

SPOTLIGHT NEWS



April 2021
www.hsoa.org.uk

OUTREACH WORK

Our Community Health Promoters (CHPs) continue to work tirelessly throughout the pandemic, providing vital health education and services to their communities.

This month, they all received branded facial masks and hand sanitisers as part of the UK Aid Direct project grant. These may seem fairly standard items to those of us in the UK, but they are not widely accessible to our CHPs in Mbale and are essential for their outreach work. The branded versions give them a sense of identity and pride as they carry out their work.

www.ukaidirect.org

Group discussions have taken place for the first time with local men who were invited to meetings to facilitate healthy dialogues about male participation in maternal health.

And child and infant vaccinations continued, with some fairly ingenious methods of transporting little ones to their appointments!



Spotlight is run entirely by volunteers, so over 95p of every £1 you donate goes directly to our projects.
With Gift Aid, this increases to over £1.21!



We are always looking for new volunteers
If you would like to get involved please email enquiries@hsoa.org.uk

FORGING LINKS - TRANSFORMING COMMUNITIES

EAST AFRICA HEALTH SUMMIT ON YOUTUBE

Those of you who were unable to join us live for the virtual East Africa Health Summit may like to watch this video recording of the event. It is split into 3 sections and centres around discussions on how to reduce the Maternal Mortality Rate (MMR):

1. The first section is all about the Community Health Programme and the role it plays in reducing MMR.
2. The second section is a panel discussion on Public Private Partnership (PPP) with HSoA Patrons Bim Afolami MP and Hefin Rees QC, who are joined by Dr Jonathan Wangisi (District Health Officer Mbale District, Uganda) and Richard Okotel (Executive Director Spotlight on Africa Uganda Foundation).
3. And finally, there are three short talks about the transformational effect of IT in healthcare in sub-Saharan Africa by Dr Peter Smith (EMR4DW), Lord St John of Bletso and Professor Peter Olupot Olupot (Clinical and Infectious Disease Epidemiology, Mbale Referral Hospital).

We hope you enjoy watching the presentations:

https://youtu.be/Pm_NyTrw_5I

MATHS SETS AND EXAMINATIONS



Now that the multipurpose hall has been completed, **Musoto Christian School (MCS)** was finally granted permission to conduct the official national examinations on school premises.

Previously pupils would have had to undertake the exams elsewhere, many miles from their homes.

Many of the children due to sit their final exams didn't have their own personal equipment necessary to do so, but thanks to the generosity of you, our supporters, we were able to provide them all with a Maths set and stationary items.



Outreach Work

Cont'd from p1

The month culminated in our CHPs being recognised by the Chief Administrative Officer of Mbale District, Madam Nambozo, for their outstanding health work in the communities they support. Each of them were presented with certificates of appreciation.



Andrew's Bike Ride

On the 22nd - 27th June, Andrew Horne (a member of our fundraising committee) and 4 friends will be taking on a Coast-to-Coast Cycle Ride.

"Having witnessed first-hand the impact of the work undertaken by Spotlight on Africa, I decided to cycle from Seascale to Whitby - a total of 153 miles - with 4 friends to help raise money for a Maternity Centre in the district of Mbale, where women are 56 times more likely to die in childbirth than in the UK; heartbreakingly, this equates to 500 per 100,000"

The area has one of the highest **Maternal Mortality Rates (MMR) in the World**, so a Maternity Centre is desperately needed to help reduce it. The project is expected to cost £132,000 and Andrew and his team hope to raise £3000 towards it. If you would like to sponsor them, please visit their fundraising page at

<https://uk.virginmoneygiving.com/HSoA>



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For more information, please contact: enquiries@hsoa.org.uk or phone 01582 761305

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