



**NEWSLETTER**  
**KUMI HOSPITAL UGANDA**  
**QUARTERLY PUBLICATION**

**03**  **22**



## Christian Blind Mission

**CBM** is an international development organization that, based on Christian values and more than 100 years of professional expertise, is committed to improving the quality of life of people with disabilities in the world's poorest communities.



Construction of the eyeward OPD



Renovation of the eyewards

The emphasis at CBM is on local capacity development with increasing services in the areas of health care, rehabilitation and livelihood development.

CBM wants to strengthen the voice and autonomy of people with disabilities. They provide aid through building inclusive and sustainable local systems and services and ensuring populations have access to inclusive humanitarian aid.



Renovation of the orthopaedic workshop.



The orthopaedic workshop.

In **Kumi Hospital** we are therefore working on:

- \* Renovation of orthopaedic workshop
  - \* Construction of the orthopaedic fabrication workshop and renovation of its store
  - \* Construction of the physiotherapy unit
  - \* Renovation of male and female eye wards, including construction of the eye OPD
  - \* Renovation of children's village, including the main drug store.
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- \* Supply of the eye equipment, consumables and drugs
  - \* Supply of orthopaedic and physiotherapy equipment and consumables

*In the next coming newsletter we will show you how the new construction and renovation is progressing.*



Renovation of the main drug store.



The main drug store.



Construction of the physiotherapy unit.



The physiotherapy unit.



Construction of the orthopaedic fabrication workshop.



The orthopaedic fabrication workshop.



Renovation of the children's village.



The children's village.

# KUMI SCHOOL of NURSING and MIDWIFERY

We are 54 students, partaking different courses of nursing and midwifery who set off from Kumi School of Nursing and Midwifery to Kumi Hospital Ongino on the 4th of May 2022 for hospital practice as for the semester curriculum. For the three weeks spent in Kumi Hospital I rate Kumi as one of the best hospitals in Eastern Uganda with hospital staff who provided accommodation for all students with power and water. I was amazed with the morning



Students right after birth at the maternity.

medical department where other non-surgical cases are managed, paediatric ward where children are managed, laboratory where investigations are done, antiretroviral clinic where HIV patients get services and a pharmacy where drugs are supplied to the different departments on demand, a theatre where all kinds of operations are done.



Students during their fieldwork at the maternity.

devotion culture of Kumi Hospital because it would bring us together every morning irrespective of religion. During our first day at Kumi Hospital we had an orientation with the hospital staff where we learned that Kumi Hospital has several departments. Kumi Hospital has a surgical ward where post-operative care to patients who have undergone operation are giving nursing management, midwifery section where pregnant mothers deliver,



Students receive an explanation from the pediatrician.

We learned that Kumi Hospital gives free services to the malnourished children, free accommodation to patients from far areas and children with bilateral gluteal fibrosis, a common condition in this area. Kumi Hospital has an orthopaedic workshop where we visited and the orthopedic technician took the lead explaining through the different machines and their purpose.



During the daily tour at the surgical ward.

## Students KSN&M during their fieldwork in Kumi Hospital

Great thanks to the NGO's for the great support to Kumi Hospital. Great thanks to our mentors in Kumi Hospital who always took the lead that we acquired the appropriate skills.

The program basically allows the medical students to relate the classroom work with the hospital work including the staff like surgeons, doctors and nurses.

Written by Chesang Abigael (students representer).



### The Kumi School of Nursing and Midwifery Courses Offered

- \* Certificate in Comprehensive Nursing [CCN]
- \* Certificate in Midwifery [CM]
- \* Diploma in Midwifery [DM]
- \* Diploma in Nursing [DN]

All with proof of registration with the Uganda Nurses and Midwives Council.



Students during their fieldwork in the pharmacy.



Students enjoy a snack in the K.H. bakery.



# Internship as medical elective student

Yoga kere.

We had no idea what was ahead of us, when we sent our applications with our CVs and a motivational letter to Alex Abal, in December 2021. We had read some reviews about Kumi Hospital and got in touch with a couple of students that have been to Kumi before. Everyone was very enthusiastic about it, which calmed us down, but in fact the more our



Photo: Janpath



Photo: Nadja

trip to Uganda was approaching, the more nervous we became about it. It was gonna be our first time in East Africa and our first internship abroad.

We arrived to Entebbe airport at 4 a.m. and took our first breath of the warm Ugandan air. We still had not realized where we are. After a loooong bustrip throughout the beautiful countryside of South-East Uganda, we arrived in Kumi Town. Everyone was staring at us - the newly arrived Mzungus. Boda drivers offering overpriced rides, voices asking:



Photo: Janpath



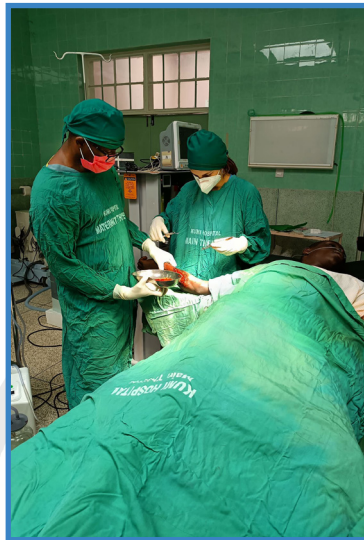
Photo: Janpath



Photo: Nadja

"How are u?". Finally we arrived at Kumi Hospital. It is located on a very peaceful countryside, far away from the crowded, loud streets that we saw in Kampala.

Agnes welcomed us in the student house with a cup of coffee and some fresh fruits. Our first day in Kumi was a sunday, so Agnes took us to the Sunday prayer, where we introduced ourselves to the community.



Photos: Nadja

The pastor is very welcoming and always had a smile on his face, whenever you'd see him in the hospitals or morning prayers. But the dancing and singing on Thursdays was a personal highlight for us. We believe that hospitals in Europe would benefit a lot from such a tradition, but unfortunately this won't happen anytime soon.

A medical highlight for us was attending to the surgeries with Dr. Alinda.



It really rose our interest in surgery and surely made us reconsider our fields of specialization. But there was a lot to learn in every ward we went to.

We are writing these words two months after getting back from Kumi and it is motivating and sad at the same time, to see how very different medicine can be in different parts of the world. We are also very happy to see how much effort everyone in Kumi Hospital makes, to help the patients as much as possible.

What we liked the most about Kumi hospital is that it seems like a big family and we were welcome to become part of it from day one.

We're sending a special Yalama noi noi to Denis, for taking us anywhere we wanted to,

Dr. Samson, Agnes and Dodo, Dr. Alinda, Alex and everyone else who made this such an unforgettable experience. We will surely come back one day.

Nadja and Babak,  
5th year Medical Students from Hannover and Essen University, Germany.



## Wheels for the World

In February members of the KCF team – Elspeth Robinson and Lynne Williams, together with Elspeth’s grandsons Sam and Ben as well with Lynne’s daughter Ellie flew to Kumi for the first time since 2020. They arrived a few days before the Wheels for the World crew-lead by fellow KCF Trustee Lynne Mosher.

The KCF team quickly set about finalizing the details for the Wheels clinics due to held at Kumi Hospital between 12th – 19th February. The workshop and storage facility at the hospital that has been used on previous occasions was undergoing renovation so the team were found temporary accommodation under a tent!

The team was made up of four therapists, technicians, translators, client coordinators, sewing machine operators, administrators, photographer and a pastoral team.



The Wheels for the World and KCF teams with great help of Kumi Hospital staffmembers.



Kumi Hospital

All 5 photos: Sam Robinson





On the first day of distribution the team saw 58 clients – and word had got out that the team were there with over 100 people gathering hoping to be helped. One lady had crawled in the heat of the sun from the next village just to be seen. Such is the demand that on day 2 – instead of seeing 30 clients the team saw 56. Many of those seen were children with complex disabilities that presented unique challenges to the team as they worked to adapt mobility aids available to them to fit individual needs. One young man - Francis – was a 23 year old who had had a wheelchair as a child but unable to afford one as an adult – leaving him having to crawl or his mother to carry him on her back to get around. Once he was fitted to a wheelchair he immediately started to push himself around and now has his dignity back. On the third day the team met Paul - aged 13 who was the most physically disabled client the team had seen – with a severely deformed body shape. He was very bright and spoke good English and wanted a chair so he could get to school by himself – as his friends were currently carrying him there every day! The team worked at both adapting a chair to help improve his posture – as well as working to improve his sleeping position to correct the destructive influences of gravity on his frail body. Having a wheelchair gives this young man confidence and independence for the first time.

In total the team saw 212 clients over this week and their experiences and work will have a lasting impact on both those they have helped and those involved in helping.

All 5 photos: Sam Robinson





## Adesso Primary School at the Dr. Aporu Okol International Volleyball Tournament in Kumi

The Volleyball Federation in partnership with Eastern Volleyball Association (EVA) announced date for the 28th edition of Aporu Memorial International Tournament which was held in Kumi at the Boma ground.

The two-day tournament returned and took place from June 10th -12th 2022 and combined school (primary and secondary), corporate and clubs.

The event was last held in 2019 following the cancellation in 2020 and 2021 due



to the lockdown brought forth by the covid-19 pandemic but it is back. Every year, the tournament is conducted in honour of Dr. Aporu Okoi a staunch supporter of Ugandan Volleyball.

However, as Adesso Primary School, it does the participation every time the tournament is organized with the eligible team of both boys and girls.

The school last participation in the ACCPS Volleyball championship held on 7th July 2018 edition and they won the trophy.

### Values of the tournament to the participants:

- \* The tournament promotes team spirit amidst the players.
- \* Brings togetherness in exercising their abilities by the players where it has some of the players to prosper with talent leading to scholarships in higher levels of education.

The school was sponsored by the English Hospital Foundation (KCF).

Not forgetting the Kumi Hospital management and CBM Germany for their material support, financially and granting the school with the means of transport to ferry the players to the playing ground during the event and to facilitate the coaching team, players and the staff.





Students Girls Team P7



Students Boys Team P6



Teamwork - Girls Team P7



Students Boys Team P7

May the good Lord bless you abundantly.  
Thanks

Compiled by Tr Richard Adepo / richardadepo200@gmail.com  
From Adesso Primary School



Students just before dark going back to Ongino



## Orthopedics Overseas the Netherlands

Thinking about Uganda, especially Kumi gives a smile on the face of a lot of people in The Netherlands. It is about the feeling being able to help people in a real way. Doing good is really possible, makes donating people feeling grateful. Today in severe contrast with the gruesome destruction of a part of Ukraine in a war with unknow end. Surgeons and nurses from other countries help the Kumi Hospital. Each time we see enhancement.

Last visit from Februari 21 to March fourth we saw 130 patients.

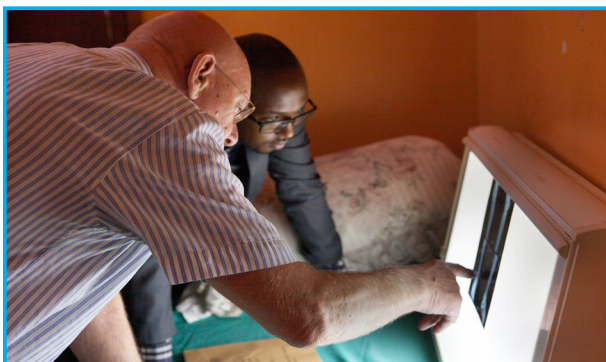


Patients arriving early in the morning.



Intake of the patients with the KH medical team.

At 60 of them surgery could be done. In fine and good cooperation with the local staff, orthopedic surgeon Dr. Alinda Owen, orthopedic officer Oliver Kiiza and many others. Using materials brought from home, making it able to work precisely. Six weeks later I got the pictures on the cellphone showing the healing. A totally stiff young man was able to sit and squat and walk. Others are able to walk with straight legs. And much more. Their future looks much brighter now.



Dr. Norel and Dr. Alinda Owen



Regarding Hospitals future, young surgeons join next time!

Gerrit Jan van Norel / Orthopedic surgeon  
norelgjv@mac.com

**AFRI**pads Underwear is transforming lives. From 2010-2020, AFRIpads has grown from a 3-person start-up to an award winning social enterprise that remains committed to improving menstrual health for millions across Africa and beyond. The team of Afripads has developed thousands of prototypes to ensure these menstrual products are accepted and appropriate in varying humanitarian and development contexts.

In February '22 Kumi Community Foundation members were able to catch up with the team in Uganda to see donations working in action. A group of teenage girls received feminine hygiene products supplied by Afripads – funded by the kind donations to KCF.

Many young girls are forced to miss school in Uganda due to lack of personal hygiene products so the gift of underwear and washable pads is one that restores dignity to these young women.



Student nurses receiving Afripads



Young girls lining up to receive their Afripads

One of the great benefits of the partnership between KCF and Wheels for the World is that children who need additional medical care above and beyond their need for a wheelchair can be helped. During the course of the WFTW distribution week several children suffered from severe pressure sores - and the KCF team were able to pay the hospital expenses for them to be admitted and treated.

The KCF team were able to follow up on a number of clients who it has previously supported – either through providing medical care, mobility aids, income generating projects or sponsoring education.

# Eye Camp Kumi Hospital

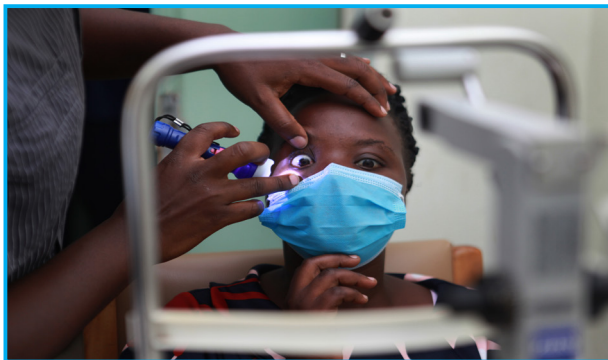
**Kumi Hospital**, in collaboration with Dr. Bosco Ayebazibwe - consultant ophthalmologist of the Ruharo Mission Hospital in Mbarara had an eye check and a cataract surgery camp.

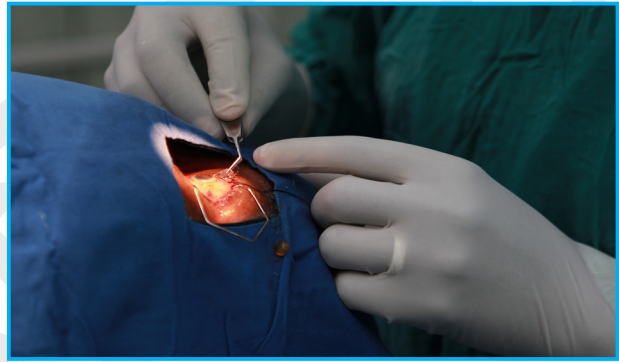
Aiming to provide eye care facilities to underprivileged communities, the camp was conducted with the primary aim of identifying patients with curable blindness and treating or improving their vision.



The patients only had to contribute a small amount of money for the eye surgery.

**The suffering** of blindness caused by cataracts has profound implications for the family of every unlucky, blinded person, especially in the rural areas of eastern Uganda. Now that vision has been restored, many people are able to return to work and fulfill traditional roles in their families and society.





We are lucky enough to be able to help such people bring them back to life with a big smile on their face.

In summary, the results of our campaign were screened in a total of 158 patients. Of which 67 had an cataract surgery and 6 had other eye surgery.



The mean age of the patient was 50 years. Age-related cataract was the most common cause of visual impairment, followed by refractive error.

Such initiatives are useful for poor people who cannot afford expensive procedures and medicines.

Many thanks to Dr. Ayebazibwe and all team members for the coordination and great work that has made the camp a great success.





The Kumi Hospital logo is a leaf branch and fruit of the *Hydnocarpus Wightianus* or chaulmoogra tree. Chaulmoogra Marotti seed oil has been widely used in traditional Indian medicine (Ayurveda) and Chinese medicine. It entered early Western medicine in the nineteenth century before the era of sulfonamides and other antibiotics for the treatment of several skin diseases and leprosy. Chaulmoogra is given intravenously and might have calming- and fever-reducing properties and activity against skin disorders.

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- \* Wheels for the World - UK
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- \* Tr Richard Adepo - Adesso Primary School
- \* Gerrit Jan van Norel - Orthopedic Surgeon - NL
- \* Medical students Nadja and Babak - GER
- \* Abigael Chesang - students representer KSN&M
- \* Dr. Bosco Ayebazibwe - Ophthalmologist Ruharo Mission Hospital - Mbarara

This publication is also to download on [kumihospital.org/information](http://kumihospital.org/information)  
Read also newsletter 1 and 2 (about the history of Kumi Hospital).  
If you no longer wish to receive this newsletter, please let us know and send us an email.

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