

SPOTLIGHT NEWS



April 2023
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MEETING WITH UGANDAN AMBASSADOR

Our Chairman, Hefin Rees KC, and trustees Dr Bethan Rees and Wendy Howson met up this month with the Ugandan High Commissioner to the UK, Her Excellency Nimisha Mahdvani, at the Ugandan Embassy in London. Her Excellency was very supportive of all the Spotlight on Africa projects in Uganda, in particular the Maternity Centre, the Secondary School, and the new IT Centre that we are building.

The following day after meeting with the Ugandan Ambassador, both Hefin and Bethan flew to visit our projects in Uganda for 10 days.



CLASSROOM BLOCK



One of the main reasons for the trip was to join in with the celebrations being held for the completion of the classroom block at the new secondary school in Namatala.

The site has progressed from excavating the soil, to laying large and then small aggregate stone, followed by a waterproof membrane being put down and finally a concrete top to form the foundation slab.



Spotlight is run entirely by volunteers, so over 95p of every £1 you donate goes directly to our projects in Uganda.

With Gift Aid, this increases to over £1.21!

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FORGING LINKS - TRANSFORMING COMMUNITIES

IT CENTRE

Construction on the new IT Centre is also going well and we are on target to be completed by June so that it can be operational in July. It will be the first of its kind in Uganda, a fully self-sustaining project, and will lead our economic empowerment projects into the future. It is the first of many IT Centres we hope to build in Uganda to enable both children and adults to attain key skills for their futures.



We have reached agreements with both Makerere University and Livingstone University for adult learning training courses and have started on the procurement for the 40 computers that will be needed to run the IT Centre. We are also in the process of recruiting staff to teach the courses at the centre. It will provide new and exciting employment opportunities for many hundreds of people in Mbale each year.

The Server Room at the IT Centre is currently being built at the back of one of the classrooms, with a secure metal door to provide extra security.

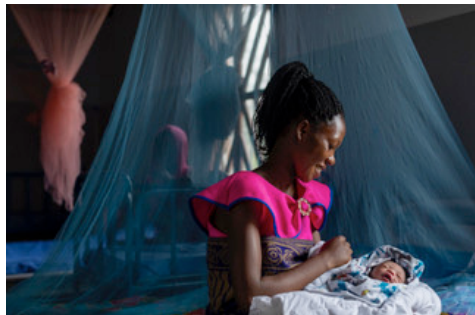


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MATERNITY CENTRE

Last week we celebrated the 6-month anniversary of the Maternity Centre. The first child born that was born there was called Darius and he came back in to celebrate with us! All of the Management Committee were also present.



The Maternity Centre now sees about 400 patients every month, many of which would have previously given birth unsafely at home. The laboratory provides an essential testing centre, helping to save hundreds of lives.



MCS PRIMARY SCHOOL

Musoto Christian School continues to excel. This is a line of trophies it has won in various sporting competitions. It is now one of the leading schools for sports for the Mbale District. Much of this success is due to the incredible staff at the school led by Headteacher Paul Maumo below, shown together with our Project Manager in Uganda, Richard Ogwang.



Classroom Block

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

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