

SPOTLIGHT NEWS



December 2023
www.spotlightonafrika.co.uk

Wishing all our amazing donors and supporters
a wonderful Christmas and a happy New Year

NURSERY GRADUATES



We are ending this year's newsletters with some wonderful photos of children who recently graduated from the Musoto Christian School (MCS) nursery class. They will start Primary 1 in the new academic year.

Some of the grandparents that came to celebrate with their grandchildren never had the chance to go to school themselves, so it was an extra special day for them. And we were particularly proud of our students with disabilities that graduated and hope they inspire others with similar challenges.



Looking for a new challenge in 2024?

How about getting involved with Spotlight on Africa!
Email enquiries@hsoa.org.uk for more information

FORGING LINKS - TRANSFORMING COMMUNITIES

NURSERY TABLE AND CHAIRS

During their last term at nursery, the little ones in the photos above have been benefitting from these beautiful table and chairs, 8 in total, that were purchased using the money raised at our Summer Garden Party this August. Thank you again to everyone that came to that event or provided cake donations.



INNOCENT'S STORY

Innocent is the oldest of six children, 3 boys and 3 girls. His parents were desperately poor, and local brewing was their only way of providing an income to buy food for the family. Sadly however, after several years of hardship, his parents abandoned their children and have never returned. With no one else to

help them, the responsibility of the family fell to Innocent as the eldest child. He was only 14 years old at the time and his youngest sibling was just 5.

Two of Innocent's siblings (one brother and one sister), were part of our Orphans and Vulnerable Children Programme (OVCs) which paid for their school

education and other resources. But the other children relied totally on Innocent for all their food, clothing, education and medical care. The only way Innocent could raise this money was by him continuing to brew waragi - the local liquor his parents had taught him to make from cassava, maize and sorghum. He did this with other menial jobs for 9 years, supporting each one of his siblings through school.

Whilst Innocent was at Secondary School, he learnt about the Scout movement and joined the school group learning the many values it promotes to young people, including discipline, practical skills and teamwork.

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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!

FORGING LINKS - TRANSFORMING COMMUNITIES

INNOCENT'S STORY

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After Secondary School, Innocent spent 2 years training to become a Teacher. On qualifying, he applied for a position to return to Musoto, at MCS, and has recently completed his first year there. But he is not only a teacher, he is also responsible for leading the MCS Scout group, together with Deputy Head, Adengo Anna Grace.

The Musoto Christian School Scouts have around 40 young students, both boys and girls. They have achieved remarkable success in the District competitions, notably coming 1st overall in 2019! And most recently, having been invited to participate in the Uganda National Scout Event in Kaazi 2023.



Innocent's story is truly heartwarming. Despite the extreme hardships and challenges he faced, he was able to make a success of his life and help his siblings do the same. And now he is back helping in the community where he grew up.

HARPENDEN SCOUTS

Scouting is a global community.

We are so lucky to be supported by many groups here in the UK that fundraise for us, most recently 10th Harpenden Scouts. Their Swift Pack and Fox Pack Cubs held an activity evening learning new skills and earning their money badge, raising an unbelievable £950 for Spotlight on Africa.

Thank you so much to all the cubs, helpers and parents that participated in the evening, with a particular mention to Swift Pack Cub Leaders Tim and Mike, and Fox Pack Cub Leader Laura.

The money raised from this event run by Cub Scouts in the UK will help support our Scout group in Uganda! Visit the "Fundraise for Us" link if you would like to learn more about hosting an event or fundraising for us.



FUNDRAISE FOR US

<https://www.spotlightonafrica.co.uk/fundraise-or-host-an-event>

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