



“PRESSING ON...” *“I press on towards the goal...” Philippians 3:14*

SEPTEMBER 2022

Warm greetings once again from Church of Uganda Kisiizi Hospital

A word from our Administrator Mr Moses Mugume

The editor for the newsletter, Dr Barak, asked me to contribute to the newsletter, and what came to my mind immediately was to share the challenges that Kisiizi has gone through in our current season. As a consequence, I want to oppose the view that our readers are not of importance to Kisiizi. So let me encourage you, by saying that you have been part of our family; sustaining health care services in this place. Every season comes with new things, some challenging in nature, and in a rapidly evolving world you have supported us, embracing us resiliently. The Lord has continued to show that he cares for us, and thank you for the way you continue to be part of this testimony. A testimony of a place that has never closed its gates to the vulnerable. A testimony that drives me to serve these people. This motivation is not my own, nor does it come from the Kisiizi environment, with the beautiful valley and the waterfall that we are so happy to have. It comes from The Lord, who has saved us for good works.

Thanksgiving service for Dr John and Doreen Sharp



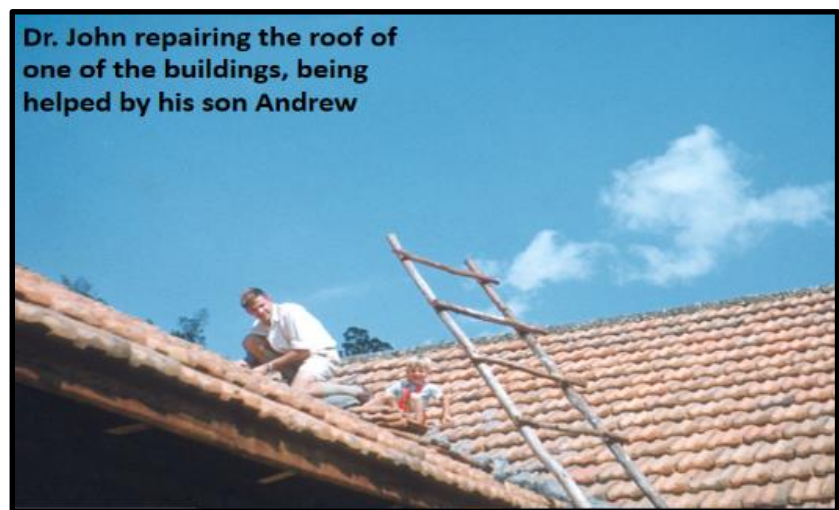
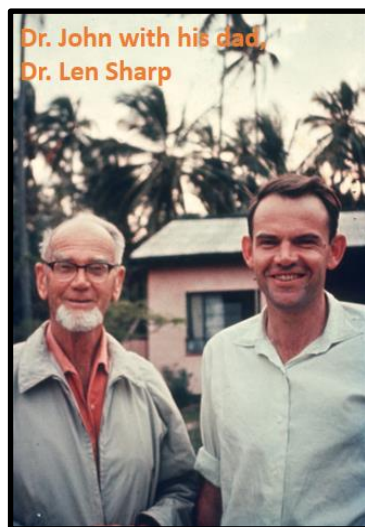
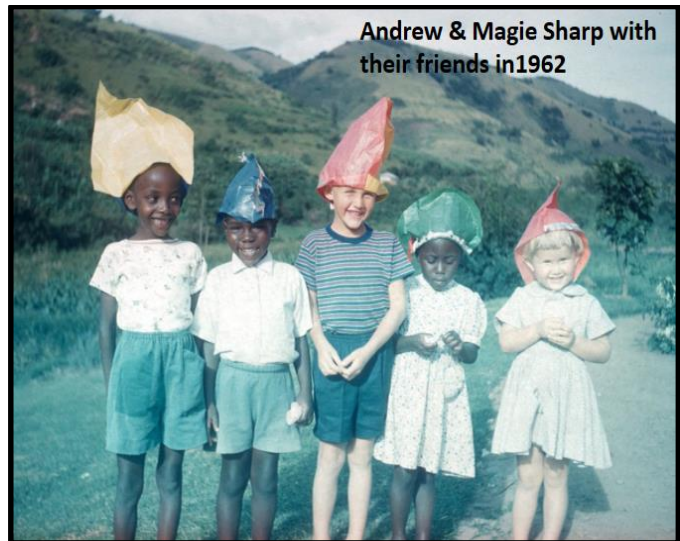
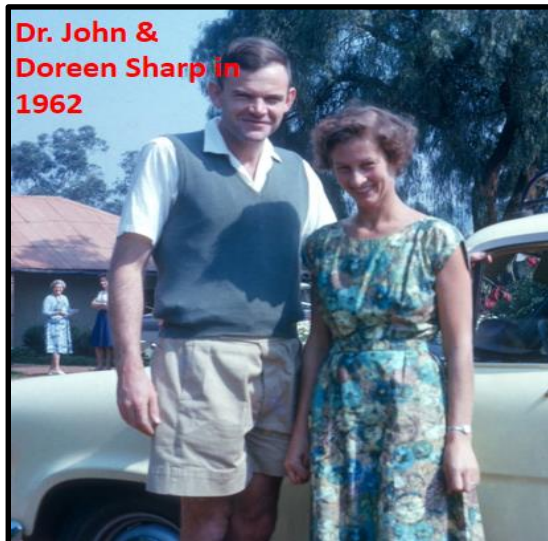
The Thanksgiving service for life of Dr John and Doreen Sharp was held in Kisiizi on 31st July 2022.

We were delighted to listen to Dr. Twongyeirwe Julius testify of how the ministry in Kisiizi has transformed his entire life.

Bishop Patrick Tugume also shared a recorded message.

We thank Dr Andrew Sharp who sent a very warm message on behalf of the Sharp family, full of historical events.

Below are some photos Dr Andrew sent with his message:-



A stone was laid at the centre of the hospital where a monument of Dr John Sharp will be placed in the future.



In his speech, the Medical Superintendent urged all at Kisiizi to uphold the legacy of the two founders by pledging to always uphold the motto of the institution: Providing *Life in all its fullness*.

PRAISE THE LORD!! Stre@mline WON!!

HUGE thanks for your prayers and support for Stre@mline Health and Kisiizi's entry. There were 264 applications from 81 countries for the Swiss Re Foundation Entrepreneurial Awards for Resilience 2022. We knew we were in the top 3 and at the Awards Ceremony on 7th September it was announced that the jury had chosen Stre@mline Health as the overall winner! You can see the moment of the announcement on a video clip on the hospital website www.kisiizihospital.org.ug

This will give a big grant to help strengthen the community health insurance scheme in Kisiizi and to replicate it in 14 other hospitals around Uganda to provide quality access to healthcare to 150,000 more beneficiaries in the next 2 years and hopefully many more beyond!



In the separate People's Choice vote we came a very close second to the Nigerian entry but we believe that as we had so many votes it will still prove really helpful in encouraging many more potential partnerships and support going forward. Samuel Mugisha receiving 1st prize on his visit to Switzerland

Please continue to pray for Samuel and the whole team as they start to implement the programmes that will be transformative for many communities.

The Rains are back, Praise the Lord!

Though Kisiizi does not struggle to keep an ever-green cover, the dry season comes with many challenges including our hydro-electric generator struggling to run due to low water levels, causing power outages. We were excited to receive the rainy season that would also coincide with the planting season for our communities.



Anti-flood team members helping clear the bottle-neck of the channel before rains start.

We are also aware of the challenges that usually come with the rainy season like flooding, and interference with the hospital activities.

A number of strategies have been put in place to prevent these from happening.



A small drainage trench being built.

The blue arrows in the picture below show the roofed walkways leading to some of the wards from the out-patient department. More work still needs to be done to connect all ward areas as funds allow..



We thank All-Souls Church, London for contributing towards the construction of the retaining wall of the water channel behind the old flax factory building that houses the Surgery and Gynecology wards plus the chapel.

This will help protect both the power house and the old flax building from floods and it will improve the resilience of power generation.



Laparoscopic Camp



We were very delighted to receive Dr. Gabie (consultant surgeon- *extreme left*) with a team of specialists from Kampala for the launch of laparoscopic surgery in Kisiizi.

A surgical camp was held for 4 days and 10 patients were operated on and recovered very quickly and very well. The team donated various equipment and sundries and equipped us with new knowledge and skills.

Ever since the camp, the team of doctors at Kisiizi hospital has continued routinely to perform surgeries laparoscopically and at a very subsidized cost, being the furthest hospital south of Kampala with the service



Left:
Laparoscopic surgery on-going.

Right: *Team members receiving a modern laparoscopy simulation device from Dr Gabie.*



We thank the partners who responded to our request for support for the camp. These include; Equity Bank-Uganda, Planet Pharmaceuticals and Mediquip Pharmaceuticals.

Your support to the services offered is much appreciated.



Here management members receive a consignment from Equity Bank-Kabale officials

Ophthalmology services

We thank the Lions International Clubs Foundation through their Mbarara league, in collaboration with Mbarara University Department of Ophthalmology, for launching the comprehensive eye care project at Kisiizi Hospital in July this year. Following training of two of our staff members in eye care, an eye surgical camp was held at the hospital during which 34 patients underwent eye surgery with very good outcomes, thanks to Dr Sam (the one waving) and the entire team.



We continue to cherish the longstanding partnership we have with Ruharo eye Hospital through Dr Keith Waldeyer.

CHEERS - we have missed you!

It was so refreshing and life-giving to have the CHEERS Team visit and support our community. CV19 had stopped recent previous attempt to visit so it was such a pleasure to have them again. Group leader, Stacy Ann Nevin writes:

The 2022 CHEERS:DHT multidisciplinary team included Physiotherapists (Bernie and Hannah), Speech and Language Therapists (Aileen and Emma), Pharmacists/Team Leads (Stacy and Sharon), as well as an Occupational Therapist (Edel), a nurse (Niamh) and a Dietitian (Eimear). The team arrived in Kisiizi late on Saturday, July 2, and the following day enjoyed a visit to the beautiful Kisiizi Falls and meeting some of the locals. Every day the team enjoyed the welcome with song and drumbeats in the Kisiizi Hospital Chapel. During our first day at the Kisiizi hospital site, the team met various key stakeholders of the hospital, who made us feel welcome and answered our questions, including Ainebyona Dan (physiotherapist), the rehab team and various discipline-specific leaders that we met during a first tour of the hospital facilities.



The successful delivery of the 2-day 'Care of the Older Person' workshop was one of the key objectives of the CHEEERS: DHT team. The workshops were held on July 7th & 8th in the Kisiizi Falls Visitor Centre and were attended by over 75 healthcare professionals on both days, including Kisiizi hospital staff and professionals who traveled from other parts of Uganda including Kampala, Ntungamo, Kabale and beyond. In addition to delivering engaging workshop presentations, each

volunteer worked alongside hospital staff with projects related to their discipline, and though there are too many to describe in full, here are some examples: the Speech and Language Therapists provided multiple training opportunities to nurses on how to perform swallow assessments; the Occupational Therapist worked with Ahumuza (Psychiatry service) to provide meaningful activities for the patients there; the Nurse pioneered the first sexual health education training in a local school with Rehab staff member Monica, and a cohort of this year's team also joined a Community Outreach visit.

Finally, the team fundraised hard to raise the required funds to support a digital X-Ray machine at Kisiizi Hospital. We are now €2,500 short of the target of €15,000 and we would be grateful for any support or assistance to enable us to realize this essential diagnostic piece of equipment for Kisiizi. If anyone is in a position to support us in this aim you can donate at the following link and note that your donation is for the X-ray machine:

https://www.idonate.ie/2898_cheeers--developing-healthcare-together.html .

At present, all funds raised will go directly to funding this machine!

Thank you.

Student placements

Kisiizi Hospital has continued to welcome many students to have their medical experience from the hospital. Collaborations with many training institutions both within and outside the country have strengthened our medical practice and ethics and we cherish them.

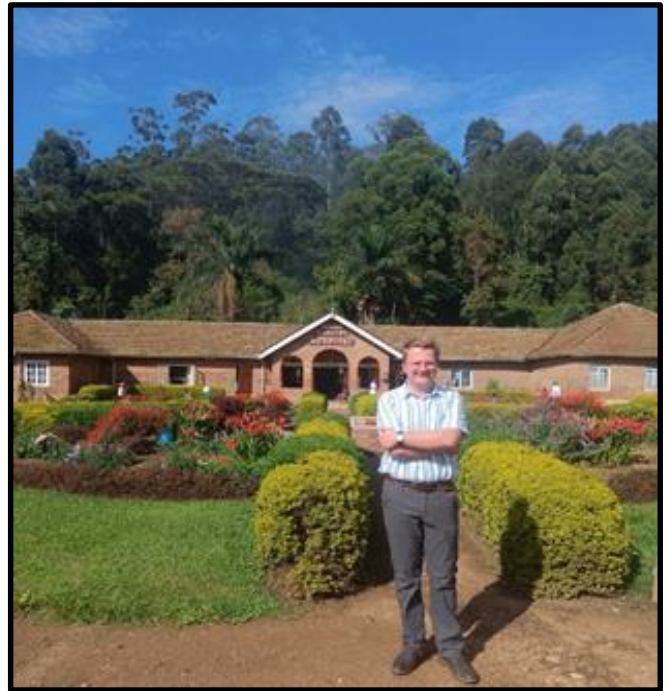
Here a paediatric physiotherapy session on-going with Mr Dan- the physiotherapist training Mr Kironde (Physiotherapy student from Mbarara University-Uganda), Ms Zoe and Wictoria both occupational therapy students from Vives University college- Belgium



Mr Alex Scott- a medical student from UK, recently came for placement with his wife, and shared his experience as quoted below;

"I have spent the past 6 weeks at Kisiizi hospital for my elective, spending the majority of my time learning in the medical ward. Kisiizi is such a wonderful place to live, learn and grow as a Christian. The experiences I have had on the ward are truly unique and the breadth of medical presentations is astounding.

Furthermore, as the hospital is entrenched in Christian values and beliefs, I have been able to attend bible studies and fellowships which have enabled me to make new and great friends and be encouraged in the Christian faith.



My wife Susie has also had an incredible time teaching at the primary school and caring for the young children in the area. We pray that we will one day return for a longer period as a fully qualified doctor and teacher.

We would highly recommend anyone to go and serve, visit or live in Kisiizi."

Blessings, Alex Scott

Ahumuza Update

It is wonderful to have ongoing support from individuals who have visited Kisiizi, and it was a privilege to welcome Jane and Graham Pettinger who visited for a few weeks in July and August. They have written about their time with Ahumuza:



"Following our three month visit to KH in October 2019, we were delighted to be able to follow this up in July 2022, a visit which would have happened much sooner but for the pandemic.

It was wonderful to renew our many friendships in Kisiizi, but we were especially excited to see the lovely Ahumuza team with whom we have shared lively WhatsApp contact over the months. Psychiatric clinical officer Orishaba Georgious has developed the team effectively since we left in January 2020 and we were impressed that they all set off for a team building away day on our first Saturday. Photos emerged of them rafting, canoeing, and eating fish they had caught!"



There have been several new appointments to the psychiatric nursing team: Ivan, Violet and Shereen. These new members have each added great value to what had already become a very cohesive and effective team. We are impressed with all of their commitment, compassion and clinical skills. We enjoyed sharing some tutorials with them, and the wider team.

Great progress has been made in the area of developing the ward environment. Many patients spend several weeks or months on the ward with their attendants, and now they all benefit from a small but healthy plantation behind the ward where they help grow matoke and mangoes... They are also now breeding rabbits, which many of the patients enjoy tending. A newly built piggery is now in place, and ready to house pigs as soon as swine flu is no longer a threat. All of this is good occupational and emotional therapy, and also helps to feed those destitute patients without attendants – sadly not uncommon on Ahumuza ward.



Our visit coincided with a community leaders' education day organised by Georgious with the aim of raising awareness about mental health needs and promoting community action to improve the response to a mental illness within a family. About thirty community leaders gathered and responded very positively to the messages being presented by Georgious and sister Prima, engaging with the issues and sharing their thoughts and ideas. This is vital work in these poor rural communities, where patients with mental illness can still be badly stigmatised and may live in the most desperate circumstances.

Before we left, we held a team party which featured Bakiga dancing, and a very, very large pan of matoke grown in the ward plantation! We feel privileged to be involved in a small way with the mental health team at Kisiizi hospital. They are a focused and dedicated unit, with a strong positive approach to the many challenges they face, and above all, huge compassion for their patients.

Kisiizi School of Nursing sports



We had great success in the regional schools' competition:

- The women's football team lost in the final, coming second overall
- The women's volleyball team also lost in the final coming second overall.
- The women's netball team lost in the final, another second place for Kisiizi. Well done ladies!
- The men's football team lost in the semi-final coming 4th in the competition.
- And last but by no means least, the men's volleyball team played in the semi-finals coming a respectable 3rd in the competition.
- The athletics team gave an excellent performance collected 6 gold medals, 5 silver and 1 bronze medals at both regional and national levels.

Weddings

So much has happened over the past few months, and we were excited to hear about Stuart Garret's wedding and it was a pleasure to be part of Gilbert Turinawe's



New appointments and new visitors



Left: Sister Sarah Tugumenawe was appointed In-charge Paediatric ward.

Right: A huge thanks to Tim and Becky Conry who have come to support the Paediatric and Stores teams.





Goodbyes

We were sad to lose a longstanding member of staff; Ngambeki Jason, who died at age 69. He had been a faithful employee at Kisiizi Power Company since it started in 2009. MHSRIP

“Life in all its fullness”

John 10v10



Donations



It is wonderful to get fresh supporters and we want to thank The Butts Church (Alton) and the South Central Ambulance Service who between them donated a defibrillator, pads, and a huge volume of airway adjuncts. This was gratefully received by one of our senior Anaesthetic Officers Phillip Mbaju.



We are also very thankful for the generous donation from Elisa Tanner, a Psychologist who recently spent 6 months at Kisiizi. She paid for; 1 syringe pump, 1 patient monitoring system, 5 Nebulizers and 3 examination lights. Thank you Elisa.

Building work:

On-going construction of the mortuary building.



Existing old surgical ward building



Looking ahead, we plan to do a major refurbishment of our surgical ward whose walls are crumbling and could collapse at any time. We are believing in God for the provision of the large funds needed for this big piece of work. During the same process, we will also widen the existing chapel building.



You are warmly invited to join FRIENDS OF KISIIZI DAY on 29th October 2022 from 10.30am – 4.30pm

After 2 years of having to hold Zoom meetings due to the Covid-19 pandemic, we are delighted to be able to meet face to face again in Reading and do hope many Friends of Kisiizi will be able to join us.

We are also scoping out if it is possible to live stream the main sessions to allow more friends to join us on-line. We will update the website www.kisiizihospital.org.ug with details.

**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) 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.

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