



Christmas Greetings from **KIWOKO HOSPITAL**



From our Medical Director

I would like to welcome all our readers to our Christmas Newsletter for 2022. It is always a privilege to have this space to communicate to you all.

The Bible says, ***"O give thanks unto the Lord; for he is good; for his mercy endureth for ever."*** (1 Chronicles 16:34 KJV)

As a Hospital there has been so much to thank the Lord for. Many times when the forecast appeared bleak for one reason or another, He has come through for us again and again in unexpected ways. Just to mention a few: we are grateful for how He has intervened again and again in the face of disease, adverse weather conditions and economic challenges. For sure many times He has worked things out in ways which were above what we even asked or thought or imagined and we praise the Lord for that!

continued overleaf



December 2022

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We would like to express thanks to all who have stood with us in prayer and with words of encouragement, those who have taken time to come out and visit or work with us and those who have given of their time talent or treasure. May the Lord bless you. Special thanks to all who have responded so far to our appeal for support towards staff remuneration. It has been a stitch in time! (I would know that as a Surgeon!!)



On a personal note I would like to thank our Board, Management and Staff for working so diligently this year; it has been a very busy end year with many achievements. Well done for your faithful service to the Lord!

As usual please read on for more exciting updates in the latest chapter of life at Kiwoko Hospital. Any and all continued support and prayer is so welcome.

Finally, I wish you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year 2023!

Dr Peter Serwadda

“And we have seen and testify that the Father has sent His Son to be the Saviour of the world.” 1 John 4:14

KEEP PRAYING...

At the close of this year we want to thank you for your interest in and support of Kiwoko Hospital during 2022. We really appreciate your encouragement and prayers, and ask you to keep remembering the hospital, our staff, patients and community before our God. Thank you for your part in the work here in Kiwoko.

- Continue to praise God! We thank Him for His continued faithfulness, provision and care through which we keep on serving the people of our local communities and beyond.
- Praise God for all our partners, donors and supporters, those who have supported for years and those who have recently developed links. Without these partnerships, Kiwoko Hospital could not function.
- Continue to pray for the hospital leadership as they make many decisions about the present and future running of the hospital - that they would seek for and know God's guidance in everything.
- Thank God for the recent World Prematurity Day celebrations and every life that is impacted by Kiwoko Hospital NICU.
- Pray for the Friends Brothers as they complete their epic Transatlantic rowing challenge.
- Thank God for all our staff, each with a unique and important role at the hospital. Pray for the FOKH campaign to raise more funds for staff wages.
- Thank God for the ministry team and the many opportunities to share God's love through word and deed, whether with staff, patients, attendants or the local community.
- Pray for every patient and attendant who comes to Kiwoko. Pray that they will experience God's love in action, and that they would know God's speaking voice into their lives.
- Pray that in everything happening at Kiwoko Hospital, God will be glorified.

WORLD PREMATURETY DAY AT KIWOKO!



Laureen Babirye, Kiwoko Hospital Business Development Manager, reports on the very successful events surrounding World Prematurity Day 2022.

We were privileged to be a part of the 2022 National World Prematurity Day celebrations that happened in Kiwoko, Nakaseke district on 17th November 2022. In the run up to this event, activities that included knowledge sharing and bench marking were held. This year's World Prematurity Day theme was ***'A parent's embrace; a powerful therapy. Enable skin-to-skin contact from the moment of birth.'***



WORLD PREMATURETY DAY CELEBRATIONS
(Clockwise from top above):
Bombo military band lead the march at the start the celebrations; Knowledge sharing; Sr Josephine teaching Kangaroo Care; Certificates following KMC training; Officials visit stalls.





Approximately 15 million babies are born early every year and nearly 1 million children die each year due to complications of preterm birth (WHO). Kiwoko Hospital, with support from Adara Group, has for more than two decades offered quality



and affordable Neonatal Intensive Care services (NICU) to poor and vulnerable populations. The Ugandan Ministry of Health recognises Kiwoko as a Centre of Excellence in neonatal services. This World Prematurity Day, we had the opportunity to share our NICU story with policy makers and medical personnel from different parts of the country.

THANK YOU, KIWOKO HOSPITAL NICU!

Over the years, many families have been positively impacted by the work of Kiwoko Hospital NICU. In commemoration of the World Prematurity Day, Richard Dieudonne, his wife Anderu Monika and young children travelled far to share their Kiwoko Hospital NICU experience with all present at the commemorations .

“My wife, Monika, and I travelled more than 400 kilometres from Koboko district to access quality maternal and child health services at Kiwoko Hospital. We thank God for Kiwoko Hospital.

In March 2021, my wife who had travelled to Arua district for antenatal care informed me that we were expecting quadruplets. I told her that everything would be fine - this was our third pregnancy. However, the truth was that I feared we would give birth to premature babies. Soaked in worry, I spent a lot of time searching the internet for information regarding premature babies. A lot of the information that I looked up showed that babies born prematurely do not live beyond 36 months. Before my children were born, I randomly sent out emails to different



Richard and Monika with their three children

“The truth was that I feared we would give birth to premature babies.”

individuals and organizations requesting for support. I was preparing for what I anticipated would be a very difficult time for my family and I.

Luckily, Mary Slaman, a lady based in the United States of America [Founder and President of The Twin to Twin Transfusion Syndrome Foundation] responded to my email and agreed to walk this journey with us. She asked us to share details of

NICU services in Uganda. Koboko district does not have NICU services that could easily take quadruplets. I wrote to ‘popular’ hospitals in Kampala to understand the cost of neonatal services. I received responses from only one of the hospitals (see Table 1, next page) . Basing on the information that I received, it meant that I was meant to pay up to UGX 12,000,000 per day for my kids to be admitted to the NICU.

Then we found out about Kiwoko Hospital. Mary was in contact with Adara who told us to phone Christine Otai at the hospital. We arrived at the hospital at 10.30pm at night, Christine was waiting for us and the staff worked with us until 3.00am in the morning.



Table 1: The Quotation Richard Received for Costs (per day) for NICU services at an alternative hospital		
NICU Services provided	ONE children, per day	FOUR children, per day
NICU, NO oxygen	UGX 1,000,000	UGX 4,000,000
NICU, WITH oxygen	UGX 2,000,000	UGX 8,000,000
NICU, WITH oxygen AND additional services	UGX 3,000,000	UGX 12,000,000

The next morning, my wife went into labour at 27 weeks. We thank God that we were in Kiwoko when she went into labour. In the early hours of the morning, our four babies were born weighing 780g to 980g. I was happy but at the same time I was scared because I was looking at what would be

after this. The babies were rushed to the NICU so they could provide specialist care. I told my wife, let's follow what the doctors tell us so we can go home. Unfortunately we lost one of our children, our second born who struggled—she passed away on her third day of life. The other three improved, and continued to grow and develop. In total we spent 2 months at Kiwoko Hospital in NICU and 2 weeks under supervision. It was a very difficult experience. I call my wife a champion.

I thank God that everything was ok. The doctors were so good; they were so friendly. Honestly, in my entire life where I have been going to hospitals I have never found support and care the way I found here in Kiwoko Hospital.

By God's grace we were able to come out to this. Our children are grown up now. Today they are with us — Madiba Matteo Francis, Maloyi Mary Frances and Matoyi Maria Francesca. I thank God for Kiwoko Hospital."

"In my entire life where I have been going to hospitals I have never found support and care the way I found here in Kiwoko Hospital."

[NOTE: Richard and Monika's story has previously been published using alternative names by ADARA on their website—[click here](#)]



Group Photo to commemorate World Prematurity Day 2022

Fundraising Updates

THEATRE EXPANSION & STAFF WAGES



THE FRIENDSHIP CHALLENGE

Anyone who has been reading the recent Hospital Newsletters or following the Kiwoko Hospital social media sites will be aware that on 12th December 2022 the Friend brothers (Jack, Hamish, Arthur and Euan) started their Transatlantic rowing challenge. They are attempting to row unassisted over 3,000 miles across the Atlantic ocean from the Canary Islands to Antigua. This immense challenge is not only a personal challenge and an attempt at two(!) world records—the first 4 brothers to row an ocean and the first 2 sets of twins to row an ocean—it is also being done to raise money for 3 charities, one of which is Friends of Kiwoko Hospital. Specifically, the money

raised will be allocated to help fund the expansion and refurbishment of Kiwoko Hospital's main operating theatre. Let's cheer the boys on in this epic challenge: **GO BOYS GO!!**

Further information on the challenge can be found at www.thefriendshipatlantic.com

FOKH STAFF WAGES APPEAL

Kiwoko Hospital can only continue to provide excellent healthcare because of their many dedicated staff. Each member provides different skills and is essential to the ongoing running of the hospital. These staff are the hospital's key resource, and Kiwoko Hospital could not function without them!

But Kiwoko Hospital has a MASSIVE challenge. Unsurprisingly, the annual budget for human resource (395 staff salaries) is huge - in fact, the 2022/2023 budget for salaries alone is UGX 3,877,414,684 (Approx. £881,000 / US\$1,020,000). 249 staff are paid from the hospital General Fund a fund that Friends of Kiwoko Hospital (FOKH) has been supporting for many years. (Table to right shows some examples of monthly wages) Due to their many generous supporters, FOKH were able to donate £19,000 each month to the General Fund to support salaries in 2021/2022—a total of £228,000 during that financial year!

AND YET FOKH need more



**GIVING
TUESDAY**
29 NOVEMBER



**HELP PAY
STAFF
WAGES**

Job Role	MONTHLY Wages for All Staff (approx. cost in GBP and US Dollars)		
Security Officers	UGX 3,580,520	£814	US\$942
Medical Clinical Officers	UGX 4,074,038	£926	US\$1,072
Cleaners	UGX 6,205,040	£1,410	US\$1,633
Pharmacy Team	UGX 6,795,054	£1,544	US\$1,788
General Workshop & Medial Workshop Team	UGX 10,708,236	£2,434	US\$2,818
OPD Nurses	UGX 14,317,783	£3,254	US\$3,768
Laboratory Team	UGX 14,880,033	£3,382	US\$3,916

finances to ensure that there are enough funds for ALL Kiwoko Hospital staff paid from the General Fund! A new FOKH appeal to support staff wages was launched in the run up to Giving Tuesday on 29th November 2022, and continues to run into the New Year. This aims to raise at least £19,000 enabling FOKH to continue supporting staff wages. To donate to this cause, visit the JustGiving Campaign page (<https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/linda-park4>) or donate directly through the FOKH website (www.fokh.org.uk/giving/).



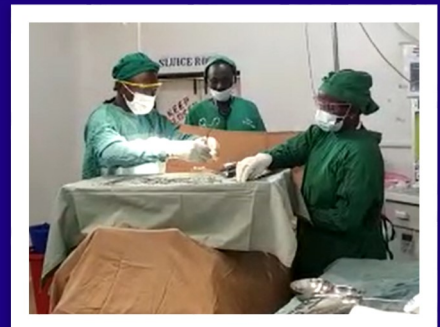
For further details regarding projects or other fundraising efforts, contact Laureen Babirye: businessmanager@kiwokohospital.org



STAFF WAGES CAMPAIGN



*Every member of staff at Kiwoko Hospital is valuable!
Can **YOU** help support their wages?*



For more information, please contact:

⇒ FOKH website: www.fokh.org.uk/giving/

⇒ JustGiving Campaign: <https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/linda-park4>

MINISTRY UPDATE

Mission and ministry continue to be a vital part of Kiwoko Hospital. Our Hospital Chaplain, Rev. William Mirimu Zziwa, provides the following report.



Rev. William with his wife and son

“Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace among those with whom he is pleased!” Luke 2:14

Gladly I write these words of the heavenly hosts, a great army of Heaven’s angels that sang praises to God when the promised Messiah was born for us men and for our salvation. It is now just a few days to Christmas when we believers celebrate this Greatest Birthday ever.

As part of the Chaplaincy team of Kiwoko Hospital, my family and myself are very grateful to God for this far He has brought us since the start of this year of our Lord 2022. We have seen the Lord at work in us and for us and more so for this lovely institution. Among the many testimonies we have particularly in this last quarter of the year witnessed a successful Pastoral Visit of our Diocesan Bishop and Hospital Patron, the Rt. Rev. Eridard Kironde Nsubuga, together with his wife, Maama Jane Nsubuga, on Wednesday the 30th of

November 2022.



Bishop Eridard Nsubuga addresses the congregation

On this day we witnessed the Official

Commissioning and Baptism of the Hospital Chapel as **ST. LUKE’S ANGLICAN CHAPEL KIWOKO HOSPITAL** and this was followed by a Confirmation Service during which 18 Christians were confirmed according to the Practice of the Anglican Church. Among these we had staff, students and children of the staff. It was a great celebration that involved cutting of a cake and sharing of gifts with the Bishop. The day was crowned up with a mega end of year Christmas Party for the entire Hospital Community during which some long serving hospital staff were awarded gifts of appreciation.



Gift giving (above) and cake cutting (below) with Bishop Eridard and Maama Jane Nsubuga



In conclusion, as this year comes to an end and we look forward to entering 2023. I wish to extend my sincere vote of thanks to all the Friends and Supporters of Kiwoko Hospital, and in particular those that tirelessly support the mission work of the Chaplaincy with our many missionary



End of year Christmas Party!

activities through prayer, moral and financial support. My prayer is that God will bless you all with the



greatest riches from His heavenly stores that never run out. We thank you for your ongoing support. We have identified a number of needs, and look to God for His provision that these may be met. These include the need for screens that can be used to display music lyrics and the liturgical order of worship; further musical equipment including drums to boost our worship for God's honor and

glory; thirdly, finances with which we can procure Bibles in both English and Luganda languages to be supplied to the hospital patients and for our daily worship in Chapel.

VISITORS & VOLUNTEERS

We love having visitors and volunteers at Kiwoko Hospital: there is so much we can learn from each other! Indeed, many of our visitors and volunteers describe their experience at KH as life changing.

Over the past year a link has been forged with the mission organisation GMMT (German Medical Mission Team), and we hope to regularly welcome GMMT elective students and volunteers. The first GMMT Kiwoko recruits are Ben Jabke and Julia Böckmann. Here they reflect on their first month: ***“On October the 30th we entered the gates of Kiwoko Hospital for the first time and we’re now looking back at 5 weeks living and working alongside the people here in Kiwoko hospital. We are Julia, medical student who will be here for 6 months and Ben, a doctor, staying for 1 year.***

Especially at arrival, we were surprised and impressed to see the compound with all its trees and lawns, the guesthouse and the beautiful surroundings. In our first days we were welcomed, greeted and cared for very warmly by so many people. The work in the wards was quit challenging in the beginning. To do medicine in English, understand how things work and learn about the different and new health issues that we’re not used to in Germany is still a process. We want to use this opportunity to thank every doctor, nurse, staff and student who invested time in explaining, teaching or translating for us, greeting us with smiles or just making us feel welcomed.

By now we’re living in Ian House, Ben is covering male ward and will start being on call. Julia is stationed at maternity for two months to learn and help wherever she can, also sometimes around other wards.

Praise and thanks be to God, who made it possible that we can be here for this time.”

Are you interested in coming to Kiwoko Hospital? For further information about volunteering, electives or visits to the hospital, contact Stephen Park (Visitors and Volunteers Coordinator) by email: visitors@kiwokohospital.org



Life at Kiwoko isn't all about medical work for Ben & Julia!

DONATIONS

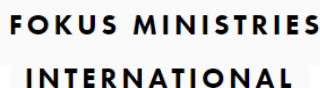
Kiwoko Hospital cannot exist without the faithful giving of our friends and supporters. Without you we would be unable to provide the high quality healthcare our patients deserve. As well as individual supporters, a number of registered charities support the work of Kiwoko Hospital in bringing good news to the poor, in word and in action.



Friends of Kiwoko Hospital (FOKH) is a registered charity based in Northern Ireland (UK charity Ref. 104586) set up to support Kiwoko Hospital. **All donations come to KH.** www.fokh.org.uk



Adara Group has registered charities in a number of countries. Further information can be found at: <https://www.adaragroup.org/development/get-involved/donate/> **Please specify any giving is for KH.**



FOKUS Ministries International is a 501(c)(3) charitable non-profit organisation based in USA. www.fokusministries.org **Please specify any giving is for KH.**



Hilfe Für Kiwoko eV is a non-profit organisation recognised in Germany. <https://hilfe-fuer-kiwoko.de/> **Please specify any giving is for KH.**

DIRECT GIVING

For some people, including local donors, giving directly to the hospital may be the more appropriate method. If doing this, please get in touch with our Business Development Manager to ensure the donation is allocated to the correct account: businessmanager@kiwokohospital.org.

Name of the Bank:	Stanbic Bank
Branch:	Luwero Branch
Account Name:	Kiwoko Hospital
Account Number:	9030005970384
Swift Code:	SBICUGKX
Sort Code:	042047

COMMISSION



A number of KH charities can obtain commission through specified Amazon purchases. Use the Amazon Smile starter page relevant for the country you are in (e.g. smile.amazon.de), chose your charity and proceed as normal from there!



THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT

Kiwoko Hospital is a private, not-for-profit, mission hospital in rural Uganda. We are so thankful to our supporters for their ongoing significant contribution to the work of the hospital.

If you have enjoyed this update newsletter please forward it on to family, friends and colleagues. We are currently in the process of developing our own website. In the meantime, for more information on Kiwoko Hospital, go to the FOKH website: www.fokh.org.uk

SOCIAL MEDIA



We post regular updates on our [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#) pages. Videos are also uploaded onto our



[YouTube](#) page. [Click links to access]



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