

# The BALYANAKA LIGHT

THE ROTARY SWARM

Every Month, We Swarm with Purpose Brought to You by RC Wobulenzi



# TABLE OF CONTENTS

- EDITOR'S NOTE: THE FORAGER'S TRAIL

A welcome message and overview of this buzzing new newsletter

.- THE NAMUNSWA CHAMBER - STRAIGHT FROM THE ANTHILL

President James Kyeyune Mbabaali reflects on the first month of the Rotary year.

FROM THE DISTRICT WATCHTOWER

A view from the Hill - By AG Moses Ssebaggala

CLUB NEWS & EVENTS ROUNDUP

Highlights from July: Installation, partner club visits, medical outreaches & more.

WOBULENZI IS RUNNING
Launch of the Cancer run.

DIRECTORATE IN FOCUS

– service projects spotlight.

- THE SWARM STORIES - THE WARMTH BENEATH THE HILL
Family of Rotary features: member moments, celebrations & milestones.

- THE LARVAS' VOICE

Youth engagement from our Interactors and Rotaractors.

- COMMUNITY VOICES

Testimonials from the people we serve, and reflections from local leaders.

- TIHE DISTRICT DRONE
District-wide Rotary updates from Luweero and beyond.

- PHOTO GALLERY - MOMENTS THAT MOVED US

A visual recap of unforgettable moments from July.

# Editor's note

### The Forager's Trail

#### Dear Reader.

Welcome to the inaugural edition of The Balyanaka Light – The Rotary Swarm — a buzzing publication crafted to reflect the rhythm, heart, and hum of service from the anthill of Wobulenzi.

#### Why The Balyanaka?

In our Luweero culture, the white ant (enswa) is more than food . it is a symbol of purpose, teamwork, and natural rhythm. That's who we are as Rotarians. Like the Balyanaka, we gather with intention, we build with unity, and we serve with humility.

This monthly bulletin will keep you connected to the pulse of our club from President's reflections in The Namunswa Chamber, to community voices, directorate features, and the youthful wisdom of our Interactors. Every story is a trail through the anthil I and you are invited to walk with us.

In this issue, we revisit our exciting July beginnings, spotlight the Service Projects Directorate, and share a collective vision of how we plan to Unite for Good.



Thank you for joining us on this trail. May The Balyanaka Light guide your heart closer to service.

Swarming forward, **Rtn. Jesca Nabanja Nyanzi** Forager-in-Chief (Chief Editor)

### Aword from the Anthill

reflection for all readers

 When we unite for good, even

 the tinest ant helps raise a amighty anthill."

 The Balyanaka Light 

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Rtn Godfrey Mabirizi Trail Mapper (Content Curator)



Rtn Angella Nampiima Anthill Architect



Rtn Patience Kaija Nayebare Glow Keeper (Production & Distribution Coordinator)



Rtn Nabanja Jesca Nyanzi Forager-in-Chief (Chief Editor)

















# The Namunswa Chamber

President James Kyeyune Mbabaali reflects on the first month of the Rotary year.



# "The Swarm Has Begun - A Month of Purposeful Flight"

Fellow Rotarians, friends, and partners in service,

s we settle into the rhythm of the new Rotary year, I warmly greet you from the heart of our great Anthill—the Rotary Club of Wobulenzi.

This past month has been a powerful reminder of who we are: a united swarm of compassionate, committed individuals determined to serve and transform our community.

Our theme this year "Unite for Good " is not just a call to action; it is a lifestyle. In our first month, we have already witnessed teamwork in action: from aligning our leadership teams and directorates to rolling out community-based projects and reconnecting with our partner clubs. Your energy, creativity, and sense of duty have been

remarkable.

In the true spirit of the Balyanaka, we swarm with purpose.

Each Rotarian, like every ant, carries a unique role that contributes to the success of the whole colony. Whether in administration, youth service, TRF, membership, or public relations, your actions are feeding the fire of impact.

This chamber "The Namunswa Chamber "will be my way of keeping in touch with each of you monthly. I'll share insights, celebrate wins, point out areas for growth, and remind us all of the bigger picture we're shaping. Let it always echo the values of transparency, inspiration, and unity.

As we look ahead to August, let us swarm stronger

- Let's build visibility through "The Balyanaka Light."
- Let's strengthen our Interact Clubs and youth projects.
- Let's prepare earnestly for signature events like the Elderly Project and Medical Camps.
- Let us be present, active, and joyful in our fellowships.

I thank each of you for accepting your roles, showing up, and giving your best. The Anthill is alive, and we are moving forward—together.

In Service,

#### The Namunswa Rtn. James Kyeyune

Mbabaali President, Rotary Club of Wobulenzi Rotary Year 2025–2026 | Unite for Good



# From the district watchtower

#### A View from the Hill - By AG Moses Ssebaggala



Rtn. Moses Ssebaggala Assistant Governor, Area 3

ike a traveler drawn to the buzz of a vibrant anthill, I always look forward to my visits to the Rotary Club of Wobulenzi. Though nestled far from the bustle of Kampala, this anthill pulses with life, energy, and an unmistakable spirit of unity.

The building of this Rotary year began early, just like a colony prepares for the rains. The presidential installation was no ordinary gathering—it was a grand swarm, drawing guests from far and wide, even beyond a 100-mile radius. It was a fusion of traditions and leadership, bringing together government figures and representatives from the Obwakabaka bwa Buganda. A powerful and symbolic start.

From that day, the colony has been on the move. I was especially impressed by how every ant—each member—took time to understand their role in the swarm. There was clarity of purpose, alignment with both club and district goals, and early action on key initiatives like polio eradication. The energy is contagious.

I have seen once-quiet ants re-emerge from the tunnels—members returning to fellowships with renewed spirit and joy. The hill is alive with song, laughter, and service. There's a sense of discovery and belonging that makes each gathering a true swarm of purpose.

To the President, the board, and the entire Rotary colony of Wobulenzi: may your hill continue to rise strong, built by the small yet mighty efforts of each dedicated ant. As we step into August, let us carry this spirit forward—with God as our guide, and service above self as our compass.





# Club News & Events Roundup

Highlights from July: Installation, partner club visits, medical outreaches & more.

#### Health with dignity:

Rotary Brings a Healing Swarm to Wobulenzi By The Balyanaka Editorial Team

n a bright morning in July 2025, the usually bustling Wobulenzi Taxi Park transformed into a hub of compassion and care as the Rotary Club of Wobulenzi, in partnership with health professionals and well-wishers, conducted a successful free medical camp for the local community.

The camp was inspired by the Rotary theme "Unite for Good" and driven by the club's commitment to making health services accessible to all. The team worked tirelessly to offer services that included general checkups, maternal health services, pediatric care, HIV testing and counseling, and more.

WHO WE REACHED:

- 280 people received medical services
- 82 Men
- 196 Women
- 29 Children below 14 years

Notably, mosquito nets were distributed to vulnerable groups — pregnant mothers, the elderly, and young children — as a preventive step against malaria, one of the leading health burdens in Uganda.

#### **SERVICES OFFERED:**

- General medical consultations
- Blood pressure and diabetes screening
- Antenatal and postnatal care
- HIV counseling and testing
- Deworming and child health
- Minor treatment and referrals
- Health education and awareness

"We thank the Rotary Club for remembering us in the park," said one beneficiary. "Most of us don't have time or money for clinics. This was a blessing."

The event witnessed an overwhelming turnout and a strong show of solidarity from local health professionals. In fact, the number of medical volunteers exceeded expectations, with many offering services beyond their call of duty.

#### REFLECTIONS FROM THE MEDICAL CAMP

This camp was not just about medicine—it was about community. Like the balyanaka (white ants) that swarm with purpose and unity, every Rotarian, medic, and volunteer played their role in raising a mighty anthill of impact.

As one elderly woman shared with a smile, "Rotary has not just brought us medicine, but hope.



# Wobulenzi is running

#### Launch of the Cancer run.



Fr. Peter Masembe Officer Cancer run

n 19th July
2025, Uganda
flagged off this
year's Rotary Cancer
Run with renewed
commitment to
complete the Rotary
Cancer Ward at
Nsambya Hospital.
The goal is clear, every
step we take, every
vest we sell, brings us
closer to saving lives.

As the Cancer Run Day – 31st August fast approaches, the Rotary Club of Wobulenzi is sounding the call: > Let us swarm with purpose and sell as many kits as possible.

Because every vest sold is a symbol of hope — hope for a father, a mother, a child fighting silently against cancer.

This year's Cancer Run is more than a fundraiser .it is a movement of compassion and action. The funds from every kit go directly to the construction of a world-class cancer treatment facility at Nsambya, one that will serve generations of Ugandans.

#### **CALL TO ACTION:**

- Buy your vest and wear it proudly.
- Mobilize your circle





# Directorate in focus

### - service projects spotlight.

A deep dive into the vision and plans of the Service Projects Directorate.



n this month's edition of The Balyanaka Light, we shine the spotlight on the powerhouse of community impact—the Service Projects Directorate. We caught up with Rtn. Geoffrey Muhanuzi, who triples as President Elect and Director of Service Projects, to learn more about his vision, planned initiatives, and how the club intends to "Unite for Good" through impactful service.

#### Q1: Who is Rtn. Geoffrey Muhanuzi?

Tell us briefly about your Rotary journey. I'm a community-centered educator with a heart for grassroots impact. I joined the Rotary Club of Wobulenzi in 2024 during the vibrant installation of Hope Creator President Jesca Nabanja. I was sponsored by Rtn. Susan Kintu, who has mentored me from day one. Since joining, I've served as Mental Health Officer and Club Administrator, and now take on the role of Director for Service Projects. My classification—Education and Community Services—mirrors my passion for social change through learning and service.

Q2: The Service Projects Directorate seems like a huge responsibility. How will you manage, especially while serving as President-Elect?

A: It's a heavy but exciting task. Service is never a one-ant effort. Just like in the anthill, we thrive because each one contributes.. I'm privileged to work with a dynamic committee of passionate Rotarians who bring diverse skills and experience to the table. We've built a team that is not just functional but also deeply committed to delivering impact. With their support, I'm confident we'll execute projects that uplift lives across Wobulenzi and beyond.

This team of dedicated Rotarians working hand-in-hand to plan, fund, and implement life-changing initiatives consists of: Rtn. Irene Nakamatte, a champion for education and literacy, leads on school-based programs, mobilization, and stakeholder engagement. Rtn. Angella Nampiima steers health-focused efforts, including medical camps and wellness outreaches. Rtn. Geoffrey Mabirizi is tasked with mobilization, grants oversight, and project monitoring to ensure efficient execution and accountability. Rtn. Susan Kintu anchors project coordination, communication, and timely updates, while also supporting stakeholder relations. The team is further backed by Club President James Kyeyune Mbabaali, who serves as Advisor, and ofcourse you; Rtn. Brian Luwaga, who manages PR, media, and storytelling for all initiatives.

# Q3: The anthill thrives because every ant plays its part. How do you ensure every committee member is actively contributing to the success of your projects?

We operate with clarity of roles and open communication. Each member knows their space and is empowered to lead in it. We meet regularly to plan, reflect, and swarm together. Even the smallest role is significant—just like the tiniest ant strengthens the anthill.

# Q4: In the Rotary swarm, how do you balance speed and strategy-getting things done while ensuring long-term impact?

We move with purpose. We start with community needs assessments, then design projects with both short-term and lasting impact in mind. Whether it's distributing wheelchairs or improving maternal care, we aim for transformation, not just action.

# Q5. What key projects should members and partners look out for this year? We'll be strengthening our signature projects, including:

- The Medical Camps, offering free health services to under served populations, we have already had one here in wobulenzi taxi park which was agreat success
- The Elderly Care Project, championed by Rtn. Amos Kalema
- The Literacy and Education Initiative, coordinated with Rtn. Irene Nakamatte
- Water and Sanitation outreach, especially for schools
- Renovation of a new school block at bukolwa primary school.
- Maternal and child health initiatives in wobulenzi and luweero as a whole
- Partnered with Buganda Govt and IREAD to support an Early child development center in Bamunanika.

# Q6: Just as ants silently build mighty anthills, many of our community beneficiaries never get to speak. How do your projects give them a voice?

Our goal is always to serve with communities, not just for them.

We include local voices in planning, listen to their feedback after implementation, and adjust our approach accordingly. Our beneficiaries are not just recipients they are partners in change.

# Q7: The white Ants (Enswa) only swarm when the time is right. How do you determine the right moment to launch or scale a community project?

Timing matters. We analyze community readiness, resource availability, and stakeholder alignment. Like the white ants, when everything aligns humidity, soil, rain, energy we launch with full strength.

# Q8: What legacy do you hope this year's Service Projects will leavefor the club and the wider community?

I hope we'll build something lasting. A stronger classroom block, more children in school, healthier families, happy elderly citizens, stronger partnerships, visible proof that the Rotary swarm passed here. And even more, I hope our projects stir others to act with the same heart.

### Q9. What challenges do you anticipate, and how do you plan to overcome them?

Funding, weather disruptions, and sometimes limited manpower. But with strong partnerships both locally and internationally and better planning, we believe we can mitigate most risks. We'll also tap into Rotary grants notably one for Saayi adpt a village in wakiso district

# Q10: What message would you like to leave with our readers Rotarians and friends alike?

Service is a gift we all can give. Whether big or small, every effort adds up—just like the ants in an anthill. Let's keep moving together, uniting for good in the true spirit of Rotary service. I welcome everyone to join hands with us in creating real, visible change in the communities we serve. Every project is a chance to change a life. Whether it's distributing a mosquito net to pregnant mothers, teaching a child to read, or providing a warm blanket to an elderly—we're building stronger communities together.

"In the world of the anthill, no task is too small and no ant is forgotten. As the Balyanaka swarm, we rise—not for ourselves—but to build something greater than us all."

#### Interviewed by Brian Luwaga

# The swarm stories

#### - The warmth beneath the hill

Family of Rotary features: member moments, celebrations & milestones.



By Rtn. Moses Kyambadde Director – Family of Rotary

In the heart of every anthill lies a story of connection, care, and community and that is the spirit we are nurturing this Rotary year through the Family of Rotary.

s we journey together under the banner of "Unite for Good," our plans are simple yet deeply meaningful: to visit one another, especially our unwell members, celebrate birthdays, anniversaries, and milestones, welcome new members with warmth, and most importantly, to care for each other's families as we would our own.

Our anthill has already begun buzzing with activity! We proudly attended Rtn. Geoffrey Mabirizi's graduation celebration at Bulange Mengo, a joyful reminder of what it means to share in each oth-

er's achievements.

We also gathered to celebrate birthdays, creating joyful memories that strengthen our bonds. And to keep both body and spirit lively, we've enjoyed fitness fellowships, and even sharpened our voices with some spirited karaoke sessions.

Every event, every visit, every call — is a grain in the anthill that keeps us strong and united. Let us continue to move in rhythm, like ants in a purposeful line, carrying one another's joys and burdens alike. Because when the family is strong, the whole colony thrives.











# The larvas' voice

#### Youth engagement from our Interactors and Rotaractors.



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By Rtn. Dr. Herbert Lumu, Youth Director – Rotary Club of Wobulenzi

In the vibrant energy of a school fellowship or the heartfelt moment of an Interact installation, one truth always shines through—our youth are brimming with potential. As the Youth Service Director of the Rotary Club of Wobulenzi, I am honored to walk alongside these rising stars—our Interactors

and Rotaractors—as they learn, grow, and prepare to lead with purpose.

My role is more than administrative; it's a mission of mentorship. It means seeing beyond today into the future that lies in each young heart. Whether I'm officiating the installation of a new Interact President at Progressive Secondary School or engaging in a spirited school fellowship, I witness firsthand the transformative power of encouragement and example.

What inspires me most is the spark in their eyes—a silent yet profound expression of appreciation, admiration, and ambition. These young people don't just look up to us; they look ahead—with hope. And with every interaction, they teach us in return: about resilience, creativity, and the courage to dream.

To amplify this journey, I'm blessed to serve alongside a passionate and capable Youth Service Committee, each member playing a unique role in nurturing the leadership of tomorrow:

- Rtn. Patience Interact Clubs Coordinator: She ensures our four Interact clubs are active and thriving through regular visits, leadership support, and coordination of joint events. Her work keeps the heartbeat of Interact alive.
- Rtn. Jesca Nyanzi
   Projects & Events
  Coordinator: A creative
  powerhouse, she leads
  youth-driven service
  projects, career days,
  talent shows, and ensures
  our young leaders are
  visible in district-wide
  activities like the Cancer
  Run and World Interact
  Week
- Rtn. Joseph Mawejje
   Youth Development
  & Training Coordinator:
  Focused on leadership
  and values, he organizes
  mentorship programs,
  life-skills sessions, and
  trainings that shape the
  character and confidence
  of our youth.
- Mr. David Muhumuza
   Patron Representative
  & School Liaison
  (Progressive S.S.): As the
  bridge between Rotary
  and schools, he ensures
  our programs align with
  school priorities, while
  championing the voice of
  patrons and supporting
  Interactor discipline and
  participation.

Together, we are building a platform for young people not just to be

involved—but to lead with impact.

As Rotarians, we often say, "Youth are the leaders of tomorrow." But truthfully, they are already making a difference today. Let us continue to invest our time, love, and resources into these vibrant minds. Let us inspire them not only with words, but with action, presence, and trust.

Their smiles are our motivation. Their dreams are our blueprint. Their success is our legacy.

Let's continue to Unite for Good—with and for the youth of Wobulenzi.









# **Community Voices**

#### Testimonials from the people we serve, and reflections from local leaders.



#### By District Health Officer, Dr. Innocent Nkonwa

uweero District is no stranger to health challenges: low cancer awareness especially of prostate conditions among men and cervical cancer among women, under resourced health facilities, and lingering resistance to vaccination programmes in schools. Amidst this, the Rotary Club of Wobulenzi has emerged as a transformative partner in public health for Luwero District.

### Addressing Cancer Awareness & Early Detection.

In August 2024, Rotary Wobulenzi participated in the 12th annual Rotary Cancer Run an initiative of Rotary international. This initiative was launched from Centenary Bank in Wobulenzi Town Council by Bishop Lawrence Mukasa. The event aimed to raise Shs 3 billion for a cancer centre at Kampala's Nsambya Hospital. The club successfully mobilized over 10 million shillings, with key support from the Rotary Club of South Bend, USA. A sobering statistic—80% of men above 45 years who were screened at Luwero Hospital by Mengo Hospital outreach team suffered prostate enlargement, flagged as a precursor to prostate cancer underscored the need for early screening and treatment outreach. Many men and

women continue of saccum to cancer in Luwero district due to late presentation which has prompted the Rotary club to intervene. Various awareness campaigns have been conducted on top of supporting cancer screening efforts in Luwero District

#### Clean Water, Hygiene & Empowerment

Access to safe water in Luwero district remains a major challenge in most of the villages in Luwero district. Coverage for safe water in Luwero is at 69%, latrine coverage 81% and the prevalence for handwashing is at 39%. This has made the district prone to waterborne illnesses and preventable diarrhea.

Collaborating with Kampala Rotary Club, Wobulenzi Rotarians have improved access to clean water in parts of Luweero, especially in water stressed zones like Butuntumula sub county. Through boreholes and solar pumped wells, they've combatted waterborne illnesses and launched hygiene sensitisation campaigns at local schools, emphasizing handwashing and disease prevention.

#### **Mobile Clinics & Maternal Child Health Expansion**

In Nsawo Village (Luweero District), Rotary initiated global grants have supported the construction of a maternal and pediatric clinic, equipped with ultrasound machines and ambulance transport. This facility offers mobile services across the district in collaboration with local communities and international sponsors . These efforts are alongside district wide health camps co organised with Rotary clubs like Sunrise Kampala.

In late 2023, a health camp in Makulubita sub county (Kalasa village) served over 800 patients. Services included malaria and hypertension treatment, vaccination drives, cervical and breast cancer screening, nutritional counselling, and distribution of mama kits to pregnant mothers. The clinic also encouraged women to seek formal facility deliveries over traditional birth alternatives.

#### **Championing Vaccination Campaigns**

In a bid tyo improve the health and wellbeing of the community, Immunisation is among the critical approaches that the district has embraced. Rotary's partner engagement has also aided vaccination programmes across 101 parishes in Luweero. Despite resistance reported in several schools—where health workers were blocked from vaccinating learners—district oversight led by the DHO helped enforce legal and health frameworks. With public education, many communities eventually cooperated with mass immunisation efforts targeting nearly half a million people.

#### **Reflections**

As the District Health Officer, I see Rotary's interventions as catalytic and complementary to government services. Their consistent funding, community engagement, and collaboration have boosted trust and expanded our capacities in:

- Cancer awareness and early diagnostics
- Safe water and hygiene education
- Maternal child and general healthcare in underserved zones
- · Infrastructure support—from mobile clinics to digital diagnostics

Looking ahead, Rotary Wobulenzi's continued partnership will remain vital in building resilient health systems, and empowering Luweero residents to lead healthier, more secure lives.



## The District Drone

#### District-wide Rotary updates from Luweero and beyond.



By Rtn. Geoffrey Mabirizi Trail mapper (Bulletin Curator)

very anthill needs a scout and this month, our drone has journeyed beyond Wobulenzi to gather the latest hum from across the wider Luweero region. July has been a month of action, caution, and groundwork. Here's what the district is buzzing about:

#### **Health Alert:**

# African Swine Fever Triggers Quarantine

In mid-July, Luweero District was placed under strict quarantine following an outbreak of African Swine Fever (ASF). The Ministry of Agriculture, working with district authorities, instituted a complete ban on pig movements and pork product sales, effectively closing down slaughterhouses and checkpoints across major transport routes.

As one of the region's vital farming economies, this outbreak has raised concerns among pig farmers, traders, and households that depend on pork as a staple and income source. The situation remains closely monitored under the Animal Diseases Act, with appeals to farmers for vigilance and biosecurity.

#### **Political Ground Shifts:**

## NRM Primaries and a Call for Integrity

On the political scene, NRM party primaries scheduled for July 17 became a focal point for community mobilization.

Ahead of the elections, newlyappointed district registrar Osuman Basajjanakku Lubega called for peaceful, transparent, and fair primaries a message that resonated amid ongoing investigations into the misuse of SIG youth election funds by the former registrar.

With political tempo rising ahead of 2026, this primary season has become a test of both systems and values. All eyes are on the conduct of leaders and their supporters as the race unfolds.

#### **Roads to Growth:**

## Infrastructure Milestones in Rural Communities

A moment of optimism came when 19.2 km of rural roads were officially commissioned under the National Oil Seed Project (NOSP). The rehabilitated routes including Janda–Ngalunkalu, Tongo–Baajja–Luttete, and Bulami–



Buyuki-Busoke are aimed at improving access to markets and farming areas, especially for smallholder oilseed producers.

The event, graced by Ministers Alice Kaboyo and John Chrysostom Muyingo, also served as a renewed commitment to local development. The new roads are already changing how produce moves, how health services reach villages, and how communities connect.

#### A Shrine's Secret:

# Human Remains Unearthed in Kiryanyoza.

Later in the month, chilling news reached our chambers. In Kiryanyoza Village, police uncovered human remains at a shrine believed to be linked to ritual practices. Two individuals, including a traditional healer, were arrested.

The remains, now under forensic analysis at Luweero Hospital, point to deep-rooted concerns within society. While it's easy to feel distant from such events, they echo the importance of Rotary's commitment to peace, dignity, and the protection of life.

# Our Young Ants in the Rain: A Call to Save Primary Education.

A powerful cry was heard from the wings of the anthill. our children need classrooms. Several schools across Luweero face:

Class sessions under trees.

Dilapidated latrines and lack of safe water.

Overwhelmed teachers with no housing. At St. Mary's Ndagga Primary School, leaders including MP Denes Sekabira sounded the alarm. Relief supplies were offered, but the broader need is structural and ongoing.

As a club that values literacy, this is a wake-up call: the anthill cannot thrive if the young ants are left exposed to rain and neglect.

#### **Preserving Our Roots:**

#### **Mass Graves Renovation Underway.**

In quieter developments, the government began restoration works on 18 mass graves in the Luweero Triangle honoring the memory of those who fell during the liberation struggle. These efforts seek to preserve the historical identity of our region and pass its story to future generations.

### Final Thoughts from the Namunswa Chamber.

In the spirit of the anthill, every challenge is a chance to rally. Whether it's disease threatening our farmers, children sitting under trees, or disturbing reports from nearby shrines we must not look away. We, the Balyanaka, continue to dig deep, carry our loads, and protect the queen values of humanity, service, and truth. Let these July stories fuel our determination in August and beyond.

#### **Watch This Space:**

#### **August Scout Targets**

Follow-up on ASF containment efforts and support for affected farmers Reports on the outcome and impact of NRM primaries

Monitoring road usability, especially during rainy months

Community reflections: how residents are adapting to July's changes

Let the drone keep soaring, let the swarm stay alert, and may our service respond to the buzz of the broader colony. Because the Balyanaka don't just eat they listen, they act, and they build.

# Photo Gallery – Moments That Moved Us

A visual recap of unforgettable moments from July.













TEL: +256 772 563 703. P.O. Box 170563, Kampala EMAIL: rotaryclubofwobulenzi@gmail.com