

[Home](#)
[News & Reports](#)
[Prayer Partners](#)
[Contact us](#)
[Schools of Healing](#)
[Books, CDs & DVDs](#)
[Messages](#)
[Testimonies of Healing!](#)
[Links](#)
[About us](#)
[Coming Events](#)
[New Christian?](#)

June 2006 News

[continued](#)

Cyangugu, or rather Kemembe, (Cyangugu is really the province) is small-town Rwanda, tucked into its south-western border with the Democratic Republic of Congo. Bananas, birds and burden-bearing people string the roadsides, while the single main street is clogged with bicycles and goats, hawkers and tatter-clothed urchins. From its slopes we stare across Lake Kivu, decked in silver silk, and shot with grey wind-lines. Flecking its limpid sheen, fish-replete dugouts paddle back to more prosperous Bukavu sprawling across the Congolese shore and her steel blue hills.

We drove the five hour journey the day before, escaping orange floods in Butare, where a number of village houses had been washed away not minutes before us. We picnicked in precipitous Nyangwe forest before dragging ourselves away to descend almost a thousand metres through topiarised tea plantations, livid green against the black of the forest.



Above: Tea plantation in front of beautiful Nyungwe forest

Below: crippled boy healed



Our School of Healing was to be held in the Cathedral, a brick and tin shed that was up to the task, and came with that view! The local Hope:Rwanda committee had gathered the churches and about 120 delegates for the three-day School, who were all anticipation. What a delight to preach to the hungry! We had even managed to translate and photocopy most of the Manual which was absorbed like Cyangugu's incessant rains into its brick red soil.

We were soon among the miracles and at least a dozen were instantly healed. Fevers left and pains disappeared on the simple command to 'Be healed, in the Name of Jesus!' by the delegates praying for each other in pairs. One crippled young boy walked for the first time in months. God is so faithful!

On Saturday morning we sent the delegates to their neighbourhoods and the local hospital, from where many wonderful testimonies flowed. A dumb man began speaking, pains

dissolved, and sicknesses vanished. A bedridden lady, commanded to rise in the Name of Jesus, promptly did so, and went to take a shower! Her neighbour, seeing the miracle, gave her life to Jesus there and then.

Elsewhere, in a queue for aid, a small boy had tripped and fallen, knocking himself unconscious. The distraught mother was just carrying him to the hospital when two of our delegates arrived. 'There is a *muzungu* [white person!] in town, why not get him to pray?' suggested one. 'No!' said the other, 'WE have the authority ourselves! We have the keys!' And without further delay prayed for him, and he awoke, rose to his feet, and promptly asked his mother for sweets.

Bron & I were taken to the Anglican Dispensary – a small cottage hospital high on a hill overlooking the lake – where we found one patient suffering from malaria and high blood pressure. Before I had finished praying for him his face lit

up like the sun! 'I am healed!' he declared. Later we learned that he had discharged himself, (to the chagrin of the superintendents, who grumbled jokingly that they were trying to run the Dispensary at a profit) so we can truly claim that we have actually emptied a hospital!

In the afternoons I was asked to preach in a 'Convention' on the subject of Hope for three days, a task which daunted me, but not the Holy Spirit, who once again rose to the occasion. More were healed, and some 50 gave their lives to Jesus in the Sunday morning service. Subsequent reports have been very positive, and we rejoice in the privilege of being able, again, to change the lives of those the Lord loves.

Meanwhile the administration work of Hope:Rwanda occupies my days. It is a roller-coaster of emotions and effectiveness. 'If you achieve 40% of your planned work, you've had a good day,' encouraged a local missionary. On those

[continued](#)



- [Home](#)
- [News & Reports](#)
- [Prayer Partners](#)
- [Contact us](#)
- [Schools of Healing](#)
- [Books, CDs & DVDs](#)
- [Messages](#)
- [Testimonies of Healing!](#)
- [Links](#)
- [About us](#)
- [Coming Events](#)
- [New Christian?](#)

June 2006 News (continued)

other days we have learned to be philosophical, 'Africa wins again!' Preaching is much easier and far more rewarding! Nevertheless, we are at peace, knowing that we are in the centre of God's will.

But now that the immediate crisis of the opening events is over, we actually have time to sleep and eat. And suddenly things start working again too! We realise that the spiritual attack in the first month was huge. But thanks to your prayers and the dogged perseverance of our team, we are seeing success upon success. So far all the visiting teams have returned rejoicing with 'an armful of sheaves', and every event has made its mark in the hearts of the Rwandan people. Over 40,000 have apparently already given their lives to Jesus! Added to that wonderful victory is the warmth and favour that we have found everywhere. We only have to mention that we are with Hope:Rwanda and hands are proffered, smiles broaden and doors open. Others tell us that 'Rwanda is different this year. There is more joy, more hope and more life.' Truly this event is changing the heart of a nation and it is a privilege to be part of it. Our prayer is that the expressed intention of the committees and pastors is realised, to do 'Hope' themselves next year! Yes, Lord!

And there is more good news. A kind supporter has offered to pay for another School of Healing, which we plan for Kigali itself on 22 - 24th June. We'll print the School of Healing Manual in Kinyarwanda, the local language, the fruit of another kind offer! We are trusting the Lord for between 500 and 1000 delegates, so please do pray that all goes smoothly, and that the administration doesn't suffer!

God has wonderfully provided for our housing too. The first few weeks were a deep-end dive into the culture, but in April we 'borrowed' the house of a missionary couple who took a month of home-leave. Their house was a cornucopia of gadgetry, ironic in a world of such intermittent power supply. But of course there was a generator! And a water tank (for when the mains is off, often days at a time), three staff, and two dogs.

Early May gave us two days in Uganda on a car-less island retreat to which we paddled in dugouts, and where we stayed in tents and were awoken by the dawn chorus instead of crashing deisels. We left too soon on another dawn, the surrounding hills emerging shyly from azure mists. Like a dancer releasing her veils, ghosts became curves became boats and reeds and pontoons and the kindly staff bearing our bags up the hill.

We returned to two other blessings - a daytrip to the National Park with our own church team who were ministering in 'Kigali-Rural', the small towns around the capital. The highlight was a pair of elephants serene by the cobalt lake at Akagera. The lowlights were pushing our mired 4WD from black bog, a puncture, and tsetse flies - the full safari experience! The second blessing was taking over the flat of a new friend, Colette, who was moving to Kenya. Two-bedrooms, it is compact, but light and airy, with fine views of city, birds and sunsets. Bron is content there. We have been showered with 'little' blessings too, which take on an improbable significance: meeting a delightful English couple who left us TWO jars of HOMEMADE marmalade; the kind gift to Bron of some glossy magazines; a TV with the God Channel; a jar a marmite left in Colette's fridge!

We are due to leave Rwanda on 25th July for UK, and then back to NZ. We hope to see as many of you as we can!

Once again, thank you so much for your love, support and prayers. We may be the ones 'on the ground', but we all share the heavenly rewards.

