

# Hope Ward Newsletter



*"Offering expert care, changing lives and making a difference to the most vulnerable in Uganda"*

## Busy year in Hope Ward

Dr Grania Price

Welcome to the third issue of the Hope Ward newsletter.

2008 has been a busy year for Hope Ward with nearly 300 admissions by the end of August.

We continue to offer free high quality health care to patients from the vulnerable sector of the Ugandan population.

In this new-look newsletter you can find out more about some of the needy patients who have been helped by Hope Ward in the *Hope Stories* section.

You can also find out more about some of key people who make Hope Ward possible and who directly care and help the vulnerable patients on the ward in the *Staff Profile* section.

We are linked with a number of other organizations who have direct access to patients throughout Uganda who need specialist care.



Patient receiving treatment for an aggressive facial tumour. To find out more go to Hope Stories

In each newsletter we will profile them so that you have an opportunity to find out more about them and the work they do.

Hope Ward needs your continued support to treat patients with specialist problems with the care and love that they deserve. We thank you again for your support.

## A Word from Dr Richard.

Hi from Hope ward in IHK!! My name is Richard Feinmann . My background is 30 years working in the NHS in the UK and I am working in Hope Ward in partnership with Voluntary Services Overseas (VSO) Since coming, I have al-

ready seen so many medical problems; sick little babies, surgical patients, cancer patients, HIV and TB complications and many more. The great thing about Hope ward is that we cope with practically anything. It is a fantastic facility for

those needy Ugandans who are very sick and require medical help but cannot pay. The frustration is that we could do a lot more with more funding. Please continue to support this remarkable ward.

Issue 3.  
November 2008

Special points of interest:

- \$15,000 a year will pay for a general bed
- \$50 a month will pay for a paediatric malnutrition bed
- \$70 a month will pay for an adult TB/Pneumonia bed.

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Hope Story - Dennis, Cancer Patient

Referred from: Lira via the Dunavant Mobile Clinic

Length of stay : 6 months

Dennis is a 7 year old boy who developed a swelling on his jaw in 2007. His mother, not knowing what it was, took him to a traditional healer who cut it open and stuffed it with herbs. But unfortunately the lump continued to grow. Dennis was seen by the Dunavant Mobile Clinic in April. He was admitted for treatment in Lira hospital but they were unable to find the cause. He was then transferred to

Hope Ward and had a biopsy to find out the cause of the swelling. The biopsy showed he has an aggressive muscle/bone tumour. Dennis has since had a number of courses of chemotherapy, radiotherapy and surgery to reduce the tumour. Dennis is doing very well and we hope for a full recovery.



Dennis prior to his arrival in Hope Ward

Hope Story - Matte, TB Patient

Referred from Missionary clinic, Bundibugyo

Length of stay : 2.5 months

TB is one of the leading causes of morbidity and mortality in Uganda, especially in patients co-infected with HIV/AIDS. The Ugandan Ministry of Health estimates that there are on average 80,000 new cases of tuberculosis (TB) in Uganda every year. It can be difficult to diagnose and needs specialist input to obtain the diagnosis and rehabilitate the patient. An example of how Hope Ward helps in this situation is Matte.



When Matte was admitted he weighted 15kgs and was close to death. With input from Hope Wards surgeon, Dr Galukande and Dr Price he was diagnosed with abdominal TB and started on treatment. With a careful re-feeding regime and proper treatment he made an excellent recovery. He was discharged home having gained 10kgs.



Hope Story - Grace, Burn victim

Referred from: Masindi

Length of Stay : 2 months

Grace is a 15 year old girl who sustained burns on the face involving the left eye and right hand. She is a known epileptic and fell into the fire having had a fit while she was cooking.

By the time she came to the Hope ward her face was severely burned and beginning to show signs of infection. There was a risk of losing

sight of her left eye.

On the ward she had her wounds dressed until the infection improved and then she had skin grafting done by the plastic surgeon for both her face and hand.

**At discharge the burns on Grace's face and hand were healing well, her sight was saved and she could smile again.**



Grace just before going home



## Staff Profile - Sister Irene

Sister Irene Maria has been running Hope Ward since the beginning in 2006. During this time she has seen Hope Ward grow from a simple medical-surgical unit to a ward offering more complex care and oncology care.

With training from Dr Helena she is now a trained chemotherapy nurse. She enjoys this new element of her work but oncology can be full of mixed feelings – chemotherapy can make patients feel worse and **they need all of Irene’s support** both medically and emotionally to help them through this phase. The benefits of seeing patients go into remission (like Emmanuel, pic-

tured right) makes it all worthwhile.

For Sister Irene, working on Hope Ward presents many challenges, she sees patients coming in without hope and in desperate circumstances. But with help from the team in Hope Ward they improve. One of her big job satisfactions is **“seeing them smile when they go home”**

Sister Irene would like to thank everyone who supports Hope Ward and makes the work that she does with the vulnerable patients possible. Thank you!



Sister Irene with Emmanuel, a child treated for leukaemia

## Linked organization: Reach Out - Mbuya

Reach Out - Mbuya Parish HIV/AIDS Initiative was founded in May 2001 by Dr Margrethe Juncker and Fr Joseph Archetti Guiseppa. The idea of Reach Out started with dedicated, caring Mbuya parishioners who wanted to relieve the pain of the sick and poor people within the community who had no help or support.

From these humble beginnings with only 14 clients, Reach Out has grown to serve over 2700 people living with HIV/AIDS in the Mbuya Parish. With more than 1500 of them on antiretroviral medicines.

Reach Out Mbuya has been in partnership with Hope Ward since 2005 and in 2008 alone Hope Ward has treated 26 patients referred from Reach Out Mbuya. We hope this partnership will continue and Hope Ward will offer more specialist care to this vulnerable group of patients.



## Admissions from Jan 2008

Since January 2008 Hope Ward has treated 215 patients (valid to 25/08/08).

48.3% of these patients have been female. Most of the patients were children.

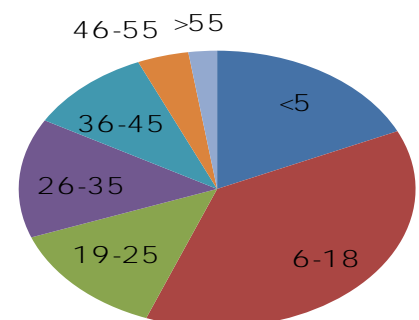
52.5% of patients seen in Hope ward are medical patients with the majority of these suffering from complications of HIV/AIDS.

30% of the patients were surgical patients with the remaining patients being oncology patients.

Most oncology patients are treated as day cases on Hope Ward with only the complex or very ill require admission.

IHK contributed greater than 50% towards the costs of Hope Ward.

Age of patients admitted to Hope Ward



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You can also give on-line using credit cards by going to [www.suubitrust.org.uk](http://www.suubitrust.org.uk) and following the links on the giving page.

Thank you again for your continued support.

## Fundraising events.

There are a number of ways to support Hope Ward, either by one off donations or as a regular donation. Giving regularly is a best way to support but every little counts. We have a number of large corporate donors who regularly support Hope Ward and we would like to thank Mvule Trust and Bead for Life for their continued support.



There are also individual sponsors whose fundraising efforts have helped the continued work of Hope Ward. Some of the many people we

would like to thank are Mair for her African Tea Party, and 3 Mums on a **boat**”, **Charlotte, Kate and Ruth** who rowed down the Thames raising money for cancer patients on Hope Ward.

In the last year we have had a number of large fundraising events, the main one being the golf tournament held in March which raised over 10 million UGS.

There is the MTN fun run coming up on November 9<sup>th</sup> in Kampala. It is part of a long running partnership with MTN and gives training marathon runners a chance to practise and benefits a good cause as well. We are hoping for a big turnout and good luck to all the runners.



If you or your company are interested in finding out ways of helping Hope Ward please contact Jemimah Kiboss-Kyeyune for more information on the many ways that you can contribute to the work of Hope Ward.

