



2025 has started well for our RDOs who have been busy delivering hundreds of sessions in primary schools, secondary schools and local community groups and clubs.

In January we were delighted to have two volunteers from the UK working with the RDOs for nearly two months. Iskander and Harry are taking a gap year before starting university and asked if they could volunteer for FoRR in Rwanda.

Over the two months they supported Ernestine, Didier and Aisha in Kigali visiting schools and clubs and assisting with the training. They also took part in a tag rugby tournament for community groups in Kigali.

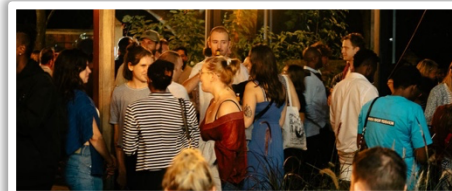
They travelled to Musanze to support David and to help Kamanda with a Rugby y'Abana Bato training and went to Karongi with Kamanda and Rachel to assist with the Tag for Teachers training.

They even managed to go all the way to Rusizi to work with Rachel at the schools and to coach school teams and Resilience RFC. In Rusizi they visited the Isooko women's cooperative to collect the tag belts the ladies have been making for FoRR.

Iskander's mother is the British High Commissioner in Rwanda and they arranged for a load of kit to be brought to Rwanda with the help of SOS KitAid. This kit was formally presented to the Ministry of Sports and the Rwanda Rugby Federation.



Iskander and Harry also arranged a social event at the French Cultural centre to watch the Six Nations match between England and France. Over 200 people attended and raised £300 for FoRR.



In February, all of the RDOs came together in Kigali for a whole team meeting and a training delivered by Theoneste about integrating peace education into rugby activities. The feedback was excellent and we hope to make this an annual event



As Rachel has moved from Karongi to Rusizi district, Kamanda arranged for 12 teachers from 6 schools in Karongi to have a Tag for Teachers training so the children can continue to play tag rugby until we appoint a replacement RDO for Karongi.



In February, Assinapold arranged a tournament for 14 teams in Burera district. Thank you to David, RDO in Musanze district, who travelled to Burera to support. Congratulations to Kiribata and Kabira primary schools who won the boys' and girls' trophies.



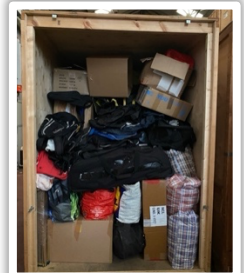
Also in February, Joseph ran a tag rugby tournament for schools in Ruhango district. Thanks to Etienne for supporting.



In March Sandrine ran tag rugby tournaments for boys and girls for ten primary schools. Thank you to Joseph who assisted. Congratulations to GS Cyarwa for winning the girls' tournament and New Vision school for winning the boys' tournament.



The trustees are busy preparing for the upcoming annual volunteers' tour to Rwanda. This year we will be in Rwanda from the 22nd -31st May and will be visiting Gicumbi district in northern province. We have collected lots of kit and our storage unit is full. We also have plans to welcome four new RDOs to the team during the tour.



Two of our volunteer coaches on this year's trip, Sam and Samuel, ran a fundraiser Bingo Night in Bristol. Benny from Shelford Rugby, who is also coming on tour this year, dropped off lots of brand new shirts for us to take to Rwanda. Glyn collected a donation of kit from Ceri from Bedwas Bears. Ceri has also sponsored T shirts for the volunteers and RDOs to wear on tour. Find out how we get on in the next newsletter!



#1for1for1 - £1 pays for 1 child to have regular rugby coaching for 1 year.

<https://friendsofrwandanrugby.com>

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