

# The Mityana Charity

Dedicated to helping the people of Mityana, Uganda

Registered Charity no.: 1064825



Issue: Oct 2021



Christmas 2020

## Christmas gifts

Each year, some sponsors like to provide a Christmas present for their child. As you can see in these pictures from last year, they are greatly appreciated. If you would like to send money for a present this year, please refer to the email to all sponsors, sent out in early October, which gives the costs and details about what would be appropriate.

***Please send your gifts as soon as possible and at the latest by 13<sup>th</sup> November.***

If, however, you decide to post something to Uganda yourself it must fit into a C5 size envelope to avoid customs problems.

### ***Raise money by shopping online....***

If you are shopping online for gifts, please help us at no extra cost to you, by signing up to raise funds with M&S, John Lewis, Tesco and many more well-known stores.

Follow this link [you can sign up](#)

Amazon also gives you the opportunity to choose a charity at [smile.amazon.co.uk](https://smile.amazon.co.uk): [You shop. Amazon gives.](#)

### ***Not sure what to buy for family or friends?***

Why not use our Gift list to choose something which will benefit someone in Mityana, and make their Christmas.

In this issue:

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- Sponsorship
- WASH update

*We wish you and your loved ones a particularly Happy Christmas this year*

[https://www.mityanacharity.org/donations\\_gifts.php](https://www.mityanacharity.org/donations_gifts.php)

**If it's for a sponsored child then please send to Helen, Jenny or Jean**

Thank you for your support.

## Sponsorship Renewal

The children in Mityana, along with their parents/guardians, thank you for your support of their children this academic year. The children have either been given resources whilst schools have been closed or exam year students have been taught at PaCT by qualified teachers.

Primary fees are £180 a year or £15 a month. Secondary fees are £300 a year or £25 a month. If you are setting up a standing order, could you please start it in November, so we have everything in place for the transfer of fees for the start of the academic year. A standing order form can be found by going to "Forms" at

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

We hope that all sponsors will continue to support their sponsored child/children but if there is a problem, please speak to us as soon as possible so that we can seek a new sponsor for your child.

Sadly, if a sponsor ceases to support a child, the child will have to drop out of school as we do not have a pot of excess money to take over their fees. If you are in this situation a solution could be to share the costs between one or more of your friends so that your sponsored child can continue with their education. The families are immensely grateful for all you are doing to help their children and the difference sponsorship makes to the whole family.

Don't forget to check on the online system for letters from your child. You can reply easily through the system too.

<https://mucharity.charitymanage.org/>

COVID-19 has disrupted learning for all learners, young and old, at a scale never seen before in history. The need for social distancing and restricted movement among other restrictions had widened the inequalities in access to education and affected 773 million non-literate people holding them captive in illiteracy.



### SCAM WARNING - PLEASE BE AWARE

There are groups of young men in Mityana who are targeting “white” people, via social media, for money for so called charities. Some are asking our sponsored children for contact names. The police are aware. We suggest you **DO NOT** accept or reply to any requests. Always go through Helen, Jenny or Jean to enquire.

We send our immense gratitude towards our sponsors through Mityana Charity UK who have made it possible for children in Mityana to continue their studies while schools are closed. Over 300 children in both primary and secondary school have received revision study material to keep them active and help them catch up with their counterparts who are having online lessons.

### International Literacy Day

PaCT joined with UNESCO and other education-focused institutions to celebrate International Literacy Day under the theme: “Literacy for a human-centred recovery: Narrowing the digital divide”.

### Celebrating Exam Success

We are proud of our 'O' and 'A' Level sponsored students, who despite lockdown passed their exams



A Celebratory Meal



*The best 'O' Level students received a mattress each*

## Tough times call for innovation

Prior to COVID-19, 500 million women and girls globally lacked adequate facilities for menstrual hygiene management according to a 2018 World Bank report. COVID-19 disrupted the production, distribution, and accessibility of menstrual health and hygiene supplies affecting an estimated 1.8 billion menstruators across the globe according to UNICEF. Ugandan girls and women who are part of the 1.8 billion were not spared.

As schools are closed and children remain at home, PaCT with support from Mityana UK Charity organised a training for 30 young boys and girls on how to make handmade reusable sanitary pads. With guidance from experts from Gejja Women Foundation, the children set out to sew a pad each.

A set of twins, boy and girl, Emmanuel Muguma and Noeline Nankonge stitched the neatest sanitary pads. "It is hard work, but it is also fun. We sketched and cut the material before sewing it all together to make pads," Noeline explained. "The material was slippery making it hard to sketch on it," Emmanuel added. For carefully producing neat work, Emmanuel and Noeline each received a pack of reusable pads from the trainers. "These are now for my sister," Emmanuel said on receiving the pads.

For better finishing, the hand-stitched pads need stitching with a machine. Teopista Nansereko,

who, with support from PaCT attained a certificate in tailoring also attended the training. "I look forward to making many pads after this. I can use the machine well and help other children to add an over-lock stitch to their pads," Teopista shared as she sewed away at the machine.

This does not stop at training. "We hope to be able to produce reusable pads through our Business Incubation Centre (BIC). Our own sponsored children will make them and the BIC does the finishing. The cost of disposable pads has increased. The money to buy such pads will buy materials to make reusable ones for all the girls



on the programme," Ms Florence Nabukalu the Programme Manager Education and Livelihood explained.

## PaCT - always growing!



**Planning in progress**

Our team in Uganda are always looking for ways to improve. Their five year journey through their strategic plan ends this year so they have already started planning for the future.



The many plans which PaCT is developing to extend their work in the community would be enhanced by the completion of the Community Training and Conference Centre.

The need for the centre is twofold:

“To all our development partners (Mityana Charity UK; Bloodwater; WaterToThrive and giz\_uganda) that made it possible and continue to help us grow and reach our beneficiaries, we are immensely grateful”.

#### PaCT

1. It will be used by PaCT for large gatherings such as meetings of sponsored children, and AGMs to save on resources that have been going into them. As well as the many training initiatives that PaCT initiates.
2. To generate income locally. PaCT plans to hire out the conference centre for wedding parties, and workshops/training by other charities/NGOs. This would be regarded as a sustainable strategy to reduce dependency on foreign support.



The current position of the building project

The search for funding for this project is ongoing and we would be very grateful if you have contacts who might be able to help towards this.

## Caring for the elderly

The work of nurse Margaret Kisusule is vital in reaching the elderly in rural areas. Here she is on one of her health visits to a sponsored grandma. Many children rely totally on the support of grandmothers who often care for several children at a time when they have been abandoned or orphaned.



## WASH Projects – Hugh Wakeling

### New Maternity Ward for Mpenja Health Centre

The maternity ward for Mpenja Health Centre is now very nearly complete and is due to be opened soon. In the mean-time here are the chairs and tables specially made to go inside the new maternity ward:



### New Maternity Ward for Kikandwa Health Centre

Following the receipt of a very generous gift from Andrew and Sarah Dodd, work has started on a new maternity ward for Kikandwa Maternity Centre. The Ground Breaking Ceremony took

place recently, and here is the laying of the first brick:



Here are the medical workers at Kikandwa Health Centre at the ceremony:



Many other people came to the ceremony including the local MP. Here is the group photograph:



## Report on WASH Projects:

We have recently received very generous gifts from the Edwards Trust and from St Sebastian's Church, and we are now starting work on latrines for Kibanda Primary School, and a new water tank for Nakaziba Primary School.

## Sponsorship

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

**Helen Thompson**

[chthompson@btinternet.com](mailto:chthompson@btinternet.com)

To update your preferences please use the form at

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

and also contact us at:  
[enquiry@mityanacharity.org](mailto: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](mailto: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**

## CONTACT US

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