



October Newsletter
2 October 2026



Confirmed: "A Picture Paints a Thousand Words"

Dear Supporter,

If any picture deserves that saying, it's the one above.

Meet Persistence, a Form 1 student at Hwata Secondary, with her mum Ms Mufunga, Principal Mr Mukucha and our Country Director Mr Nyasha (in orange). In early September, Persistence received a bike. Until then, she walked eight kilometres to school each way: two hours in the morning, two in the afternoon. Now she cycles it (one way) in just over 30 minutes. Three hours a day, handed back to a child.

That's one moment from our 2026 Bike Distribution, which put 88 bikes under Form 1 students at Hwata Secondary and Muzarabani High. It was powered by 18 cyclists who rode on 19 April, many donors who backed them and others who supported our EOFY appeal. *The full story is below.*

This issue, four stories:

- **The bikes.** How one ride in April changed the school run for 88 students.

- **Four young women, one big year.** Our Uncommon IT scholars are nearly at the finish line, and [Eminent Homes](#) has just committed to a new round of scholarships for 2027. Interviews start in late October.
- **The Big Charity Quiz Night.** 191 guests, 23 teams, five rounds of trivia and \$12,750 raised, enough to fund school meals for over 600 children for two of three terms.
- **Our Patron, the Governor of SA says Farewell.**

Bikes, laptops and a packed quiz night make for great photos. But much of what we do never shows up in a picture: school fees that keep our most vulnerable children in class, and the long, costly trips from Harare to Muzarabani. For six years, the [Lang Family Foundation](#) and a small group of donors who wish to remain anonymous have carried these core programs, term after term.



We haven't thanked you publicly as often as you deserve. **Thank you.**

Now, let's get into it.

2026 Bike Distribution: 88 Bikes for 88 Pupils



Finally, in early September, we were able to distribute 88 sturdy Buffalo bikes to Form 1 students from Muzarabani High and Hwata Secondary.

If we take Persistence, and the three hours a day she is "handed back" and project it out a full school year, her bike frees up a total of 600 hours or 25 full days. Persistence and the other 87 kids will now have nearly a month of time available to dedicate to focus on their learning, sleep in a bit in the morning or hang out with their friends and play.

This has been made possible by the marvelous combination of -

1. 18 cyclists, who pushed their pedals for "**Ride for Bikes 2026**" and their 111 sponsors. Together they raised an impressive \$15,300.
2. Generous donors, who contributed an amazing \$13,200 towards our EOFY 2026 appeal, and
3. [Buffalo Bicycle Zimbabwe](#), our partner and local supplier of sturdy, quality bikes, who generously donated 18 bikes on top of the 70 bought

by NoBarriers.

A huge thank you to all, including the volunteers, who made "Ride for Bikes 2026" happening.



This year, we supplied for the first time Buffalo Bicycles' new [S2-two speed model](#). It is a more expensive bike, but we believe it is worth the investment as it can handle heavy loads and challenging terrain with greater ease. We expect it will make the daily ride to and from school quicker and less exhausting.



From Muzarabani to Mufakose: Four Young Women, One Finish Line

"One child, one teacher, one book, one pen can change the world." Malala Yousafzai

Earlier this year, we shared a hard truth: about 80% of school leavers in Muzarabani find neither further study nor paid work within two years of graduating. In February, four young women decided to change that story for themselves.

In February, Pretty, Claretta, Edna and Chiedza left home for Harare to join the Mufakose IT-Bootcamp at [Uncommon](#), a Zimbabwean not-for-profit that gives unemployed young adults free 12-month IT-training. Its Innovation Hubs are solar-powered and built from old shipping containers. In return for their training, bootcamp students teach free coding lessons to children at nearby schools. Uncommon provides the training places, NoBarriers looks after the girls' selection and wellbeing, and [Eminent Homes](#) generously funds their living costs.



Claretta, Product Designer:
"Before I was shy. Now I can speak and share my work." When tasks failed and she wanted to quit, her friends and teachers carried her through. She can now design a product from start to finish.

Edna, Digital Marketer: Edna once doubted she could succeed in tech. Then she built a complete digital marketing strategy for her DE DELIVERER project. "I am capable of learning new things, even when they seem difficult at first," she says



Chiedza, Digital Marketer: Chiedza started with very little computer knowledge. Her Sweet Treat Bakery project brought together branding, social media, advertising and email marketing. Her advice to her first-day self: "You will be surprised by how far you can go."

Claretta, Product Designer. "Before I was shy, now I can speak and share my work." When tasks failed and she wanted to quit, her friends and teachers carried her through. She can now design a product from start to finish.



All four ask us to say the same thing: thank you - to **Eminent Homes**, to **Uncommon**, and to every supporter of [NoBarriers](#). You gave these young women a chance to grow beyond their circumstances.

How you can help: Their next step is the hardest. As future employers expect some experience, these young women are now looking for their first internships in graphic design, product design and digital marketing. If you or your organisation can assist by offering a remote or local internship, a mentoring conversation, or a connection to someone who can, please contact us at communication@nobarriers.org.au. We'll make sure any offer reaches the right person and is a good fit. One "yes" could change a young woman's future.

Thanks to [Eminent Homes](#) committing to continue funding the scholarships NoBarriers and the [Uncommon team](#) are now preparing for the interviewing of scholarship candidates to commence their IT training next January.



191 Players, 23 Teams and Meals for 600 Children



Our annual quiz night raised \$12,750, our best result yet

On Friday 31 July, 191 supporters filled Goodwood Community Centre for our annual Big Charity Quiz Night. Twenty-three teams battled it out over five trivia rounds, with plenty of friendly rivalry and laughter along the way.

Our winning team, Dodgy Gabana, took first place after a tie-breaker. Congratulations! John also walked away with the first prize in our raffle, a stunning Tarbuck Timepiece valued at \$995, generously donated by [Gerard McCabe Jewellers](#).

The biggest win of the night: belonged to the 600 children at our two partner schools in Muzarabani District, Zimbabwe. The night made a profit of **\$12,750**, enough to fund daily school meals for two of the three school terms.

For children in rural communities, a school meal is about more than food. It helps [Undo Redo](#) them stay focused, healthy and ready to learn, removing one more barrier between them and their education.

Thank you: This result was only possible because so many people chose to show up, contribute, donate, volunteer, sponsor, play, bid, buy and have fun, all while helping children overcome barriers to education.

A huge thank you to:

- Quiz Master [Darcy Schaaf](#);
- Sound Engineer **Ben Sweeney** of [Adelaide Backline & Production Hire](#);

- Our incredible volunteers, **Naz, Ric, Bruno, Charlotte, Storm and Patrick**, plus everyone else who pitched in on the night;
- [Riposte Wines](#) for supporting the bar;
- [Gerard McCabe Jewellers](#) for the raffle's incredible first prize, and
- all the other businesses and individuals who donated prizes, raffle and silent auction items, wine wall contributions and other in-kind support.



Our Patron, the Governor of SA says her Farewells

Our Patron, Her Excellency Frances Adamson retired at the end of September as Governor of South Australia. To mark the occasion, representatives of the not-for-profits and community organisations she and her husband, Mr Rob Bunton supported as patrons were invited to Government House. Chair Andrew Stevens and MD Sigrid Pfaffle attended on behalf of NoBarriers.

NoBarriers was very fortunate to secure Ms Adamson's patronage in March 2022. At that time, NoBarriers was registered and operating for less than 18 months and still little known in SA. But as a long term advocate of education, and with a long term career in Foreign Affairs, Ms Adamson was willing to become our patron.



Throughout the four and a half years of her patronage, she has given us invaluable support - be it through valuable introductions or by welcoming NoBarriers' supporters to Government House.

We extend our deepest gratitude to our esteemed patron, Ms Adamson and her Official Secretary, Mr Borrowman for their support and guidance, which have been instrumental in shaping NoBarriers. Thank you.

Thank you for taking an interest in our work. We'll be in touch again in the lead-up to the festive season.

If you are willing and able to further support our work, please donate.

[Donate Now](#)

Thank you for all you've already made possible.

Warm regards,

Sigrid Pfaffle

Managing Director, No Barriers Education Foundation

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