to Kigali with RwandAir carrying 37 x23kg bags of donated kit. It was lovely to have some families on the trip. Emma and Deena, who founded the charity, joined us along with their children, Pippa and Daisy. Matt and Emma came with their children Camron and Jake.

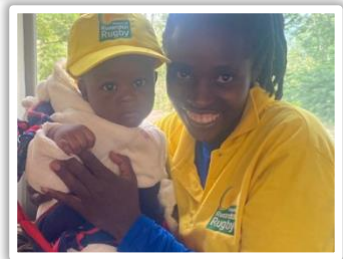


27th May 2022

We landed at 7am and spent the morning sorting kit at the hotel before heading to the Kinamba project in the afternoon to play tag rugby with the children. Jake impressed us with his traditional Rwandan dance when he was invited to join the dance group.



On Sunday 28th, after a visit to the Genocide Memorial Museum, we headed to Karongi District - a stunning location overlooking Lake Kivu- where we would be introducing tag rugby to primary schools. Our ever-growing team of RDOs joined us and were delighted with their new jackets provided by Rhino Sport.



Our very youngest RDO – baby Ragnar!.

29th – 31st May 2022

We spent three days working with hundreds of pupils from four local primary schools. The children had never seen a rugby ball before but they quickly learned the game and by Thursday we had 8 teams ready to play in a tag rugby tournament.



Darren gave some of the Shelford RFC kit he had brought to the schools



Shelford v Senghenydd!



Our volunteer coaches ran some training sessions to improve the coaching skills of our RDOs.



Matt and Tom also ran a training for the RDOs about our new program, 'Rugby y'Abana Bato' which is for nursery and lower primary aged children.

1st June 2022

Tournament Day! 80 children from four schools. Many of the schools arrived with a fan club of supporters so it was an exciting morning! Congratulations to GS Nyegabo for winning the girls' tournament and EP Gatwaro for winning the boys' tournament. And thanks to Pippa, Daisy and Jake for presenting the trophies!



R&R time- a beer by the lake, swimming in the lake and a boat trip to Bat Island!



On our final day back in Kigali, Steve Jones, a WRU Coach Referee, ran a fabulous Referee Training course. It included practical sessions on the scrum, lineout, breakdown with a focus on referee positioning and player safety. Thanks also to Darren, Tom, Tina and Glyn who helped out.



The tour ended with a farewell dinner at Sole Luna Italian Restaurant.



Thank you Group of 2023. Over 900kg of kit taken out and we now have 18 skilled RDOs that benefitted greatly from the tour.

Where shall we go next year? And who's coming?



Check out Tom's and Darren's STARTER!! (And Tina's face!)

#1for1for1 - £1 pays for 1 child to have regular rugby coaching for 1 year. Help us reach more children by donating at <https://cafdonate.cafonline.org/19247#!/DonationDetails> <https://friendsofrwandanrugby.com> info@friendsofrwandanrugby.org.uk



@rwandanrugby

