



Kiwoko Hospital News

March 2016

A word from the Medical Director

Special points of interest:

- Fundraising Success
- Praying for Kiwoko
- Farewell, Nakato

Ugandan parliamentary and presidential elections have been and gone. Thankfully they passed off relatively peacefully as many in the country were concerned that major unrest was a possibility. The president has been returned for another term. Most of our local people voted for him - they do not want change.

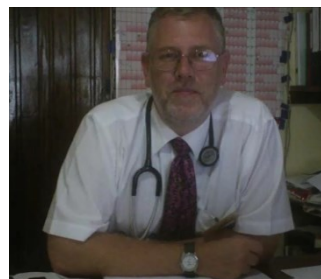
Few of us really enjoy change, yet Kiwoko is changing all the time. Regular visitors are amazed to find new buildings; a new pick-up; new nurses; a new midwifery course..... and yet at the root of the work of Kiwoko we haven't changed in over 25 years. We are still

providing holistic health care to the poor and vulnerable by being Christ-centred in all we do.

This year we celebrate 25 years since the official opening of Kiwoko Hospital in 1991. There was healthcare for several years before that, but the main ward block was erected in memory of Barbara Kelly, and on 24th September was officially opened by the Vice President of Uganda.

We will be having a few different functions to mark this birthday later in the year – more details in our next newsletter. Meantime, if you have any photographs of the

early days, we would love to have copies to display as we remember our history and the constant strand through it of God's faithfulness.



Dr Rory Wilson
Medical Director

Congrats!

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Already this year we have had 2 staff weddings to celebrate. Chaplain Stephen and Judith (above) were married in Luwero Cathedral. Also, theatre in-charge Julius and Mid-wife Carol (right) were married in Eastern Uganda.



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Fundraising Success



A big thank you for the generous donation from The Goshen Trust, and also Compass Coach Travel from Bangor (N.I.) and everyone who contributed through the Christmas card appeal for our replacement vehicle fund. As you can see, we have made our first step to replacing our worn out vehicles. Our drivers are delighted with the greater efficiency and reliability of the new pick-up. We hope to have another vehicle

replaced before too long to reduce the significant maintenance costs needed to keep the old vehicles on the road

in recent years.

From all our patients and staff
- WEBALE NYO!



Three times the fun



It's been a real pleasure to be back in the Maternity Unit after 3 years' absence. There are lots of new faces but many familiar ones too which is great and helps me to get over my anxieties after such a long gap from active practice. Dr Corrie and Sister Hajarrah make an excellent team and have made many changes to make the work go more smoothly. Dr Ritah has just joined the team though Dr Ishaq still makes visits back to the ward after his 1 year stint. There is a noticeable increase in the number of mothers coming through with around



2,500 delivered in 2015. January was unusually wet resulting in a big rise in the number

of cases of malaria around the



time I arrived and this affected the whole hospital. It is a serious problem in pregnancy and affects mothers and babies alike. Treatment needs to be prompt and effective. Thankfully no mothers died from malaria last year and a baby born with congenital malaria during January did very well thanks to the vigilance of staff. A mother pregnant with triplets developed malaria and there were fears she would deliver but she held on until 34 weeks before going in to labour. There was great excitement all round when she had her Caesarean section and the theatre was

full of all the extra staff needed. Three healthy little girls were delivered weighing 1.7, 1.6 and 1.5Kgs. They are doing well. Their mother has given permission for these photos to be shared.



Thank you all for your patience and support. May God bless all the amazing work throughout Kiwoko Hospital and community.



Dr. Alison Love

March 2016

Prayer March

250 people turned out, with temperatures well into the 30's, to walk a route around Kiwoko that would take just under 2 hrs. Armed with water, umbrella's (to keep the sun off), sun cream for some, young and old, gathered behind a truck containing prayer & praise leaders under Sister Sara's guidance. Heartfelt prayers were offered for our schools, churches, police force, courts, local government, businesses and families. We declared the authority and sovereignty of God in Kiwoko, coming against the many witchcraft practices and claiming the

town for the Lord. We finished our walk at the taxi-park in the town cen-



tre with a gospel message and several people gave their lives to Christ!

To see people worship God publically without persecution, people from Pentecostal and Anglican backgrounds march and intercede as a united body for their community was exhilarating!

We believe that in the heavenly realm God is moving to answer our cries for Kiwoko. This belief is substantiated by the fact that more new believers are turning up at Churches as a result of the march.

Well done to Sister Sara, Pastor Kiwanuka, Samuel Mbabali and others for making this event such a success!

Nakato

In February we were devastated to lose one of Kiwoko's most famous characters; Nakato.



Over 25 years ago, Nakato was brought to Kiwoko with a serious illness. When it was time for her to be discharged, no family came to take her home. Her condition was serious and she was not expected to live for long. So, Dr Ian Clarke agreed that she could remain on the ward. Little did he know the impact this little lady would have in this community.

When **Sister Grace** came to work at Kiwoko in 1992, she found Nakato had already been living there for 3 years. As Grace went on to become

the Sister-in-charge of Female Ward where Nakato resided, she shares her memories of this Kiwoko legend.

"Nakato was a renowned fixture in the community. Those who came to the hospital and didn't know her would spread all sorts of funny stories. The children on Paeds ward would often call her the 'ghost of Kiwoko'. One day I found a crowd of ladies looking in the windows of female ward, trying to get a look at Nakato. I asked what they were doing and they told me that people were saying 'that woman is blessed'. If you are pregnant and you greet her you will give birth to twins! I laughed so much and then sent them away."

"Of course, she was a blessing to us on female ward but for real reasons. As many people had been generous in caring for her over the years, Nakato was quick to share that generosity. She would often share her milk and food that she received from the nutrition program with other patients who

were hungry. In fact, just last week a patient who had been admitted before asked for Nakato. When we told her she had died she cried and asked, "Who will take care of me now?"

"She was also a great counsellor on the ward. Many of our patients are scared when we tell them they need an N-G tube or a catheter and they refuse it. Nakato would call them over and explain how these things would help them get better. She was a great mediator between the staff and patients because she belonged to both worlds."

"Our ward has lost one of its strongest assets but I have lost a friend. Nakato and I would often laugh together and listen to radio programs. I used to do the ward round with the Doctor on the medical side where Nakato lived. But now I have swapped to the surgical side so that I don't have to pass her empty bed every day. She is going to be greatly missed by all of us."

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Wilson's on Tour

Dr Rory, Denise & Gideon will be in Ireland soon. Here is their speaking itinerary to date. If you are free and can make it along to one of the events they would love to see you.

Sunday 3 April	Knockbreda Parish; 10am & 11.30am
Sunday 10 April	Woodschapel Parish; 10.30am & 12pm
Sunday 17 April	Ballyholme Parish; 10am & 11.30am
Sunday 17 April	Ballyholme Parish; Stories from Kiwoko - informal get together in the parish centre at 6.30pm with a cup of tea and sandwiches beforehand. Visitors especially welcome.
Sunday 24 April	Orangefield Parish; 10am & 11.30am
Monday 25 April	Focus Evening at St Pat's Parish Hall, Coleraine; 7.30pm
Wed 27 April	Lunchtime. lecture theatre Ulster Hospital. Updates and success stories from the link between SET and Kiwoko Hospital.



Elective Opportunities

Medical, Nursing and Physiotherapy elective placements are available at Kiwoko Hospital.

If you know anyone who may be interested, they can contact visitors@kiwokohospital.org

How to donate

Full details on how to donate can be found on our website: www.kiwokohospital.org/donate

Points for Prayer

- Praise God for starting and sustaining the work in Kiwoko for what it is today. While many hospitals in rural Uganda struggle to survive, over a hundred thousand patients are touched by our care every year.
- The pound sterling has recently weakened significantly against the Ugandan Shilling meaning that our income has reduced. Pray for the finance team trying to balance the books and for fresh donors to help us plug the gaps.
- Several junior doctors and nurses are planning to go for further studies in the coming months. Pray as they undergo interviews that they will find a suitable place to study and that good replacement staff are recruited when they leave.



Thank you for your support!

For more information from Kiwoko Hospital, and for ways to support the work

please visit our website: www.kiwokohospital.org Together, **'We treat, Jesus heals'**.

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