



“For unto us a **child is born**, unto us a **son is given**: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The **Prince of Peace**.” ISA 9v6

December 2022

Warm Christmas greetings once again from Church of Uganda Kisiizi Hospital
A word from our Accountant and newest member of Management Lynn Mbaziira



“I'm Lynn Mbaziira, the hospital Accountant. I'm from Kagadi District and am excited to be getting married soon! I lived in Entebbe where I worked for an audit firm. I'm grateful to God for the opportunity to serve Him through Kisiizi Hospital. I'm glad to be a part of the team that contributes to the vision that God gave to John Sharp to give life in all its fullness to the poor. Thank you all Kisiizi Partners and Friends of Kisiizi for your continuous support and contribution in causing this vision to keep moving forward. We are grateful. Merry Christmas. “

Kisiizi Partners (KP) Visit

It was wonderful to have Dr Helen and Alan Smith visit Kisiizi, from Kisiizi Partners, after nearly three years. They were kept busy with many meetings and were able to meet many staff members to hear about how things are going in Kisiizi. They gave much welcomed advice and support in relation to safeguarding, malnutrition, Good Samaritans Fund and how to deal with the cost of living crisis in Uganda. I felt that the time was very positive and that Kisiizi's relationship with KP was very much revitalised.

Kisiizi has many ongoing challenges and KP has been able to advise with a critical eye and offer much support going forward. They have agreed to help with the much needed Surgical Ward renovations, so we take the opportunity to say a very big thank you to the team who run KP, and we pray that our relationship will continue to flourish.



Above: Dr Helen and Alan Smith

Board Meeting

The Kisiizi Hospital Board had a successful meeting in November. It was a pleasure to be joined for the first time in person by KP representatives Dr Helen and Alan. The board



was able to sign off on our Financial Manual and make decisions on many important issues.

Stre@mline Training



As part of the Swiss Re grant that Stre@mline won, Kisiizi will be hosting a number of workshops to help get the new hospitals joining trained and set on the right track to using Stre@mline. The first training happened recently and we hosted Medical Superintendents and Hospital Insurance Scheme Managers from around the west of Uganda. Nine members of the Stre@mline team carried out the training and Kisiizi was able to share a lot of our expertise with the visitors, encouraging them to provide affordable and quality healthcare. We were able to show examples of how we subsidise healthcare for the most vulnerable and inspire them to attain the same in their institutions.



At Kisiizi Stre@mline continues to develop, with one ward now going paperless, using a laptop on wheels to do the ward round. Patient notes, drug ordering, lab and imaging requests are all being done on Stre@mline. One of the aims of doing this is to make the patient billing automatic and stop any delays in discharging the patients. The pilot is going well and we have worked closely with the Stre@mline developers to update the system and iron out issues. Some other wards are hungry to follow suit, but the challenge now will be the need for further laptops and ideally tablets. We will continue to trust and pray that these can be provided by God's Kingdom for the betterment of the patients we serve.

Kisiizi Friends Day and beyond - An update from Dr Ian Spillman

1] FRIENDS OF KISIIZI DAY

(in the report below, (*) indicates the resource is available for you to watch on the Kisiizi Hospital website www.kisiizihospital.org.ug)

It was a joy to be able to gather face to face again in Reading along with others on-line. During the day we covered quite a range of different areas and ministries that make up Kisiizi. We began by remembering with thanksgiving the life of Doreen Sharp who died earlier in the year. Doreen and her husband, Dr John Sharp, were the pioneer missionaries commencing the work in Kisiizi in 1958. A video (*) from the Sharp family remembering some of those early days was shared.



Dr. Katie Mayers, a trustee of *Kisiizi Partners*, thanked Chris and Ed Mitchell for all the work they had put into *Bags of Difference* which helps some of the Kisiizi staff who sew very colourful bags for sale. She thanked Dr. Jane Pettinger who is taking over this role. Katie later shared about *Kisiizi Partners* including the *Kisiizi Orphans* child sponsorship programme and appreciated the work of David and Alison Candlin who had co-ordinated this important work and were now stepping down. She appealed for volunteers to get involved in the project which supports large numbers of vulnerable orphans and their families with education and health support.

Dr Graham and Dr Jane Pettinger then shared (*) about their recent visit to Kisiizi especially relating to the mental health services. Dr Adam Jones, Consultant Urologist, shared about the Reading urology team visits to Kisiizi (*) that had recommenced after the pandemic pause.

We enjoyed videos from Kisiizi from Dr Henry Lukabwe, Medical Superintendent (*), and Helen & Alan Smith (*) who had just visited on behalf of *Kisiizi Partners* and from Kisiizi staff in the Nutrition team about encouraging developments

We had feedback from Stu Garrett in Dublin (*) about the input from CHEEERS who had a multi-disciplinary team visit which included a workshop on Elderly Care. Rev Hugh Burgess spoke (*) of the visit by Jamie's Fund supporting Mental Health in Kisiizi. Ian Spillman gave an overview of progress since the last Friends Day (*) and reported on the new project involving *Stre@mline* and community health insurance (*) that will roll out to 14 other hospitals.

Hanna Spillman interviewed Sarah Cassie (*) who had run a marathon in Anglesey to support Kisiizi via Kisiizi Partners.

Do watch the videos on the links to enjoy these presentations.

*FRIENDS OF KISIIZI DAY 2022
VIDEOS OF PRESENTATIONS*

	NAME (DURATION)	DESCRIPTION	PRESENTER	LINK
1.	Thanksgiving (14:27)	Extracts from the Thanksgiving service for Doreen & John Sharp	Sharp family, Moses Mugume & Dr Henry Lukabwe	https://youtu.be/bOM30ZNik1Y
2.	Greeting to Friends Day (4:31)	From the Acting Medical Superintendent	Dr Henry Lukabwe	https://youtu.be/M0jL0wornFk
3.	Mental Health team revisited (8:57)	Drs Jane & Graham Pettinger returned to Kisiizi to visit the mental health services	Dr Graham Pettinger (extract of presentation due to technical issue with sound)	https://youtu.be/AbGwCrCfFU
4.	TURP camps in Kisiizi (12:11)	Urologists from Reading have a long term link to Kisiizi	Mr Adam Jones, Consultant Urologist, Royal Berkshire Hospital	https://youtu.be/pyq6vGyWDBw
5.	Kisiizi Orphans (5:21)	Thanks to David & Alison, request for help going forward	Dr Katie Mayers, Kisiizii Partners trustee	https://youtu.be/XhJe-O0cLG4
6.	Feedback from Kisiizi (11:04)	Alan & Helen Smith have just left Kisiizi after a visit and feedback about the current situation	Mr Alan & Dr Helen Smith, Kisiizi Partners trustees	https://youtu.be/dTav-jnA2uA
7.	Kisiizi Overview (31:21)	A systematic review of the ministries of Kisiizi	Dr Ian Spillman, recent Medical	https://youtu.be/h-K9v0Xov1M

			Superintendent, now Friends Co-ordinator	
8.	Marathon! (2:58)	A new Friend of Kisiizi has run a marathon to raise support	Sarah Cassie interviewed by Hanna Spillman, Friends Co-ordinator	https://youtu.be/EvB_k4qyGL0
9.	Request for help (5:03)	GP's, nurses and paramedics are asked to help at 2023 New Wine medical team	Dr Peter Winfrey, former Medical Superintendent at Kisiizi	https://youtu.be/c-SFAGfud4U
10.	CHEEERS (11:41)	A multi-disciplinary team from the CHEEERS Developing Health Together charity visited Kisiizi	Stuart Garrett, Chair of the CHEEERS DHT based in Dublin; Ainebyoona Dan, Physiotherapist Kisiizi	https://youtu.be/IdaRHrPD4y8
11.	Kisiizi Partners update (6:28)	Feedback about Kisiizi Partners activities and needs	Dr Katie Mayers, Kisiizi Partners trustee	https://youtu.be/oLsjy7UObhc
12.	Nutrition (6:29)	Feedback from Kisiizi Staff about the Nutrition Unit	Various staff on Children's Ward at Kisiizi	https://youtu.be/S3swmpepHHQ
13.	Jamie's Fund feedback (15:01)	A team from Jamie's Fund visited Kisiizi earlier in 2022	Rev Hugh Burgess, Chair plus mini-interview with Dr Lionel Mills	https://youtu.be/XPiDif18Iyc
14.	Insurance & Stre@mline major project (21:12)	Updates from the Kisiizi community health insurance scheme and Stre@mline IT	Dr Ian Spillman, recent Medical Superintendent, now Friends Co-ordinator	https://youtu.be/MI8R_dBfN20

2] SHARING KISIIZI EXPERIENCE WORLDWIDE

- In addition to Friends Day we have been able to preach and speak about Kisiizi at various churches and mission conferences including a plenary presentation at the *CMS Africa* meeting in Swanwick. Another unusual opportunity was to present at the *British Association of Urological Surgeons* annual conference in Birmingham in their global Urolink seminar.
- Ian was one of 3 presenters in the World Health Organization Global Health Compassion Rounds which discusses various aspects of compassion in practice especially in resource poor environments. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mV1yyGPvCao> Kisiizi had also contributed to the WHO Quality Tool Kit launched in the past few months (<https://qualityhealthservices.who.int/quality-toolkit/qt-home>) .

- Another opportunity has been the International Christian Medical and Dental Association (ICMDA) webinar on *"Funding church hospitals locally"* which went out to over 40 countries in 5 languages. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GXrxcutkw9A>
- We shared and hosted at the Christian Medical Fellowship *Developing Health Course* in London(<https://www.cmf.org.uk/global/dhc/>) . Ian led the Paediatrics Day supported by a team that included two other doctors who had worked in Kisiizi and included video clips from Kisiizi.
- We contributed an article on mental health in Kisiizi to the Medical Missionary News magazine and they then asked for a follow up webinar to raise prayer support. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NxNgraaynQc>
- Article for *Caring and Sharing* newsletter
- Representing Kisiizi on Uganda:UK Health Alliance webinar; liaison with potential supporting organisations
- We are involved in zoom meetings with Uganda planning the implementation of the *Stre@mline* project *"Revitalising rural health financing "* following the award from the Swiss Re foundation (<https://www.swissrefoundation.org/what-we-do/projects/access-to-health-and-income-opportunities/Revitalising-rural-health-insurance.html>) and supporting the establishment of an e-learning resource for that project. See also www.streamlinehealth.org
- Liaison with Gorilla Highlands tourism site re Kisiizi Falls (<https://experts.gorillahighlands.com/?s=Kisiizi>) and www.kisiizifalls.com

Paediatric Case Study - Dr Becky Conry

"It is hard to believe how quickly the months go by here! But as we approach this Christmas time it is a stark reminder to reflect on the last year and how God has been so faithful and how we see his hand at work in everything we do.

The Paediatric team has been hard at work in the last month. We have had a few very sad situations which have taken us by surprise and knocked us, but we remember that all we can do is treat to the best of our ability, God heals.

As I reflect on some of our challenging cases I am reminded how vulnerable children are. We were unfortunate to lose a child who had accidentally ingested an enormous amount of rat poison and despite our best efforts, God called them home. We have seen an increase in the number of cases of malnutrition on our wards and we sadly lost



one of our preterm babies to a terrible gut infection.

At times like this it can be hard to keep going, especially when having come from a different country, and I wonder whether more could have been done if we were elsewhere. Despite this, I am reminded that God is still good and that God has already suffered more than us. So in all things, we should 'keep our eyes fixed on him' the 'author and perfecter of our faith' because He loves us all equally, he only has good plans for us and that above all HE already knows.



But let me move on and illustrate how much we can do with limited resources. This month we have successfully managed a child with such low platelets that he was actively bleeding to the point we thought he would not make it. Despite not having the medication that western nations would use in this case we were able to control his bleeding with what we have in stock. Lateral thinking goes a long way in Kisiizi! We have saved an airway of a child that was very compromised from croup. We have managed meningitis, numerous skin infections, burns, malnutrition, acute asthma exacerbation, dehydration, seizures, cardiac failure and the list goes on.

Not forgetting our tiny preterm infants who have a formidable will to live and be loved and who it is a joy to serve! We are excited as well about our current fundraising efforts

to improve our neonatal care here with a CPAP machine! If you would like to help us then please contact Kisiizi Partners about giving.

So as we come to our Christmas season I would encourage you to continue to pray for us as we continue to serve the children and neonates of this region. Thank you for your ongoing support and prayers, we notice them daily.

'For the Lord your God is living among you. He is a mighty Saviour. He will take delight in you with gladness. With His love, He will calm all your fears' Zephaniah 3 v 17 (NLT)

A very Merry Christmas to you all. "

Malnutrition Project Update



It has been a busy and successful month for the malnutrition project. The team have restarted community visits, meeting our November target of 3 visits. On the ward we have increased the amount of play therapy to daily and carried out health education talks on malnutrition and malaria. Training student nurses in these activities as well has meant that they are upskilled and the activities can happen more regularly. Chickens, eggs and vegetables have been provided to eligible patients.

The malnutrition project at Kisiizi Hospital exists to address the causes of malnutrition

in the community with the aim of preventing it happening in the first place. One of the causes can be that children don't get enough protein, vitamins and minerals from their diet and this can be addressed through education, demonstrations and food provision to affected families. Therefore we regard our activities as a vital service to the community that Kisiizi Hospital can offer.



Above left: Sister Sarah teaching on the dangers of malnutrition and how it can be avoided with healthy eating. Above right: Dr Becky checking the children for signs of malnourishment

One patient we supported this month had been abandoned by their parents and arrived so malnourished that it was touch and go whether she would make it. The child is now being looked after by the step grandmother and grandfather. To avoid reoccurrence, the project team made a multidisciplinary visit to the family. At the visit there were talks on healthy eating to teach community members how to provide a balanced, nutritious, affordable diet for their family. We cooked a meal to demonstrate how to use the ingredients and planted a vegetable garden to show how to grow the vegetables.



Above right: Enjoy eating the meal from the cooking demonstration! Eggs and peanuts for protein, carrots for Vitamin A and spinach for Vitamin C, Iron and Magnesium. Above left: Maurice and Philip demonstrating how to grow a variety of vegetables – the sack in the foreground was planted on the top and sides with seedlings making it possible to grow even when land is scarce.

It was encouraging to see on a follow up visit a few weeks later that the family have thoroughly fenced the vegetable garden, demonstrating they value the support and are acting on what they have learned. The family is also receiving daily milk for the child. Though the family is struggling somewhat, the child continues to grow and recover from the severe malnutrition they had and it is encouraging to see them as a happy child in their new home being loved by their adoptive mother!

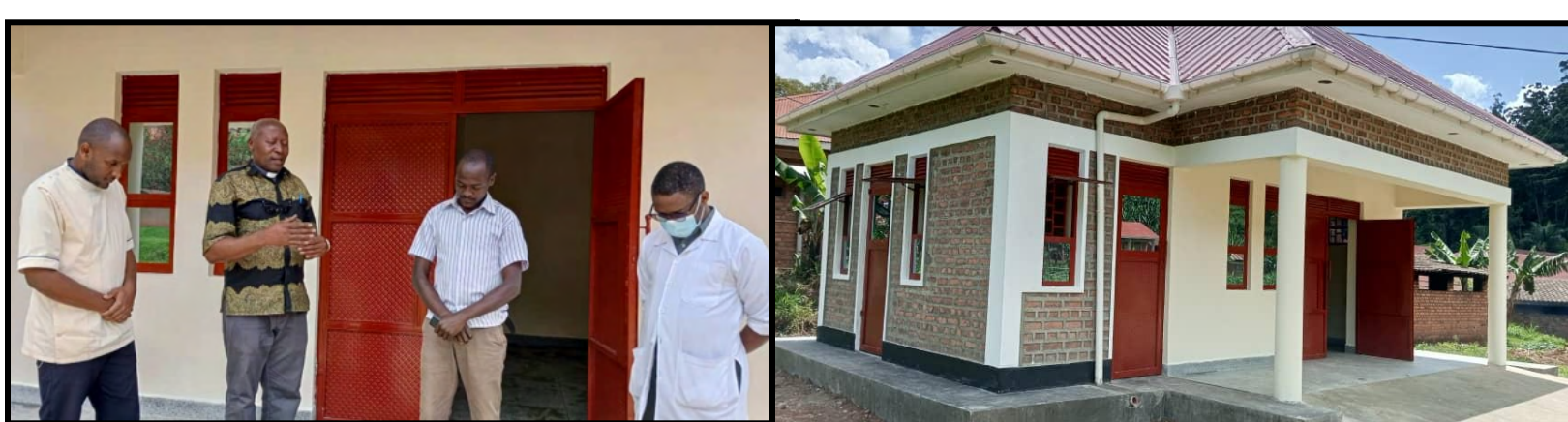
The next month promises to be equally exciting as we start the recruitment process for a malnutrition project coordinator (please let Sister Sarah or Tim Conry know if you are interested in applying) and we are currently incubating eggs in order to make the chicken project more self-sustaining – here's hoping we receive our first self-raised chicks later in December!

Vives University Tutor visit - picture



It was wonderful to rekindle our relationship with Belgium's VIVES university. We had two VIVES OT students on placement at the time when the VIVES tutors visited. Sarah and John (tutors) were a pleasure to have visit. We were able to spend time discussing how we can best support and learn from each other's institutes. We were able to sign a new updated Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) and look at expanding the ways we work together. They also managed to become celebrities, starring in a music video of a local gospel artist, shot at Kisiizi Falls. Check it out:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FqQWl2CHau8>



Above: The new mortary was complete and blessed by Cannon Joshua



Above: The Kisiizi Hospital Community Health Insurance Executive met with positive and constructive feedback for the hospital.



Above: Annual UPMB symposium. Dr Ian was given an award recognizing his service to Kisiizi and Dr Lukabwe received it on his behalf.



Dr Boaz looking very excited about the paediatric wards new scales from the Smart Triage/Discharge team who visited to give feedback on the work being done. We are grateful for the ongoing work being done by this team.

Visits:



It was wonderful to meet **Sharlotte Nyinamashuri** an 82 year old ex- Kisiizi nurse. She insisted her grandchildren take her, to see the place she had such fond memories of. She remembers working in theatre with Dr John Sharpe and was determined to find a photo of him. Her eyes lit up and she was overwhelmed when I found a photo on my phone. She spoke highly of John and the work done at Kisiizi.

Dr James Bapty (and his drone!!)

Following in the footsteps of my grandfather

Several years later than planned I made it to Kisiizi in November. It was predictably eye-opening coming straight from my work as a junior doctor in Portsmouth, UK. I spent the week seeing the full range of care offered at Kisiizi. From the outset I felt incredibly welcome and well looked after in the guest house. I learnt plenty from the senior clinicians Drs Paul and Patrick and was especially interested in the management of infectious disease and HIV. I was lucky to spend some time with Emma in the Ophthalmology clinic as well. Comparing experiences of medicine with the Interns here highlighted some of the differences in medical training between the countries; interns such as Dr Bernard can perform caesarean-sections and hernia repairs, in the UK I would be lucky only to assist!

The trip was also to experience what life would've been like for my grandparents Drs Allan and Barbara Bapty who spent a year as medical officers in Kisiizi with their 4 children in 1961 while Dr John Sharp returned to the UK. My grandfather spent much of his working life as a missionary doctor following being sponsored through Barts Medical School, London by the Church Missionary Society. After periods in Rwanda, Burundi, Ethiopia, Sudan and Nepal, Grandad then returned to Kisiizi in the 1990's with Trisha, his second wife for a 6-month spell.

Although short, the time I spent in Kisiizi was everything I had hoped it would be. I will miss the morning church service and mumbling through the hymns in Rukiga. I am grateful to Tim and Becky who set me on the right path each day, and Barak for making the preparations enabling me to visit. I leave with many happy memories of the week and some drone shots of Kisiizi - I'm sure these are of interest to readers of this newsletter!



Above Left (left to right): Dr Allan Bapty, John Church, Rev Julius Turamushanga, ?, Dr Fransic Ssali, ?, Dr Francis Banja (at that time a medical student), Dr Geoffrey, Medard Byarugaba, Pat Mollen.

Estates Update

The estates team may not be directly involved in patient care but their work is crucial to the functioning of our hospital. Just some of the improvements they have recently made include painting new signage around the site (swiftly implementing this improvement idea made in a staff meeting) and creating a cupboard to safely store the toys and shading equipment for play therapy on the children's ward. To Justus and his team, we thank you!



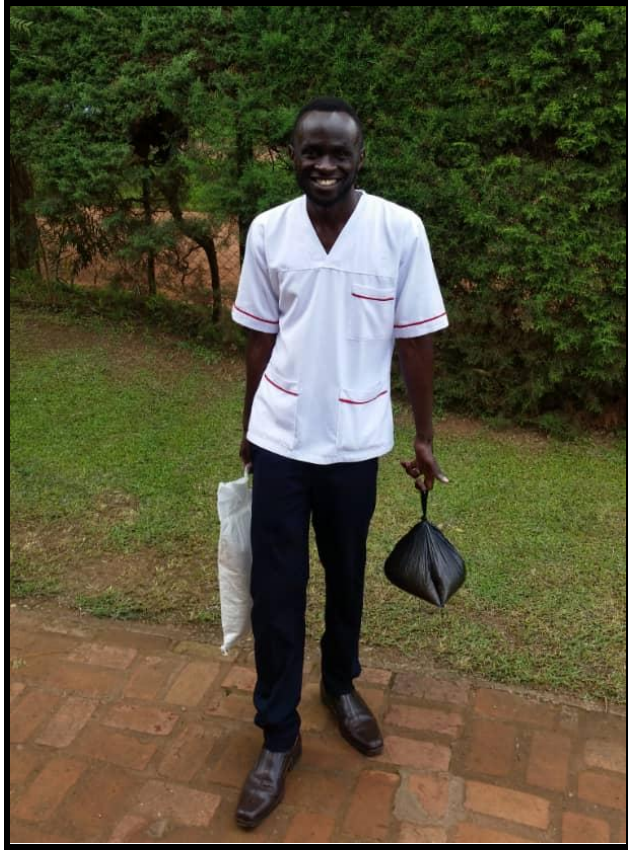


We had a local artist visit to spruce up our signage around the hospital. This is very important for the patients to be able to navigate around the hospital effectively. The arrows painted on the floor help them get to the departments they are supposed to be going to along their patient journey.

Other News



It was very exciting to be part of the wedding of Rev. Jovia who married a Canon in the Church of Uganda. Many of the Kisiizi family were able to attend the give away, so it was quite an occasion.



Nurse Gilbert looking delighted to pick up his rice and posho provided quarterly by the hospital, thanks to the support from KP.

“Life in all its fullness”

John 10v10

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR PRAYERS, ENCOURAGEMENT AND SUPPORT helping us to bring
LIFE IN ALL ITS FULLNESS.**



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