

SPOTLIGHT NEWS



March 2022
www.hsoa.org.uk

UK TEAM VISIT UGANDA

Some of our volunteers have just returned from a busy trip to Uganda where they visited a number of projects. The team of eight included HSoA Chair Hefin Rees and his son Josh; HSoA Trustee Will Treasure and his wife Gillian; Nick Maughan; Joshua Peasley and Cassie Li from Caukin Studio; and award-winning photographer Philip Lee Harvey, a local Harpenden resident and supporter of HSoA who is giving us his professional time for free.

Health Projects

The team attended Maternity Centre construction meetings whilst they were there and inspected the buildings structure.



Photograph by Philip Lee Harvey



Building work is now 75% complete and thanks to generous funding from the Nick Maughan Foundation, it will be fully
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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!

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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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Health Projects

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functioning within the next few months where it can then start to deliver vital medical services to some of the poorest of communities in Uganda.

Hefin Rees QC said: "I would like to particularly thank Nick Maughan for coming out to Uganda to visit our projects and for agreeing to make such a generous donation to the Maternity Centre and our Health Clinic, as well as the new Secondary School we are going to start building in July."



Photograph by Philip Lee Harvey

The team had a tour of the Health Clinic before heading to the Ministry of Health headquarters in Kampala to meet Dr Henry Mwebesa, Director General of Health Services for Uganda, where they talked about the facilities that will be offered at the Maternity Centre.



Photograph by Philip Lee Harvey

Namatata Secondary School

We're building a new school! The team visited Namatata Village where construction will begin in July. There isn't a secondary school in this area, so there is a desperate need for this facility so children can continue their education after primary school.



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A good head and a good heart are always a formidable combination, but when you add to that a literate tongue or pen, then you have something very special.

Nelson Mandela

FORGING LINKS - TRANSFORMING COMMUNITIES

Musoto Primary School

The 10th Anniversary of Musoto Christian School (MCS) also took place during the trip, with over 2,000 people from the local community attending the celebrations to show their appreciation. MCS was our very first construction project in Uganda! Pupils at the school provided the entertainment with some fantastic African dancing that you can watch here: <https://tinyurl.com/africandancing>



One of the many opportunities these children would never have had without attending MCS is playing Tag Rugby. Despite only being a small school by African standards, the MCS Tag Rugby teams are formidable opponents and in the recent Eastern Region tournament, they came away with 2 trophies having got all 4 school teams through to the finals; U14 boys, U14 girls, U16 boys and U16 girls.



Namalata Secondary School

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A Ground Breaking Ceremony for the school took place and a Foundation Stone was laid. Children from Namalata Primary School showed their enthusiasm for the project by putting on a performance as part of the celebrations.



FORGING LINKS - TRANSFORMING COMMUNITIES

Tailoring Graduate Updates

Our Economic Development programmes are such an important part of the way that we work, providing an opportunity for everyone in the community to transform their life. The team met with Carol, a recent tailoring graduate. She told them "I am so happy for the training I got with Spotlight on Africa. I am now employed in tailoring and the money I get has enabled me to take care of myself and my 6 year old son; I pay rent out of it and I also support my aging parents."



Esther's life has also been transformed since completing our tailoring course. She sells her tailoring products from home, supporting her family of 6. From her savings she has been able to buy a goat and a hen, which now has chicks!

These stories are testament to our Economic Development projects and it's incredibly humbling to see the huge impact they can have on individuals in these poorer communities.



Read more about the team's trip in The Herts Advertiser article:

<https://www.hertsad.co.uk/news/harpenden-charity-sets-up-maternity-project-8782816>

SPOTLIGHT BALL

Our black tie ball will be held on Saturday 25th June at the Luton Hoo Walled Garden. We'd love you to join us! For more information please contact bethanrees@hsoa.org.uk



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

