

## THE OPENING OF NTSINDUKA CLASSROOMS

On Friday, May 22<sup>nd</sup> 2015 we were delighted to open the four classrooms and toilet block in the presence of the Mayor of Nyamasheke

As is our practice now, this project was done in partnership with the District and the local community. However, we are enormously grateful to the British and Foreign School Society and the Allan and Nesta Foundation whose generous funding made the building possible.

Ntsinduka is very remote, a three hour journey, much of it on steep and rugged tracks. This offers a big challenge not only for our Construction Manager, Isaiah, who travels by motor bike twice a week to oversee the work, but also for the builders, who have to transport materials from a long way away and sometimes on peoples' heads when the "road" is impassable. However, this is a challenge that the members of our team are ready to embrace because they share the Rwanda Aid philosophy that it is important to work where the help is most needed. And at Ntsinduka the classrooms were most certainly needed!

Here is a reminder of the state of the existing classrooms.



And here are the spanking new ones!



And, my goodness, what celebrations there were at the opening!

We were greeted with some exuberant singing and dancing from the children.



Then the tape is cut by the Head of Police, the Mayor, the Head of Army and the Rwanda Aid representatives.

Pictured in front of the plaque from left to right are Felicien, RA Country Manager, the Mayor of Nyamasheke, David, the Sector Executive Secretary and the builder



After these celebrations we repaired to the sector centre where over 500 people were gathered to greet the new Mayor and to thank us for their classrooms. We found it a really moving occasion and it was wonderful for our team to be presented with a framed "Certificate of Recognition" for their "outstanding commitment and tireless support".