

News from Uganda!

William is Wellspring's senior clinical officer and manager of our sponsorship schemes. He works alongside the other members of the dedicated Wellspring staff, caring for over 12,000 sick children each year. He has written the following 2 articles on some of his thoughts and experiences whilst working with sick Ugandan children:

MALARIA - the killer disease...

Many years ago, I witnessed a sick person dying without going to hospital. She received no medication since she lived a long way from the hospital and the country had run out of drugs for her condition. The main reason for her death was poverty. She was so poor she couldn't even afford to buy a single paracetamol tablet to relieve her pain and fever.

When I started working at Wellspring, a Centre aiming to manage sick and less privileged children's lives, I thanked God that here no child would ever die due to poverty and disease. This has been true for thousands of Ugandan children until May 23rd 2016. On this day, 2 year old Jane Namale was brought into the Medical Centre by her grandmother.



The child appeared quiet and calm. She was taken to the laboratory where she started convulsing. She was then admitted onto the ward, sedated and cooled down but before her results arrived she had died. Wellspring staff took the grandmother and her dead grandchild back home to arrange her funeral. On arriving at the home we realized the extent of the poverty in which this family was living.

Apparently Jane had fallen sick 4 days previously, together with another older grandchild. The grandmother had no money and had not heard of the services of Wellspring and so she kept both children at home giving them herbs in an attempt to treat them. We took the older child to Wellspring for treatment where she recovered.

It could have been God's plan that Jane was to die that day but I am strongly convinced that poverty was the main

factor that led to this child's death. It is true that she had many malaria parasites in her blood but they would not have multiplied to that extent if the grandmother had money to take her to hospital as early as possible.

Malaria is the leading cause of death in sub Saharan African countries, most of these countries being very poor. These deaths are common in infants and children under 5 years. According to the WHO, in 2015 sub Saharan Africa saw 88% malaria cases and 90% malaria deaths of the global burden. It is so sad that Jane is now one of these statistics. Out of the many malaria cases managed at Wellspring over the past 9 years, Jane's life was the only one not saved.

This has prompted me to write down and make the world know that malaria is very serious and many poor children die just because they lack a few shillings to save their lives. *Continued...*



William Lubyayi



Save
a life

There is no better cause than saving a young life.
May I encourage you to assist Medicare in saving many other young lives.

It just takes one person to initiate such an act - WE NEED YOU!

Medicare, and the thousands of sick, dying Ugandan children served by them, urgently needs your help.



When it's a malaria season, hospitals flood with patients, the biggest percentage being diagnosed with malaria. Here, at Wellspring, we can attend to over 100 patients per day (in a malaria season) the vast majority being diagnosed with malaria. In the months of April, May and June 2016, malaria cases at Wellspring were 571, 707 and 936 respectively. These are very many lives saved - but the loss of one child, was a very big blow.

Join in the struggle to save lives.
SAVING LIVES

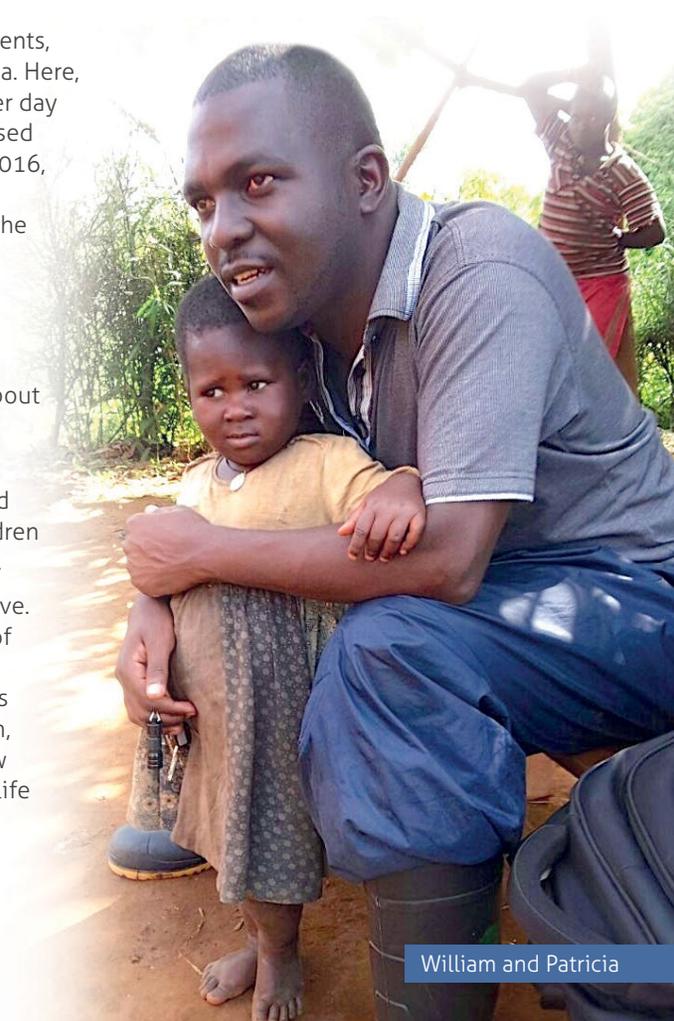
A life changing act often starts with one person. History books often talk about great men and women. All the good works mentioned in these books were often ideas of a single person, on which a story was built.

"A life line for Ugandan children," - what comes to your mind when you read this statement? Do you know what Medicare does for the less privileged children in the remote villages of Uganda in Africa? The wonderful work of Medicare.

Look at Patricia Namugabo. None of us could imagine that she would survive. On my first visit to her (pictured above), tears could be seen on the faces of the visiting team. Very few people had ever held her or loved her and she seemed barely alive. But one person's intervention, shared with others, has led to her transformation into a very happy and lovely child. Many children, like Patricia, are dying due to poverty and lack of medical care. When I now look at Patricia's smiling face it is as if she says, "Thank you for saving my life - but please save more."

William Lubyayi

Wellspring Senior Clinical Officer & Sponsorship Scheme Manager



William and Patricia

Save the Life of a Child!

We have 3 Ugandan children desperately needing your help!
For less than £1 per day you can save the life of one of these children...



Ronald Kafeero Age: 6 years

Living with his grandparents and 3 other children in extreme poverty. His mother died from AIDS and his father has abandoned him to the care of his grandparents who are peasant farmers. Ronald also suffers from AIDS and requires urgent assistance through COIN sponsorship.

If you would like to sponsor Ronald then please call us on
01928 739214 or email info.medcare@icloud.com



Alex Busuulwa Age: 13 years

Living with his mother and 2 siblings. His father has died from AIDS and Alex too suffers from AIDS, as does one of his brothers. The family live in rented accommodation and are very poor. Alex' health is poor and his viral load keeps increasing putting him at serious risk. Sponsorship is urgently required for Alex.

If you would like to sponsor Alex then please call us on
01928 739214 or email info.medcare@icloud.com



Abaasi Muwonge Age: 12 years

Living in extreme poverty with his mother and 6 other children. Abaasi suffers from AIDS. Without sponsorship and the provision of medicines, good nutrition and transport funds (to enable him to collect his ARTs every month) his life is at risk. Less than £1 per day could save Abaasi's life.

If you would like to sponsor Abaasi then please call us on
01928 739214 or email info.medcare@icloud.com

Good
Luck!

A Marathon for Medcare! **JustGiving**[™]

Chris and Charlie are to run the MBNA Chester Marathon on 2nd October 2016, raising essential funds for Medcare. They are practicing hard and would be grateful for your support.

You can sponsor them on [Medcare Just Giving](#). Good luck to both of you!

Johnson's Story: Related by his parents and friends...

All who support Medcare, and have read recent reports from Uganda, will remember Johnson (**see our March 2016 newsletter**). This little Ugandan boy, against all odds, was miraculously healed of a serious congenital heart complaint. Open heart surgery in Bangalore, India, funded by generous donors from the UK and USA has saved and transformed this child's life. His parents lived expecting the death of their much-loved first child daily. Here they and others tell some of their story...

Nurse Christine:

Working at Kitovu Hospital, nurse Christine understood how ill Johnson was when she last saw him... "When I saw Johnson convulsing and vomiting I lost hope for his life. All I could do was pray that he reached the hospital in Kampala alive, but I had lost faith and did not think he would survive."

Proscovia, Johnson's mother:

"It was a Sunday at around noon on 10th August 2013 when baby Johnson came to this world. My son looked normal to me and after 4 days in hospital we were discharged. However, the baby would not breast feed. I had to feed him from a cup. For a whole week Johnson never stopped crying, day and night. In our culture, over crying of a baby is related to child naming. The elders told us that the baby was crying for a name. Three times we took him to be named but all failed. Eventually we took him to Masaka hospital.

Here we spent 2 months on the ward. The baby was given oxygen but no diagnosis was established. We were eventually referred to Mulago hospital in Kampala where we were told that the child had a heart problem. He spent 3 months on the paediatric unit and was then referred to the Ugandan Heart Institute, where he was given medicines. Johnson was often distressed and many in the community ignored me. Others told me that it was witch craft and Johnson would never grow if I didn't seek help from the traditional healers. To be sincere a chronically ill child makes you forget God, and so I did all that was suggested but with no results. At one time a neighbour told me that our landlord had sacrificed our son to his gods. She advised us to leave his house and go somewhere else if we wanted our son to live. However, this was impossible because we are so very poor. I reached a time when all I could pray was - "If Johnson is to die let him die in hospital!" I never had any hope that my son would be healed.

Now I strongly believe that God has plans for every person on earth. Truly, God has placed Johnson's life in the hands of Dr. Pauline and her team. How could I travel to India for my son's life if it were not for these people? Where could I get the money from? God you are great! All those who used to advise me otherwise no longer talk to me. They can't believe that my son is now well."

Joseph, Johnson's father:

"Having been brought up in poverty as an orphan I never wanted to marry until I had enough money. The time came when I was tired of my lonely life. I found my wife, we lived happily and we had our first born.

After a few days my son became the source of my suffering. If I hadn't loved my family I would have run away. My wife was very strong and determined to take Johnson wherever we could be directed in search for his life. Money was scarce but I was trying. When we were told that his surgery couldn't be done in Uganda then I lost hope and waited for the day when I could be told that he is dead. Johnson's death at that time wouldn't have been news to me, but God's goodness gave me the news I will never forget in my life.

The news that Johnson was healed! Truly God is the one who brought Wellspring and all its founders to help my son. I am a casual mechanic who never even went to school. How could I have such people to help me if it were not God? I have no words to thank you all but you mean a lot to me. You have given me back the smile I had lost 2 years ago."



Emmanuel, Joseph's friend and workmate:

Emmanuel is occasionally used as a driver for the Wellspring ambulance.

He knew of the work of Wellspring which inspired him to talk to Joseph and Proscovia about their work with very sick children...

"Joseph is my workmate and I know his income. When we saw his son battle with an illness we never understood I told him about the children I saw at Wellspring. Time came when Joseph could no longer manage to support his family. We all were concerned. First of all Joseph is a good friend and is hard working. We thought of a way of helping him but we couldn't manage to shoulder all his financial needs for the son. I decided to direct them to Wellspring to seek help. I led them myself and took them there. Johnson's life was then in Wellspring's hands. Since that time Joseph has never lacked money for his son's treatment. Frankly speaking I never expected Johnson to be healed. I only wanted him to have a befitting death and to leave the parents contented and courageous to bear other children. God gave us a miracle and Johnson is now living a normal life. I am sure God gave us Johnson for us to know his powers and believe in him. All sorts of herbs were used but Johnson never responded and neither did he die. I am told that many children in the hospitals he used to go to, died leaving Johnson alive, yet his condition was more deadly than theirs.

In conclusion, I thank William very much for the way he relates with parents having problems with their children, the counseling and time he gives them. Thanks also to Wellspring staff for working hard to save our needy children's lives. For the top bosses may God bless you and thank you so much for everything you do for us."



Johnson and his parents



KINGSLEY EXPLOSION

A repeat of the highly successful bonfire and fireworks charity event, which took place in the village of Kingsley, Cheshire in 2014.

This years event is to take place on Saturday October 29th on the Kingsley Playing Fields; gates open 6.30pm. Tickets £5 adults £3 children. Fun for all the family. Tickets available from the Medcare office by calling 01928 739214 or at the gates.

Medcare would like to thank the following businesses for generously donating funds to enable the purchase of the fireworks:

- Kingsley Parish Council
- Gibson's Kingsley Mill
- Forresters
- Horseshoe Garage
- Birchdale Kennels and cattery
- Nick Mort Builders
- Coco's Playbarn
- Delamere Fortune Palace
- Robert Gleave and Sons
- Jimmy Daly

We'd like to say a big
Thank you!

To The Airbus Facilities Management and Real Estate team for continuing to raise funds for Medcare. Also to Urenco and Jacobs at Capenhurst, Cheshire, for their continued support of Medcare.

The Immaculate Vocational Scholarship



Immaculate Nakanjako suffered with sickle cell disease. When Medcare volunteers first met her in 2009 she was 11 years old. She suffered continually from joint pains and lethargy and was often anaemic. She seemed a rather sad, quiet child who had suffered in this way since birth.

The young people in the UK visiting team were concerned that children such as Immaculate were unable to play, have fun and enjoy their childhood.

To survive each day was their main concern. After much discussion it was decided that Medcare should begin a child sponsorship scheme, where children with chronic, life threatening and incurable diseases could be provided with medical care, nourishing food, hygiene facilities and other life's essentials, so providing hope for the future and a more fulfilling childhood.

Now 108 children are sponsored through our COIN and MDI child sponsorship schemes. The success of these projects is seen in the smiling faces and happy laughter of these children, as they meet together monthly to be reviewed, encouraged and fed. 2 teenagers have now 'graduated' from COIN and are successfully earning a wage and living independently. 4 other teenagers are undergoing vocational training to equip them for the future. However, in May this year, Medcare received the news

that Immaculate had died suddenly, and unexpectedly, in hospital, aged 17 years. Having been admitted to hospital with a serious episode of malaria and sickle cell crisis she died within 24 hours. Everyone was shocked to hear of this lovely girl's death, a young girl about to start vocational training and make her way in the world.

Immaculate was the inspiration for the Medcare sponsorship schemes which have transformed and saved so many young lives. We therefore plan to set up a special scholarship in her memory. This scholarship will provide one Ugandan teenager with funds for vocational training for a two year period. It will be awarded to the teenager within the 'Wellspring Teenage Group' showing the greatest compassion and practical assistance to others. The annual cost of this scholarship will be £500.

Further details of the Immaculate Vocational Scholarship will be provided on request. If you would like to assist with the financing of this project please contact Pauline at the Medcare office by calling **01928 739214** or by email at info.medcare@icloud.com

Medcare May Success!

Medcare would like to sincerely thank all our wonderful volunteers who took part in Medcare May fund raising initiatives. Many different activities were undertaken by individuals and groups in North Wales, Cheshire and the Manchester area. Activities such as: toddlethons, duck race, dances, dinner parties, quiz night, collections, marathons (funds still to come in) and dirt biking across the Gobi Desert in Mongolia (thank you Nolan!)



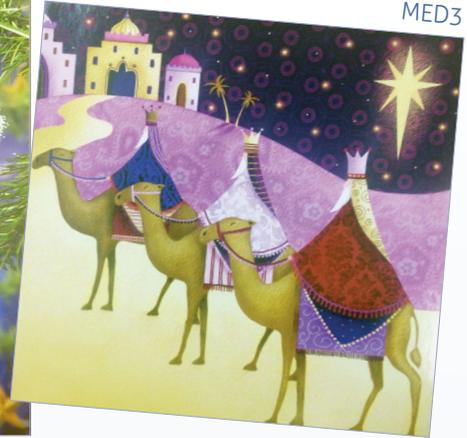
An amazing
£6,000
has been raised! With more to come! Well done everyone!
Let's do it again next year!

Christmas is Coming!

MED1



MED3



It's just a few weeks to Christmas! Medcare is thinking ahead. Why not order your Christmas cards through us. We have had 8 separate beautiful designs printed and orders will be taken from 1st September. Please complete order form below or contact the Medcare office for your purchase of these cards. Many thanks for your support.

Item Code	Description	Price Per Pack (10 Cards Per Pack)	Number of Packs	Net price
MED1	The Evening Skate Size: 140mm x 140mm	£4.00		£
MED2	Wrecking Bauble Size: 140mm x 140mm	£4.00		£
MED3	Journey to Bethlehem Size: 140mm x 140mm	£4.00		£
MED4	Sleigh Bells Size: 140mm x 140mm	£4.00		£
MED5	Time for a Nap Size: 140mm x 140mm	£4.00		£
MED6	Holy Night City Size: 140mm x 140mm	£4.00		£
MED7	Time for a Nap - Glitter Size: 159mm x 159mm	£5.00		£
MED8	Holy Night City - Glitter Size: 159mm x 159mm	£5.00		£



MED4



MED5 / MED7



MED6 / MED8

Payment in cash, by cheque (made out to Medcare) or via BACS. Bank details:
Medcare Sort Code: 20-29-50 Account No.: 53045102
Reference: MCC and your name

Cards can be picked up from the Medcare office:
Fraser House, Bridge Lane, Frodsham, WA6 7HD.

If postage is required Medcare would be grateful for a donation towards this cost.

Sub Total

£

Postage

£

TOTAL

£

Joy comes in the morning!

So many stories! Many amazing, some sad. The psalmist in the Bible tells us that "Weeping may last through the night, but joy comes with the morning." (Psalm 30 v 5)

Having worked in Uganda for 12 years I have seen, and experienced, many tears being shed for young lives lost. But equally, many tears of joy on seeing young lives saved and transformed. The hope provided by stories of children such as baby Johnson and little Patricia has reached the thousands of needy families coming into Wellspring each year. Every year more and more desperately sick children are brought into Wellspring by their guardians, seeking not just medical care but reassurance and hope for the future.

The work of the Wellspring Children's Medical Centre enables sickness to be transformed into health; despair into hope; sorrow into joy. Please continue to support the work of Medcare in Uganda. Together we can save many more young lives.

Pauline Hutchinson
Chairman of Medcare



Nolan's Mongolian Fundraising Adventure!



In a moment of pure madness/ midlife crisis (perhaps due to me being 40 this year), I agreed to ride across the Gobi Desert in Mongolia on a dirt bike with 14 other guys from around the globe. The trip is in a remote part of 'Ovorkhangai' province, Mongolia, and we travel south from Ulaanbaatar to the edge of the Gobi Desert, returning via a more mountainous landscape. Accommodation will be wild camping in tents with no luxurious facilities.

"I was raising money for Medcare and for the UK children's charity CLIC Sargent, two fantastic charities.

Day 1: The Beginning

Following last minute preparations we are on our way! 250km covered. Mostly dusty single track and rocks. At times, the dust is so thick you struggle to see the rider ahead of you apart from the dim glow of their tail light. And then the dust clears. You see the wide open expanse of Mongolia. Low hills, scrub land and not much else. Apart from teams of ponies. 2 casualties today. Canadian Jason hits a rut, flies over his handle bars and lands head first into a ditch. He's OK. Just a little shaken with a bruised shoulder. The second is a rider from Singapore. He's not happy with the bike he's been given so he decides to turn back to Ulaantabaar. His tour over.

Filthy, we reach the camp of a nomadic family where we pitch our tents. The family have prepared us a goat. Killed today, the goat is cooked from the inside out with hot stones. The stones heated by fire fuelled by burning dried pony droppings. Nice! I go for a walk and spend some time with God. It's amazing how you all of a sudden you have time for the Lord when there is no email, Internet or TV. Think there's a lesson in that. It was good walking and talking. I need to do more of that. After all He's my Saviour and best friend. He deserves my time."

Medcare would like to thank Nolan for taking part in this amazing trip, raising funds for Medcare and CLIC Sargent. An amazing £5,005 has been raised, split equally between the two charities. Well done!

[Click here](#) to read Nolan's full story...