



Ladybikes INTERNATIONAL

NEWSLETTER No 6

October 2019

Our website www.ladybikes.org

ABN 11 912 436 735



Warm greetings to everyone

I have just arrived back in Australia after spending 5 weeks in East Africa and have some wonderful news, not so wonderful news and big news for the future.

WONDERFUL NEWS

We held our first trainee graduation ceremony on the Saturday 14th September. It went so well. It was very exciting to be involved in the 1st Ladybikes Trainees Graduation Ceremony on Saturday where 8 of the graduates

received their certificate of achievement. The response from a number of attendees and trainees was "very good" "wonderful" "exciting" "very professional" "enjoyable" and "first time such a ceremony has been held in Bungoma". The local TV news reporters turned up and a video was taken, plus two of us were interviewed. I was told that the video report would be on the TV news sometime in the next few days (now have a copy of the video). We are making History in Kenya. I had to pay for transport for some of the trainees' relatives to come to the Graduation as well as locals parents and friends for a boda boda fare to return home. EXPECTATIONS like this do wear you down.

Please see some wonderful photos of the graduation and the video on our website www.ladybikes.org



Ladies and Musicians arriving after walking 3 miles from the Office.



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The 8 Graduates



Sample Achievement Certificate



Jacklyne receiving her certificate



Pe receiving her certificate



Maureen giving her response on behalf of the trainees



Cutting the cake





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NOT SO WONDERFUL NEWS

It was disappointing that I was NOT able to establish the Academy (motorbike riding school) in Bungoma during this trip nor did I have time to go to Kampala in Uganda (we are planning to run a similar ladybikes program). I was able to connect using What App. with Dr. Roberts (the Ugandan Ladybikes Director) to discuss some planning and administration matters.

The Landlord of the front shop was issued with a 3 months notice (via solicitor) for the tenant to move out of the shop where we are planning to move in, hence, part of the delay. It appears the tenant is a very difficult tenant and hadn't paid his rent of over 2 years – resulting in him giving the Landlord a set of leather lounge chairs in lieu of rent money.

Gentrix (our Kenyan Supervisor) is “feeling” the pressure of managing some of the trainees. All want to ride a motorbike but not that keen on paying for the use once they have gained their licence. Five of them want to start Boda Boda riding but we only have three bikes that are currently being used for training. Hopefully by the end of October we will have 2 more motorbikes for the trainees to lease.

Unfortunately, the expected funding from Rotary District Foundation has NOT been received yet - expected funding to have come through in July. **Today (19th October) I received news that the money has been sent from America .**

BIG NEWS - Future fundraising event

Ladybikes High Tea

HOSTED BY NEWCASTLE ROTARY CLUB

Please join us on Sunday 8th March for a High Tea celebrating International Women's Day with all proceeds going to Ladybikes International.



Young women moving from absolute poverty to a sustainable living

Ladybikes aims to empower young African women to become self-employed Boda Boda riders through providing capital funding, training and operational resources.

- Silent auction
- Best national costume
- High Profile Guest Speaker
- Female Rotarian Panel
- Music & African Dancers
- Major raffle & door prizes



Sunday 8th March
2:00pm for 2:30pm start
Hexham Bowling Club
Tickets: \$39pp or
Table of 8 \$288 (\$36pp)

Join us to help raise awareness of Ladybikes and celebrate International Women's Day!

Tickets available at [Trybooking](http://Trybooking.com)

ON Sunday the 8th March 2020 we (Rotary Club of Newcastle) is conducting a fundraising event called “Ladybikes High Tea” at the Hexham Bowling Club. Arrive 2pm for a 2.30pm start. **For table bookings and individual bookings go to Trybooking.com and follow the prompts.** We are offering a very good price for the entertainment and food. We are hoping for 150 people with interesting speakers and excellent prizes.



May we encourage you to come along and not wait until next year to book. Why not book a table (cheaper price per person) for your group, organisation and church. Photo above - another female boda boda rider.



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Final Greetings - To all of those people and Rotary Clubs who have provided financial support to Ladybikes we say a special thank you again. Without this financial support "nothing happens" in changing the lives of those less fortunate than us.

Special thanks to Uxbridge Rotary Club (London) for their donation of 200 Pounds.

Bruce Foley

Founder & Director



Would you like to financially support these and other women? Right now we need an extra \$20,000 to establish the riding school, plus an extra \$6,000 to match the Foundation Grant.

DONATIONS CAN BE DIRECTED TO THE FOLLOWING**

Please consider making fortnightly, monthly, annually or a single donation to our program.

www.rawcs.org

TAX DEDUCTIBLE - KENYA Click on Projects enter **Project No. 30 -2017 -18**

- **UGANDA** Click on Projects enter **Project No. 70 -2018 -19**

Rwanda is in the process of being established (information should be available soon)

NON – TAX DEDUCTIBLE – Direct Deposit Donations

KENYA NPBS BSB 650 000 A/C 533634903 Newcastle Rotary Club

UGANDA WESTPAC BSB 032 513 A/C 355524 Ladybikes International

RWANDA To be advised

Receipts are issued for ALL donations

"Please join us in changing the lives of young disadvantaged African women"



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