



Kiwoko Hospital News

March 2017

A word from the Medical Director

Greetings from Kiwoko!

Our 25th anniversary celebrations were a great success. It is good to celebrate together. All involved can agree that it was such an encouragement and challenge to hear afresh those personal testimonies of the early years.

A lot can go on in 25 years – by rough calculation we have delivered about 40,000 babies; admitted about 150,000 in-patients; and attended to over 1 million outpatients..... and lots besides, much of which is hard to measure in numbers.

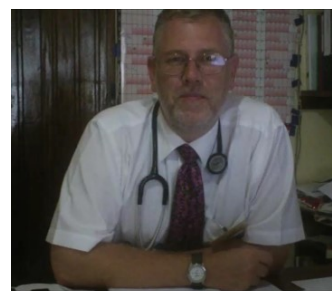
2017 lies before us with fresh challenges, opportunities and blessings.

One big change is that this probably is my penultimate edition of Kiwoko Hospital News. Time has come for the Wilson family to move on from Kiwoko. The Board are actively seeking a replacement - all applications are welcome.

I have enjoyed 11 years in Kiwoko, but we feel that now is the time for our family to return to Ireland and for fresh leadership for Kiwoko Hospital. Please pray for this process and that the correct person is recruited. We look

forward to being able to hand over successfully before our departure.

We hope that you enjoy reading a selection of happenings from recent months at Kiwoko.



Dr Rory Wilson
Medical Director

Special points of interest:

- 25th Anniversary
- The Brexit Effect
- Praying for Kiwoko

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Training Complete

Ronald Ssekago is 25 years old, has 10 siblings and is from Mukono, about 3 hours from Kiwoko. He has been working as a nurse in Kiwoko Hospital since 2012 and was delighted to be awarded a scholarship to further his education.



Ronald recently completed his Diploma in General Nursing at Kampala University. The 18 month course was funded through our Sponsorship Scheme.

Now working under Sister Grace in Female Ward, Ronald is happy to be back at Kiwoko and is relishing this opportunity to serve people better. He is so highly thought of by his peers that he has just been elected as Chairperson of the staff committee.

"I love my profession. Not because I am highly paid but because I believe I am helping people and serving the Lord.

I am so grateful to the donors who sponsored me through the hospital's programme."

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25th Anniversary Celebrations



The theme for our 25 year celebration was *'Thanking God for the past and Trusting Him for the future'*, and this was captured perfectly by Dr Ian Clarke as he described the beginnings and the subsequent development of Kiwoko Hospital as having the 'fingerprints of God' all over it.

The day started with a celebratory march around Kiwoko led by a brass band, stopping at the Hospital Training Institute (HTI) grounds for the main function. People attended from the Diocese, Local Health Authority, local community, donors (from the UK and Australia), partners and in addition to that: Board members, management and staff of the hospital, past and

present. Our Guest of Honour was Mrs Gillian Maganda, Human Resource Manager for CMS Ireland.

Emotional tribute was paid to individuals who had faithfully worked and made sacrifices to make Kiwoko Hospital what we know it to be today. It was clear that no one person could have pioneered the work, it was a community united by need following the civil war, a common vision, and faith in God Almighty.

Staff members were appreciated by the provision of a special lunch - many attended the function when they were more than satisfied. Despite that, many were able to squeeze in a generous portion of wonderful celebratory cake!

Certificates were presented to those who had served over 5, 10 or 25 yrs.



In the mood of celebration the HTI students performed with music and dance, even encouraging the visitors to put their dancing shoes on and join in!

As we look to the future the challenge was issued to keep pressing on and to seek to raise Kiwoko Hospital to greater heights of achievement.

Bateganya House



Rev Livingstone Bateganya

In 1988, when Dr Ian Clarke arrived in Kiwoko, Rev Livingstone Bateganya was the Parish Priest of St John's Parish. In the aftermath of the 'Bush War' no healthcare was available. Dr Ian began treating patients on the steps of St John's church, assisted by various volunteers, Rev Bateganya being the most enthusiastic.

From *'The Man With the Key Has Gone'* by Dr Ian;

"Sometimes [Rev Bateganya] arranged to combine his functions as Anglican Priest and health worker. He was certainly looking after the 'whole' man, seeing to the physical and spiritual needs of the flock... At some clinics I was caught 'off

guard' when Rev Bateganya whipped out his white surplus from a concealed bag, donned his clerical garb and proceeded to gather the people together for a service."

In 2016 we completed a unique building project—transforming the old TB Ward into much needed staff accommodation.

How fitting that this housing block was named after Rev

Bateganya, a man who helped found Kiwoko Hospital and from day one demonstrated the foundational principles of treating the whole man - seeing to both physical and spiritual needs.

Thank you to ECHO who funded this building project. We pray that those staying in this accommodation can serve as Rev Bateganya did.



March 2017

Workshop Church

In October 2013, one of our Estates staff sadly passed away. George had worked in the hospital for almost 20 years, carrying water, taking care of the gardens...

Our Estates Manager, William Jjoloba, went to the funeral at George's home. It was clear to William that no church minister was present to lead the service, so he stepped up to read from the Bible and give a short message.

William returned from the service very concerned that George had worked for so long at this Christian hospital yet had no personal faith.

Morning prayers takes place daily but this is for those who speak English.

George and most of the Estates staff do not. So, since January 2014, Workshop Church has been taking place every Monday morning.

Electricians, gardeners, carpenters, welders... the Estates team meet for a simple devotional service. Dedicating the week ahead to serving God and

others. Asking for His strength and provision and thanking Him for all that goes on in the hospital.

Pray for the Estates team and for workshop church. Pray that their lives will be impacted by the good news of Jesus and that disciples will be made.

William, Fred & Paul



"It takes a village to raise a child"

Hello! We are Emma and Matthew – two junior doctors from N. Ireland. We have now been volunteering in Kiwoko Hospital for 3 months.

I (Emma) have been working on Kiwoko's Paediatric ward while Matthew has been covering OPD.

It is difficult to pick out an individual case for this newsletter. However, one that will remain with me is the story of a 6 month old baby boy admitted in early January.



This baby had been born to a single HIV positive mother – who had sadly passed away 2 months earlier. Her estranged family moved to Kampala and so this baby was left an orphan

with no family to care for him.

He was taken in by a neighbour, with 3 children of her own. He had sadly contracted HIV from his mother and with no means of breastfeeding, he was losing weight and failing to thrive. He was admitted to the ward with acute malnutrition weighing 3.9kg.

Malnutrition here brings many challenges; these children are often very sick and have other co-morbidities. It requires huge commitment from the parents as the child needs close monitoring with regular and frequent feeds, day and night. Progress can be slow and unpredictable, with children often needing admitted for several weeks.

From the beginning, this new "mama" was determined to make her new baby better. She engaged with the nursing staff, being very specific about the timing, type and volume of feeds. She learned how to manage her baby's HIV medications. One of the greatest things was seeing this new mother and baby's relationship flourish. As his condition improved, she would sit out

on the grass with him playing and laughing. He grew to be quite a character and a bit of a favourite among the staff!

After 3 weeks he was much improved and had gained sufficient weight for discharge. Many children do not return for review – there are many factors at play; financial constraints, distance to travel etc. However, 2 weeks later, to everyone's delight, they arrived back to the ward. He is now 6kg, growing stronger and attempting to crawl.

These past 3 months have been a humbling experience. The spirit of the Ugandan people will never fail to amaze us. Their strength and resilience in the face of adversity is something we are learning from every day.



Dr Matthew & Dr Emma

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Brexit - Bad news for Kiwoko

Following the vote for the UK to leave the EU, the pound lost 1/5th of its value against the Ugandan Shilling. In consequence, as half our donor money comes in sterling, the Shilling income to Kiwoko hospital has fallen by 1/10th. Conversely a strong dollar against the Ugandan Shilling has meant that many commodities such as drugs produced outside Uganda and priced in Dollars have seen their Shilling cost increase.

Kiwoko Hospital has no opinion or influence on such European politics or exchange rate fluctuations but we are now trying to deal with a significant financial challenge that seems unlikely to resolve very soon. Simultaneously 2 poor harvests mean that we have hungry patients with even less ability to pay our subsidised fees compared to normal – and certainly no room for us to increase fees significantly to close the gap. Please pray for these matters and for fresh rains and finance to be found to help support our ministry to those who need us.



Elective & Volunteer Opportunities

Medical, Nursing and Physiotherapy elective placements are available at Kiwoko Hospital. Also, if you are a qualified Physician and are interested in volunteering, we would love to hear from you.

Please contact visitors@kiwokohospital.org

How to donate

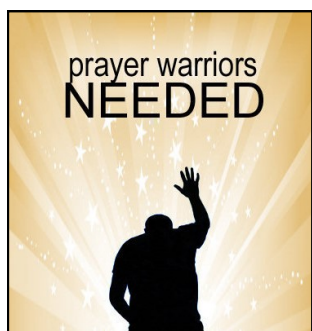
Full details can be found on our website: www.kiwokohospital.org/donate

Commission from Amazon



Before you order something on Amazon UK - visit the [Kiwoko Hospital website](http://www.kiwokohospital.org).

On the bottom right you will see a link. Click that and you'll be taken to the usual Amazon website. Anything you buy could earn up to **10% commission!** It seems too easy, but it works!



Points for Prayer

- Pray for the Board as they select a new Medical Director.
- We are in need of a volunteer to work alongside the new MD to assist with finance and donor relations.
- Thank God for the recently recruited new staff and those returning from studies—pray that they will integrate into the work and ministry of Kiwoko Hospital.
- A number of staff are studying either part or full-time. Pray for their learning through the process and for application of this knowledge to Kiwoko. Particularly pray for Vivian and Julius our 2 senior nurses who are expected to step up when Sister Justine (Matron) retires in June.

Thank you for your support!

If you have enjoyed this newsletter, **please forward it on** to your colleagues, friends and family. 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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