

# "PRESSING ON..."

"I press on towards the goal..." Philippians 3:14



**Warm greetings once again from Church of Uganda Kisiizi Hospital...**

This is the main drive down to the in-patient area of Kisiizi with the original flax factory building seen in the distance. Many people walk up and down the path – patients, staff, attendants,

## Kisiizi Update February 2022



visitors all involved in different aspects of Kisiizi's ministries. Amazingly since Kisiizi opened in 1958 it has never closed its doors to patients.

*<<< Recently we have welcomed Dr Patrick Saasita, specialist Physician with a special interest in respiratory medicine. He is originally from Democratic Republic of Congo but came to Uganda to do his specialty training in Mbarara. He is pictured with a stick as he visited Kisiizi Falls!*

Many of our patients belong to our Community Health Insurance Scheme that is the oldest in Uganda having started in 1996. It has grown steadily year on year since then until the pandemic impact has led to some reduction, but we still have over 40,000 beneficiaries in 6 districts up to 50km away.

This is a not-for-profit scheme and is run by an Executive Committee elected by leaders of the 210 community groups that works with the hospital Management Committee.



*The Annual General Meeting of group leaders, December 2021, held in the Kisiizi Hospital Primary School hall*





The Executive Committee of the **Kisiizi Community Health Insurance Scheme** met with members of the Hospital Management Committee to plan and co-ordinate the important work of this programme. Our research has demonstrated that in addition to providing protection against the risk of catastrophic health expenditure in the event of serious acute illness, our Scheme also has very significant health benefits for enrolled families.



The **Board of Governors** of the hospital met in November 2021 chaired by Bishop Patrick Tugume, the caretaker bishop following the tragic death of Bishop Benon Magezi earlier in 2021. Some readers will recognise Dr Gabbie Okumu (second from left in the back row) who was previously a specialist general surgeon in Kisiizi and is now a Board member. The Board also includes a representative from Uganda Protestant Medical Bureau (UPMB) which is the umbrella organisation that represents us and other similar hospitals and health units to Ministry of Health in Kampala. Our District Health Officer from Rukungiri is also a member of the Board ensuring liaison with government.





# Greetings from Kisiizi for Friends Day 2021



Thanks to everyone who tuned in to the virtual **Friends of Kisiizi Day** in November and special thanks to Dr Richard Mayers and Dr Philip Haynes for co-ordinating and compering the event attended by friends of Kisiizi in many different parts of Uganda and the world.

Naturally one key area was the impact of the global pandemic on Kisiizi and its surrounding communities. We are very grateful that our staff have now received two doses of vaccine. The new variant seems to produce a milder disease pattern here so we have

had less serious cases. The secondary impact on supply lines, the ability to refill oxygen cylinders, and the economic pressures on both hospital and families in the region continue to challenge us but the lockdown rules are now easing with schools opening again and public transport normalising and curfews lifted.



The device illustrated sterilises masks by ultra-violet light in 6 minutes allowing them to be reused and is located for out-patients to access.

## Anti-fraud workshop

As part of the strengthening of systems, an anti-fraud workshop was held for two days for senior staff from different departments and was also attended by members of our Board.

It was conducted by Humentum and sponsored by Kisiizi Partners and was appreciated by all who attended.

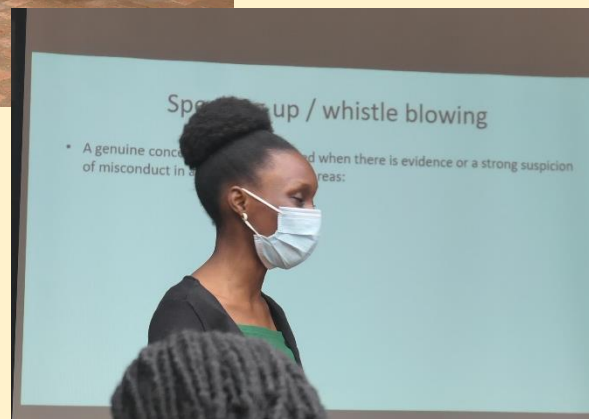
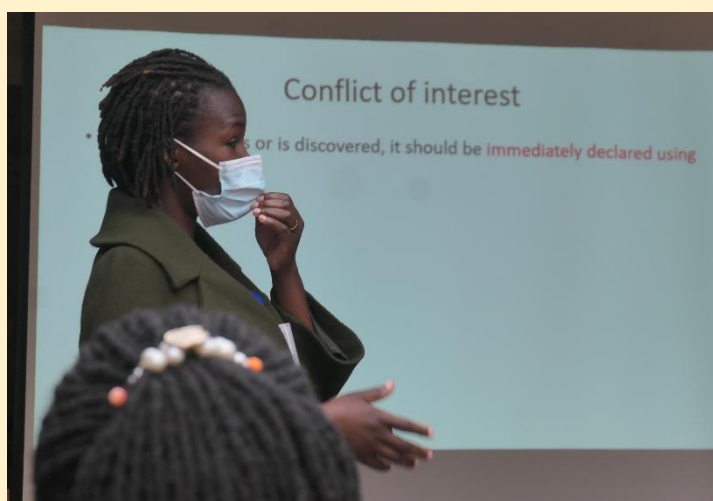






**Some of the Members of Kisiizi Staff and Board who attended the anti-fraud workshop**

*Left to right: Moses Mugume (Administrator); Enoth Musiime (Child Sponsorship), Christine Awori (Human Resource); Spencer Tweteise (Headmaster Primary School); Patrick Muhangi (Chair of Board finance sub-committee); Dr Albert Alinda (Medical Officer & Health sub-district co-ordinator); Dr Francis Banya (Obstetrician, deputy Medical Superintendent); Fiona Akidi Bua (Accounts assistant); Malcolm Crawford (Visiting Chartered Accountant); Hilda Hakiza (Humentum facilitator); Philip Agaba (member of the Board); PeruthTusiimire (Power company office co-ordinator); Edson Mutaahi (IT Co-ordinator); Winfred Komujuni (Manager Insurance Scheme); Lynn Mbaziira (Accounts assistant); Samuel Mugisha (ED Stre@mline Healthtech Ltd); Berlina Tumwekwase (Bursar School of Nursing & Midwifery); Sr Pamela Mirembe (Principal Nursing Officer); Dr Henry Lukabwe (Obstetrician, member of management); Sr Hanna Spillman (Finance department)*



**Different follow up sessions training Staff were held to explain the updated Anti-fraud policies and how Kisiizi is implementing them. =====**



*Colleagues from the community join our HIV team for updates and sharing regarding the support of patients living with HIV in our region. This collaboration results in improved quality of life for those supported.*



### *Kisiizi School of Nursing & Midwifery*

*We are happy that our School of Nursing and Midwifery has opened fully again after all the restrictions... though some of the students seem a bit cold and have added a scarf to the uniform!*

*Students have placements in many different areas of Kisiizi including the operating theatres as well as the wards, and also the support services such as the laboratory, pharmacy and imaging departments.*



**Kisiizi School of Nursing & Midwifery**







Sadly there are still many road accidents in Uganda. Here a coach has overturned on the side of a main road.

Our own hospital vehicles travel many miles both in our local region for outreach clinics etc. but also the 7 hour+ trip to Kampala is quite often needed. We therefore rely on our mechanic Fred Ssembuya and the other drivers to maintain our vehicles safely.



We are still about 50 minutes drive from the nearest tarmac road and so the vehicles receive a lot of wear and tear on the murrum (gravel) roads which can be very rough at times.

Collecting sick mothers or children who are urgent referrals to Kisiizi can be challenging especially driving at night when it can be pitch black as (thankfully) we have very little light pollution.



*Spontaneous quadruplets about to go home - February 2022*



Well done to all involved in the multi-disciplinary team caring for these quadruplet girls born 7 weeks early and doing very well. **QUIZ TIME!** How can their mother tell them apart? *See the answer later in this newsletter!*

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*Other new arrivals!*

**Dr Bethany Morphew** (right) from UK had been to Kisiizi in the past for a medical student elective and has kindly returned as a volunteer short-term doctor since November 2021 supporting the clinical and training work of Kisiizi >>



**Elisa Tanner** (left) is a clinical psychologist from Switzerland visiting our Ahumuza mental health centre team since December observing how Kisiizi supports its patients. Staff have already appreciated her input and teaching.



Kisiizi hopes to continue developing mental health services including its community programmes and has recently linked with new partners and looks forward to visits from friends from Jamie's Fund soon. We need another Psychiatric Clinical Officer to support Georgious and the team.





**Sister Jane Kenyangi** has recently returned to Kisiizi having successfully completed her degree qualifying her as a Tutor in our School of Nursing and Midwifery. Sister Jane had served faithfully as the in-charge of Children's Ward in the past and we are delighted to have her back and know she will bring passion and quality to her role.

**Daphne van Wingerden**

Is a degree nurse from the Netherlands who arrived in January and is currently in the Children's Ward.



There is of course quite a contrast in both the conditions seen and the range of investigations and treatments available compared to the European set up but still a great deal can be done.



*He's smiling behind the mask!*

<<< Our specialist general surgeon, **Dr Paul Matovu**, was delighted to receive a further supply of specialist silicone catheters for urological procedures and Kisiizi again extends its appreciation to **Dr Stephen Jones** of the British Association of Urological Surgeons (BAUS) and to **Dr Adam Jones** and all the **Royal Berkshire Hospital, Reading, urologists** who have supported Kisiizi over many years.

Interestingly the Medical Superintendent of Kisiizi has been invited to address the annual conference of BAUS in June about some of Kisiizi's work and the impact of the pandemic.



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Construction of a new mortuary is underway. The previous building was unsafe and was demolished. Kisiizi cares for people of all ages from birth onwards. World Health Organization recognises that health has different domains including prevention and health promotion, curative, rehabilitation and palliative care. Kisiizi is wanting to further develop its end-of-life support services with a multi-disciplinary team approach supporting dignity and respect for patients and their families.



## ANAESTHESIA EQUIPMENT UPGRADES



helping us provide safe general anaesthesia and also with ventilatory support capability.

We have historically used halothane but will now have isoflurane as an alternative for certain cases where medically indicated.



Above is **Levi Muhwezi**, Anaesthetics Clinical Officer, with two new Diamedica halothane/isoflurane vapourisers that can be used in drawover anaesthetics or driven by gas flow from oxygen concentrators.

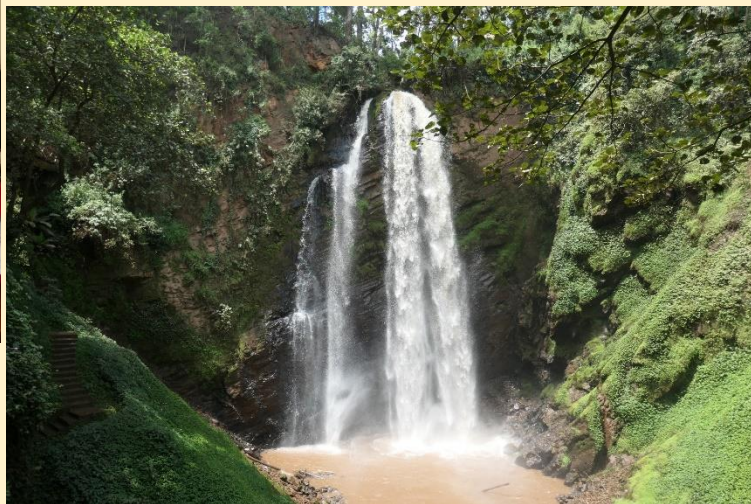
On the left and below is a new Universal Anaesthetics Machine recently received following kind support from **Gradian health care through Joint Medical Stores**, our main supplier. This is a really useful piece of equipment







**Herbert Kwikiriiza**, Manager of Kisiizi Hospital Power Limited (KHPL), was delighted to receive this special equipment to help optimise the performance of one of our hydro-electricity generators. Special thanks to Dr Bill Cave once again for the tremendous support provided to KHPL over decades!



We are grateful that rainfall has remained adequate being aware that some parts of the world have suffered drought. Also, of course, we rejoice that we have not had any further floods since 2020.

### ***INTERNS SAY GOODBYE...***







A party was held in the Kisiizi Falls Visitors Centre to say farewell to our intern doctors who have successfully completed a year in Kisiizi. 5 of them are staying on short term as medical officers until the next group of interns arrive on 22<sup>nd</sup> March. Training of medical and nursing and allied health professional staff is part of Kisiizi's role. (unfortunately Dr Joel Otho was called to deal with emergency cases so missed the photos)

*And, of course, in Kisiizi there is always a cake to cut!*







Here cakes are being presented to Staff to share immediately after morning chapel as different couples and families say “thank you” to Kisiizi for support.



## ***Rejoice!***

*One of our senior nursing staff, Sister Agnes at her Give-away, the day before her wedding*





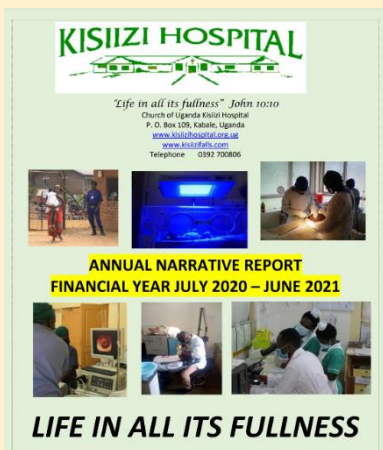


### QUADS QUIZ!

The answer to the question "how can the mum of the quadruplet girls know which one is which?" is that she noticed they have unique ears!



3 of the 4 girls have a pre-auricular sinus (see arrow on photo) but on different ears and in different positions. 1 baby does not have a sinus.



### KISIIZI ANNUAL NARRATIVE REPORT TO 30<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2021

In case you missed it and would like a more detailed and systematic overview of the ministries and services provided by Kisiizi please click on the link below:

<http://www.kisiizihospital.org/ wp-content/uploadedfiles/2021/08/KH-Annual-Report-FY-2020-2021-F.pdf>

This document and previous editions of this newsletter are available on our website



[www.kisiizihospital.org.ug](http://www.kisiizihospital.org.ug)

You will also find links to some videos used on Friends of Kisiizi day on the website.



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

We would be glad to hear from you ([khmedsup@gmail.com](mailto:khmedsup@gmail.com)) that you have safely received this newsletter. If you wish us to update your email address to a more permanent one or remove you from our list please email us.



"Would you be happy to receive regular email updates from Kisiizi Partners? If so, please respond to this email/email [richard@kisiizipartners.org.uk](mailto:richard@kisiizipartners.org.uk) and we can add you to our mailing list with your consent to adhere to GDPR regulations"

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