



**FRIENDS OF
IBBA GIRLS SCHOOL
SOUTH SUDAN**

NEWSLETTER
February 2016

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DONATE NOW



Cheques Payable to: Friends of Ibba Girls School
Send to: 12 Ash Grove, Chinley, High Peak, SK23
6BQ

Gary Bandy (Honorary Treasurer)
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moneygiving

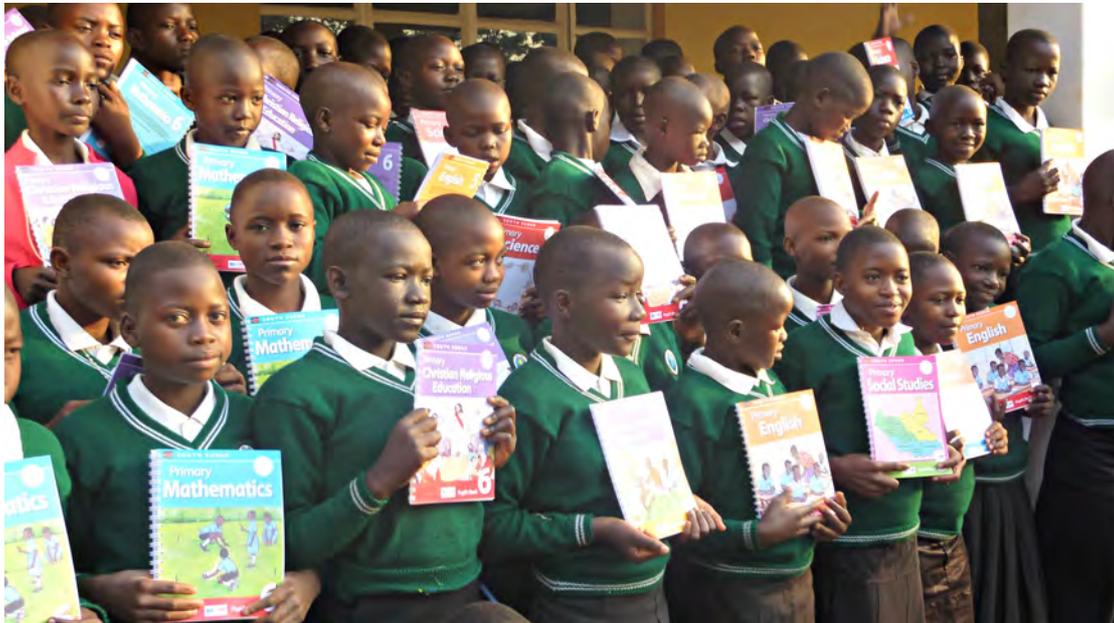
If you feel you're able to contribute please do so through our link [HERE](#) to Virgin Money Giving! Every contribution counts and anything you do will make a huge difference to our cause! Thank you, from all of us.



3 Cheers for 3 Years - Then Add 27!

We welcome all of you to join us in celebrating, as Ibba Girls Boarding School (IGBS) is now open for its third consecutive year!

Read on for the 3 main things that we're rejoicing over, and to discover what support the school most urgently needs at this time.



IGBS has now expanded to a capacity of 120 girl students. Some of them are here holding their precious new textbooks, which will enable them to study better both in and after class.

1. The first and loudest cheer of all!

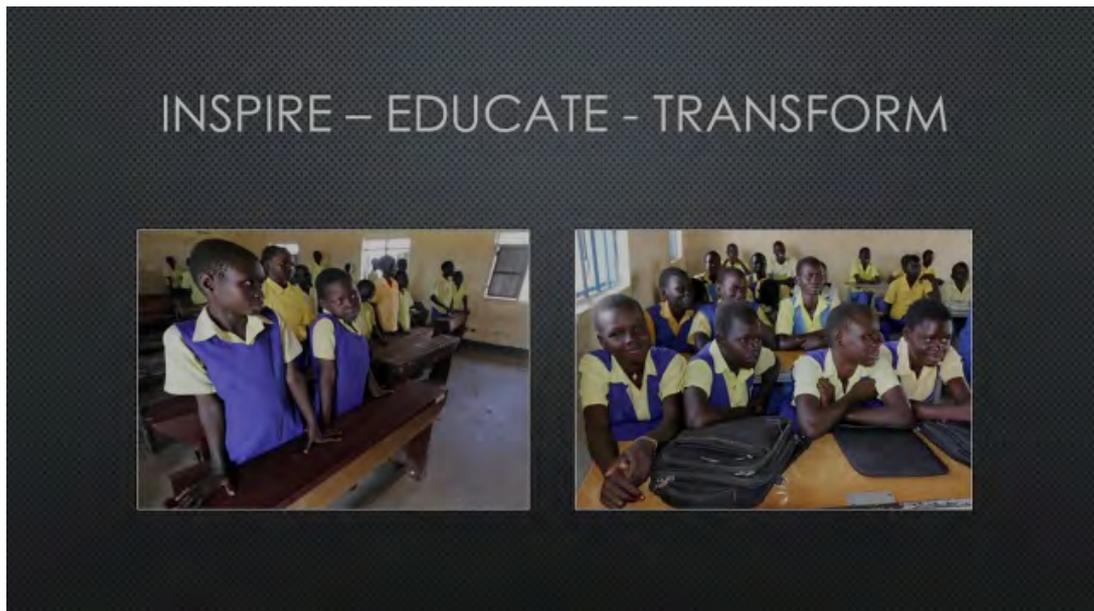
Year 3 Term 1 has just started at IGBS, with all school staff and most of our existing 83 girl students already returned, despite security and travel disruptions in many parts of South Sudan.

In addition, the third cohort of new girls is also arriving to enrol, bringing the school's total to around 100 girl students so far, spanning Primary Levels 4 to 6.

The School's re-opening for Year 3 is a significant achievement given the unrest that parts of South Sudan are facing, though thankfully Ibba itself has remained mainly peaceful and stable.

The decision to re-open has not been taken lightly, but was made in consultation with the IGBS Board of Governors, and with South Sudanese leaders from local and state level government, the churches, and grassroots organisations on the ground, and with the added precaution of extra security measures and personnel for the school.

In a dark and difficult time for South Sudan, the fact that 120 girls can continue to receive a quality education is a ray of hope indeed.



View a video update on the challenges of continuing to provide education in the difficult South Sudanese context, from our partner organisation [Girls' Education South Sudan](#)

1. A school visit by two FIGS Trustees

The second cheer is for the fact that John Benington and Jean Hartley, two Trustees of Friends of Ibba Girls School (FIGS), have managed to visit Ibba again this February, after 12 months of instability and insecurity which made travel too risky last year.



IGBS continues to be a long-term partnership between the local community, South Sudanese stakeholders, and committed Friends and supporters from the UK and worldwide.

John and Jean brought with them a consignment of textbooks, dictionaries, a Xerox printer, laptop computers, first aid equipment, and other items (all donated by FIGS supporters from around the world).

They were greeted on arrival at the school with singing, dancing and spontaneous applause when the books and equipment were handed over. They are still in South Sudan, partnering with school governors, staff and students to help get facilities and routines up and running for this term. Click [here](#) to read their day-by-day diary updates from Ibba.

3. Add a third cheer for you, our supporters!

Finally, a third cheer is for each one of you who has made the school's reopening possible. Thank you for standing in solidarity with the students, staying informed, raising awareness, and giving time and money.

A number of you also chose to join in with our Wear It Green campaign on Wednesday 17 February, to mark the milestone of the school's reopening together.

And Margaret Eddershaw sent in this lovely [poem](#) to mark the occasion.



Thank you for standing in solidarity with the school and its girl students.

Please Add 27

There is now a pressing need for new Student Sponsors to make a regular donation of £27 a month or more, to support these 120 girl students including the new class of 40 ten-year-olds just arriving at the school.

So far 40 people have signed up to student sponsorships so we are now looking for another 80 Sponsors to make up the 120. **Could you be one of the 80?**

If you would like to become a Student Sponsor (or indeed to make a regular donation of whatever you can!), there is no better time – please sign up [online here](#) today, or fill out and return our [donation form](#).

Alternatively, you can write to our Honorary Treasurer Gary stating your interest in supporting the girl students, and he will take you through the steps needed to start giving.

Gary's address: Gary Bandy, Honorary FIGS Treasurer, Clover Cottage, Stubbins Lane, Chinley, High Peak, SK23 6AE.

Thank you once again for standing with these girl students, to whom education means so much. We look forward to bringing you further updates from Ibba.

With warm best wishes (it was 39 degrees in Ibba yesterday!)

Chernise Neo

Fundraising Coordinator*

Thank you!

With our best wishes and warm thanks,

John Benington Chair, on behalf of the Trustees and Friends of Ibba Girls School

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