

# “PRESSING ON...”

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



*Life in all its fullness*

**Kisiizi Updates November 2021**

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

This is the murram road running through Kisiizi. After 50 minutes or so you will come to tarmac. But all that may change in a few years as the plans to tarmac the road are being developed by the Uganda National Roads Authority scoping out options from Muhanga to Kebisoni.

If the road were to come through the hospital it would take a minimum of 20 meters width including the “road reserve” on either side. This would mean the loss of some buildings and would have a number of concerning impacts. It would compromise our School of Nursing & Midwifery which potentially would have to relocate.

The Medical Superintendent and Senior Hospital Administrator have met with the local Member of Parliament to advocate for a diversion (in fact this had been

approved decades ago but never implemented). Clearly having a proper tarmac road to help connect to Kabale to the south and to Rukungiri and Mbarara/Kampala to the north will be very helpful to Kisiizi and will open up access to a greater number of patients and improve travel options for our Staff. So please join us in praying for the right decisions to be made regarding the final route of this road.



We anticipate actual construction taking place in 3 – 4 years time and all the signs are that it will go ahead.

*The dotted yellow line shows where the road reserve would reach, all the way from the left side of the existing road just visible in the photo!*





***“Pressing on...”***



## **Friends of Kisiizi Day 2021** **Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> November**

**from 9:30am – 12.30pm UK time (GMT)**

***Once again this will be a virtual zoom Friends Day meeting with feedback videos from Kisiizi and hopefully a live link for Questions and answers with Kisiizi Staff***

**Links for registration will be sent out later**

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

Thanks to Dr Richard Mayers of Kisiizi Partners who has set up the link for Friends Day registration as follows:

“Register in advance for this meeting:

[https://zoom.us/meeting/register/tJMkceCrqjsvGtNDU743ENOZlx8CjR\\_njVeB](https://zoom.us/meeting/register/tJMkceCrqjsvGtNDU743ENOZlx8CjR_njVeB)

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting. (Please note the joining information will not come straight away as your registration will need to be reviewed)”





An operation in progress on this lady's femur (thigh bone) under a spinal anaesthetic. She was chatting happily to the staff during the procedure which went very well.



And (finally!) here is construction of covered pathways so patients can be moved even during storms in the rainy season. The photo is looking down from the Out-Patient area towards the Wards, Chapel and Theatres.



Social distancing measures for Out-Patients for covid precautions... and the end of the old mortuary that was falling down and had become unsafe.



Here is Dr Albert Alinda in our Primary School Hall addressing staff from Health Centres situated in Rubabo Health Sub-District (HSD). The District Health Officer has given Kisiizi Hospital the oversight support-supervision role for the HSD and Dr Albert, one of our Medical Officers, is the HSD Co-ordinator and is doing a good job supported by Sister Diana Kanyesigye who heads up the Kisiizi ART clinic for patients with HIV. Sr Vasta is lead for Immunisation and Sr Hanna supports the midwifery supervision.



However her main role is currently supporting Mr Moses Mugume, our Senior Hospital Administrator, by helping to run the Finance Office. Kisiizi is extremely grateful to Malcolm Crawford (shown in the photo with Sr Hanna) a chartered accountant from UK who has come out to help and is with us until December.

We are currently in the process of recruiting a Finance Manager and would value your prayers that we find the right person for this important role.



Kisiizi is grateful to Kisiizi Partners for their support and for commissioning an external consultant finance review of Kisiizi finance and procurement systems by *Humentum*. We welcomed two specialists Andrew and Timothy from Kampala. Here members of Management are receiving feedback from Andrew at the end of the week.



One aspect of the review was looking at our Risk Register assessing potential risks and their severity. Shortly afterwards we had problems with both of our main Autoclaves, one of which “exploded”! These machines are crucial for sterilising instruments and linen needed for surgical operations, maternity deliveries etc. Repairs have been undertaken but a replacement is needed.



Note the crack that has developed through the lid. These machines are in use every night 7 days a week and are many years old so have served well but are past their sell by date!

We appreciate our electricians, plumbers, carpenters, mechanics etc who help us to repair equipment and keep the services running.



We continue to hold staff prayers every morning outside the lab and pharmacy area – lovely on a sunny morning but can be challenging in the rainy season!

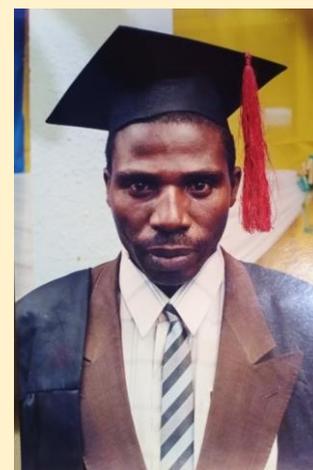


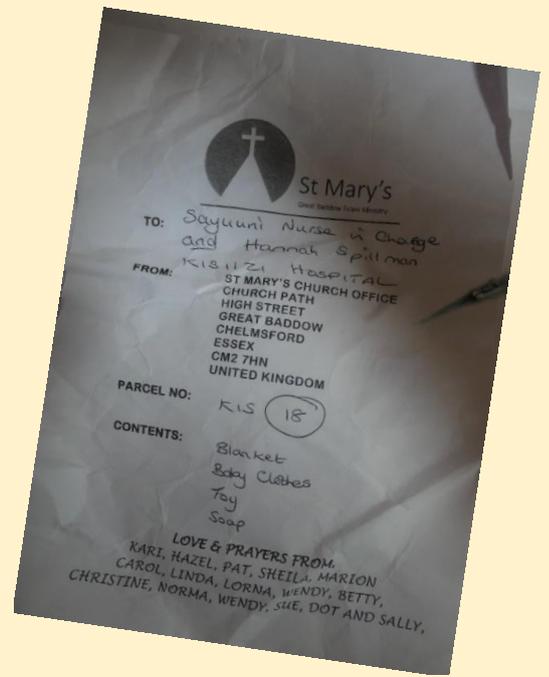
## **ELDAD TWINOMUGISHA**

*With sadness we announce the loss of one of our longstanding staff, Eldad.*

*He had served in Kisiizi for over 20 years, initially in the Accounts Department then later taking responsibility for the General Stores.*

*He was a gentle and faithful colleague and will be greatly missed.*





Sr Sayunni Eunice is in-charge of our Special Care Baby Unit and is seen here (right) sorting out knitted clothes received from supporters. We give them to the premature babies and young children on the ward and they are hugely appreciated by the families. The mother above with her baby carried in the local traditional way on her back has been helped by the Good Samaritan Fund which gives crucial help to the vulnerable.

**KISIIZI SENDS A VERY BIG THANKS TO ALL WHO SEND THESE ITEMS.** Churches and groups have been helping in this way for decades, one such being St Mary's in Standon, England, who have had links with Kisiizi going back to the time Dr Bill and Judy Cave were here in the 1980's.



Most of our patients are subsistence farmers relying on what they can grow with no social security safety net so if the crops do not grow then people are left in poverty.

Note the state of the roof!

*So from what sort of environment and communities do Kisiizi's patients come?*





Some communities near Kabale, our district town about 90 minutes drive away, work in informal quarries to break up rock to form hardcore stones...

Thankfully as Kisiizi is in the Kigezi Highlands and is around 1,660m (about 5,450 feet) (compare with Ben Nevis at 1,345 meters) above mean sea level we receive adequate rainfall so the landscape of the area is green and the land quite fertile.



The village roads are just dirt, the more major ones have murrum that contains more gravel.



### RECREATION

Staff playing badminton... with the Kisiizi Falls flagpoles in the foreground..

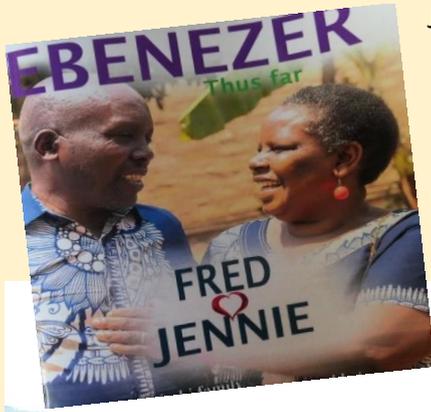
Staff children relaxing...



... and a boda-boda driver dreaming of a customer!



Left: Judith, one of our Laboratory Technicians, standing up in chapel to thank staff for their support during her recent wedding.



Jenny and Fred Biseki previously worked in Kisiizi, Jenny as a nurse and Fred as a teacher in our Primary School. They celebrated their 40 year ruby wedding anniversary with a thanksgiving service and of course it was a good excuse for a Kisiizi reunion:



Some readers will recognise (left to right) Margaret Makobole, Jolly, Margaret Kagambo, Mt Timarirwa, Nancy, Eric, Esther (former Principal Nursing Officer), Jovairo, Jennifer, Doreen and Prima who serves as our first ever Child & Adolescent Mental Health Nurse with her second child Esther.

### **KISIIZI HISTORY**



*A trunk used by the Sharp family to bring china on the boat to Mombassa then overland all the way to Kisiizi at the beginning of the hospital.... And the original flax factory built by Italian prisoners of war in 1944 and forming the core of Kisiizi Hospital when it opened in 1958.*

Some of the **flood defences** put in place to slow down water and trap large debris coming down the river. This is near our capped spring water supply above the road and last year it was down this valley that we had torrential water carrying trees and rocks that damaged our hydro-electricity plant and flooded the low-lying ward areas.



We have also opened up part of the main river channel where there was a bottle-neck near the generator house and put a protective wall around this to minimise the chance of damage.



The *Kisiizi Falls* suspension bridge has been renovated with replacement hand rails. Thousands of people have enjoyed the views it offers and some have even got engaged there! Proceeds help the Good Samaritan Fund.



"He looks just like his mum!"



Kisiizi Falls enjoys birds of all shapes and sizes and currently has a pair of Ross' Turaco chicks...

Rather more fierce looking is this African Harrier Hawk juvenile... These birds were seen right next to the Visitors Centre...



**KISIIZI HOSPITAL**

*"Life in all its fullness" John 10:20*  
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**ANNUAL NARRATIVE REPORT**  
**FINANCIAL YEAR JULY 2020 – JUNE 2021**

**LIFE IN ALL ITS FULLNESS**

**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.ug/wp-content/uploads/files/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)



**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"



To benefit from Gift Aid please give via Kisiizi Partners [www.kisiizipartners.org.uk](http://www.kisiizipartners.org.uk)

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UK Account: National Westminster Berkhamsted branch  
Sort code 55-70-10 Account: Kisiizi Hospital 06513123