

The Mityana Charity



Dedicated to helping the people of Mityana, Uganda

Registered Charity no.: 1064825

Issue: July 2021



Nakanyike Stella Grace

Stella's Story

I applied at PaCT formerly Mityana U Charity in 2007 while I was in Primary seven at St. Matia Mulumba Primary school. I managed to complete my Ordinary level examinations in 2011 with a first grade of 32 aggregates and later on joined Advanced level and offered Biology Chemistry Foods and Nutrition /Sub Maths.

I completed senior six in 2013 and obtained six points which was a big shock to me. I then joined Urika Institute of Home Economics and I did a National Diploma in Hotel Management for a period of two years and graduated in 2017.

In addition to that, I operate a small business of making cakes and supply to my customers. I usually get orders from customers to make cakes for parties such Christmas parties, birthday, introduction, weddings among others. This has kept me moving forward however the outbreak of Covid -19 pandemic affected me as it did to the rest of the businesses globally. The demand for luxuries reduced a bit but we are hoping for the situation to go back to normal soon.

My vision is to become totally self-employed in the near future.

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I am very grateful to my sponsor by the name of Mary for her generous heart. I am what I am today because of her. She sacrificed a lot in favour of my education and my parents were saved a burden of paying school fees since I joined senior one until I completed my Diploma in Hotel Management. I was never sent back home because of school fees as mine was paid in time. Life would have been very hard to my parents who were just teachers yet with very many dependents awaiting their little monthly salaries.

I extend my sincere appreciation to the PaCT team formerly Mityana U Charity for their efforts, they always encouraged, counselled on top of school fees and basic needs but also supported me in any possible way to ensure that I succeed in my studies. May the Almighty God reward them for whatever they did for me to excel.

UK MP Visits Uganda

Helen Grant MP, visited Uganda from 24 to 26 March to see first-hand the work the UK is doing to help girls access and benefit from quality education in Uganda to build back better together from coronavirus. Her visit included a meeting with the First Lady and Minister of Education and Sports, the Honourable Janet Museveni.

She is a passionate advocate for the rights of women and girls and before entering the UK Parliament, was a solicitor specialising in protecting women and children from domestic abuse.

78% of Uganda's population is under 25, and it is estimated that there will be around 40 million young people in Uganda by 2050. This generation could power the country's development, prosperity and bring the country to middle income status. Education is therefore both the biggest single challenge and opportunity for growth facing the country. More than half of children drop out before completing primary school. Sadly, only one-quarter of girls complete secondary school, facing barriers to completing their schooling including:

- financial barriers
- early marriage
- teenage pregnancy
- gender-based violence

Girls' education is not only vital to women and girls, it creates healthier and safer communities, with a child of a mother who can read 50% more likely to live beyond the age of five and 50% more likely to be immunised from deadly diseases.

Reflecting on her visit, Helen Grant said:

Uganda is an incredible country and I was blown away by the warm welcome I received and the ambition and potential in the young women and girls I met. Educating girls is one of the smartest investments we can make to grow economies, save lives and build back better from COVID-19. I am heartened by the progress being made with the UK's support in Uganda, to get girls learning.

But we're not there yet. The UK has set out ambitious global targets of getting 40 million more girls in school, and a third more girls reading by the age of 10 by 2025, in low- and middle-income countries. I look forward to working with Uganda ahead of the Global Education Summit: Financing GPE 2021-2025 in July to urge countries to invest in education and improve access for girls.

Empowering women and girls through education has been a long-standing priority for the UK and is at the heart of the UK's G7 Presidency. The UK will also co-host the Global Partnership for Education (GPE) summit with Kenya in the UK later this year, bringing governments, business and civil society together to channel investment and action into getting children, especially girls, around the world into school and learning.



Mbatudde Janet, a PaCT sponsored child who graduated with a Bachelors in Business Administration. Janet is currently working with PaCT.

COVID update June 2021

The President ordered a lockdown again 42 days from 6th June for all schools and institutions of learning and all teachers should get compulsory vaccination before opening. There is no travel between districts. Unfortunately, this has a big impact on families having food and many are struggling once more. If you would like to help your families with a contribution towards food then please let us know.

One of our staff has had COVID (despite having the first vaccination) but is fortunately improving and two new members of staff have each lost one of their parents. Our condolences go to them.

Please continue to have our friends in your thoughts and prayers.

The decision to bring vaccines back from districts where they were not being used, and concentrate the vaccination program in Kampala, appears to have been the right choice, since Kampala residents are now turning up for vaccinations in large numbers. The fact that many Ugandans are finally waking up to the fact that Covid is real is helping to drive them to get vaccinated. The most recent numbers of Covid cases is frightening, rising from a few cases a few weeks ago, to 200 then 500 and now over 1,000 per day so there is no telling where this will end. Certainly, the fact

that we are recording such numbers of cases means that Covid is now rampant in Kampala, because the recorded number of positive tests is probably far less than the actual number of those infected.

Government and private hospital facilities are now being overwhelmed, and the Nambole Stadium has been reactivated to receive Covid patients. The cases being admitted to hospitals are not mild or asymptomatic, but have moderate to severe symptoms, and most of the patients are in their thirties and forties. The figures that the Ministry of Health has released for those who have died are still low, which is encouraging, but again one is not sure of the degree of under-reporting. However, one doctor from a private hospital said that the type of cases which are now being admitted are less severe than during the first wave, and that the majority of patients are recovering. At least this is good news, but sadly we are also seeing young people die.

See President's speech below
<https://yowerikmuseveni.com/address-country-covid19-pandemic-18th-june-2021>

Sadly, our former Blood Water Project Office (Peter Azuba) died due to COVID. Here he is with other members of the team. Please remember his family and friends.



Laetitia Jenkins Sponsored Cycle Ride

Hello! I'm a 5th former at Wellington College and my boarding house (the Orange) has been supporting the charity Mityana for many years now. This charity gives children in Uganda the opportunity to receive an education, whilst also aiming to improve healthcare, the support of

religious communities and the promotion of sustainable development. Covid-19 has led to the closures of multiple schools and therefore not only are even more children missing out on an education, but are also missing out on the school meals. This has increased the risk of malnutrition as school meals are often the only proper meal the children receive in a day. Thus, meaning they need as much help as they can get.

To support this charity, I aimed to raise £750 by cycling with a relatively high resistance on my peloton bike, each morning before school and on the weekends to complete my goal. I started my journey on the 21st February and planned to complete the cycle before the return of school on 8th March. I actually raised £1,122 cycling the equivalent of the distance from: London->Cambridge University->Oxford University->Crowthorne (where Wellington is located)

The distance of this cycle is approximately: 232 kilometres, which means I cycled just over 16.5 kilometres each morning.

Congratulations Laetitia !

WASH Projects Report

New Maternity Ward for Mpenja Health Centre

In spite of some delays due to COVID, the Maternity Ward for Mpenja Health Centre is making good progress. The building is more or less complete, the roof is on and the windows have been installed. Orders have been placed for the furniture and for other equipment. Here is a picture to show how far we have got:



So far during 2021 we have completed two new water tanks. Most recently we have completed

the water tank at Bbuye Primary School which is shown below:



Since the January Newsletter we have completed two more sets of latrines. Here are the latrines at Kiggwa Primary School, which was sponsored by the Parish of Finchampstead and California:



Here are the latrines at Kyetume Primary School sponsored by the Edward's Trust:



There is another set of latrines, and another water tank, currently being constructed at Mpenja Health Centre to support the new Maternity Ward. More sets of latrines and water tanks will be constructed as gifts are received to pay for them.

Hugh Wakeling

Sponsored Grandmas



We are fortunate to have 27 grandmas sponsored at £15 a month.

This grandma has twelve grand children ranging from the age of 1-13 years where most of them are partial orphans. She has a small Piggery project started with the money she receives from her sponsor. She has gone ahead to teach the children how cultivate land so they can help her grow food so they enough for them as a family.



Another grandma is also slowly but progressively constructing her house again after it had nearly collapsed.

PaCT staff receive a certificate of recognition



Our team in Mityana (PaCT) is always looking to provide better facilities for their neighbours.

World Sanitation and Water Days are celebrated annually worldwide. PaCT took part in the celebrations of the two events in Mityana and Gomba district which highlighted activities to improve sanitation and hygiene, improvement of access to safe and clean water, and sensitizing the community members about the spread of COVID-19. The theme of the event was “Good sanitation and hygiene for strengthening COVID-19 pandemic response”. PaCT participated into the general cleaning of the community within three villages including; Ngomanene and Maseruka in Mpenja Sub-County, Gomba District, and Kikandwa Sub-county in Mityana District. PaCT together with the Gomba and Mityana district officers managed to sensitize the community members about the proper disposal of rubbish and the benefit of living in a good hygienic community



One of the preventative measures for COVID-19 is hand washing. According to WHO, washing hands with the help of soap is also key in reducing the spread of communicable diseases such as diarrheal infections among others. PaCT therefore realized that there was a need to provide hand washing facilities in the schools in order to reduce the incidence of disease among school children. Hand washing facilities were provided to four schools including Kiggwa C/U primary school in Butayunja-Mityana district and Kanziira C/U primary school, Kyetume C/U primary and Mpenja C/U primary school in Mpenja Sub-County -Gomba district in the month of March 2021.

The PaCT staff received a certificate of recognition for the work they have done in Mityana under Water, Sanitation & Hygiene

Exam Congratulations



The PaCT family finds it important and motivating to celebrate every person’s achievement and in May 3 of our staff members graduated at different levels. Geoffrey - Executive Director, graduated with a Master’s in Business Administration, Bukonya Robert a volunteer in the WASH department graduated with a Bachelors in Community Psychology and Mbatudde Janet, graduated with a Bachelors in Business Administration. Janet is currently working with PaCT.

Sponsored Children

Congratulations to all the 23 students who took their Primary Leaving Exams at the end of P7. They all passed to go to secondary school thanks to their sponsors providing the extra help through them boarding.

One student, although he passed at a low grade and on his previous performance will attend a vocational course.

It would be nice if you can log in to your account and send a congratulations message to your child as it hasn’t been easy for them during Covid.



Our team are going to have a small celebration for them once their lockdown is over.

Mityana Charity AGM

We were delighted that our Zoom AGM was so successful. The online meeting was well attended and even some of our team in Mityana could join in too. An ex-director in Mityana wrote, "It was very exciting to be part of your AGM. Covid may have taken away or greatly reduced the warmth of our physical meetings, but there are some opportunities it brought. I had never imagined being part of your AGM but here I was. I am still very appreciative of your efforts which have enabled PaCT to continue impacting our communities". One sponsored student studying in India joined! Geoffrey gave a presentation which was appreciated by everyone. A big thank you to David Smart who organized the event for us.

If you would like to see the presentations Geoffrey's <https://youtu.be/Ddw7tJgLt80>

Trustees

The following people were elected as trustees

Chair	Jean Ajin
Secretary	Sarah Birch
Treasurer	Bob Riddaway
	Graham Addison
	Jenny Penfold
	Jo Riddaway
	Diane Simpson
	Helen Thompson
	Peter Thompson
	Richard Tudor

Committee Members

Nigel Birch
Clare Smith
Hugh Wakeling

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Follow us:



Sponsorship

Please note that from January 2021, the new sponsorship coordinator for secondary and tertiary students will be:

Helen Thompson

chthompson@btinternet.com

preferences please use the form at

<https://www.mityanacharity.org/preferences.php>

and also contact us at:

enquiry@mityanacharity.org

Finally, a few financial reminders.....

Are you a tax payer? If so, please consider completing a Gift Aid form downloadable at:

[mityanacharity.org/form_ga.doc](https://www.mityanacharity.org/form_ga.doc)

We can claim your 20% gift on your donations but if you are a higher rate tax payer you can claim the difference (and hopefully you could forward it to us!!)

<https://www.gov.uk/income-tax-reliefs/charity-donations-tax-relief>

Legacies

Are you interested in leaving a legacy to The Mityana Charity?

For further information please see:

[mityanacharity.org/donations_legacy.html](https://www.mityanacharity.org/donations_legacy.html)

A plea from our Treasurer CAF donations

Please email enquiry@mityanacharity.org if you donate in this way, include:

Your name

The amount

The project for which it is intended

Thank you.

Bob Riddaway

