

# **Kwale District Eye Centre Bi-annual Report January – June 2007**

- **Theresa gains sight**



**Baby Theresa was born blind because of cataracts. She had surgery and now she can see! Without this she would have been blind. Now she needs life-long follow up**

- **Four irreversibly blind children in mainstream primary**



**Ali , who is totally blind, receives the key to his education; a Braille machine, donated by Sight Savers International**

- **Safaricom Diani Rules raises record Ksh1.5 million**



**The Safaricom team take a break**

- **Awareness creation continues**



**Pupils from Braeburn School watch, fascinated, as Dr Helen prepares to insert the lens during cataract surgery**

## Community Based Programme

Initially, the emphasis of our community based programme was to find patients and help them access help.

This was primarily directed at those who needed cataract surgery to see again, or those with diseases, such as glaucoma, vitamin deficiencies or diabetes, who needed treatment to prevent them losing their sight.



Words fail to describe what this lady felt when the bandage was removed from her eye after cataract surgery

The programme has expanded to encompass integration of the irreversibly visually impaired, blind or deaf/blind.

Community mobilisation and training continue to play a vital part.

The damage to the district's infrastructure has not yet been repaired following last year's flooding. Roads are terrible and an estimated 50% of the population rely on food aid.

## Low Vision and Education



Chizi is an albino. She comes from a very remote village in Kwale. Like most albinos she has low vision and needs help.

At last the message is reaching far out communities that we can help these children.

Two children with low vision took examination in large print for the first time in Kwale District . They did so well that they gained entry to secondary schools.



Our low vision assistant, Nzirani, encourages Hamisi to use his less strong right eye

## Rehabilitation

Teaching people to go about their daily chores without sight is the focal point of the rehab work.

Mwanasiti came to a field screening three years ago hoping to have something done to restore her sight. Sadly, nothing could be done.

She used to make an income from weaving. But she was no longer able to go out and look for the leaves she uses. She sat at home, useless and frustrated.

She snorted with derision when our rehab officer, Mwinyi, suggested joining the rehab programme.

She felt it was a waste of time and that, if only someone would give her glasses, she would be able to see.

It took Mwinyi two years to help her to come to terms with her blindness and accept our help.



Mwanasiti in her 'workshop'

She can now weave with confidence producing beautiful baskets. We sell these in our charity shop and awareness centre in Diani.



Ningome (right) is totally blind.

She gained the confidence to take up her old skill of hands-on healing when she attended our residential training for blind ladies. Now she runs a thriving clinic from her home

## Eye Camps

Many people in remote areas of Kenya cannot access eye care.

Together with Medical and Educational Aid to Kenya we took the services to the people, enabling over 600 people to have sight-restoring surgery.



Dr. Helen examines patients at an eye camp at Ngurunit northern Kenya

## Staff

- ◇ Sadly our Project Manager, Thuweba, left us for a job in Dar and our Ophthalmic Clinical Officer, George, returned to Nairobi to be near his family
- ◇ Alio Ahmed completed his attachment with us. He passed his final exams at Kenya Medical Training College. Mohamed Kombo joined us for five months training attachment as a cataract surgeon



Dr. Roberts ( centre) teaches Kombo surgery ,while Dr. Thiel observes

Dr. Roger Humphry has been visiting KDEC for over four years now. He brings invaluable help, equipment and expertise each time.

He accepted the post of honorary consultant of our UK based charity: Eyes for East Africa UK in 2005.

Roger plays the saxophone and his big band have held two functions in UK raising over £4,000 for the centre. The dulcit tones of his sax playing out across the garden attract all the watchmen who hang around the house enjoying a taste of good jazz.

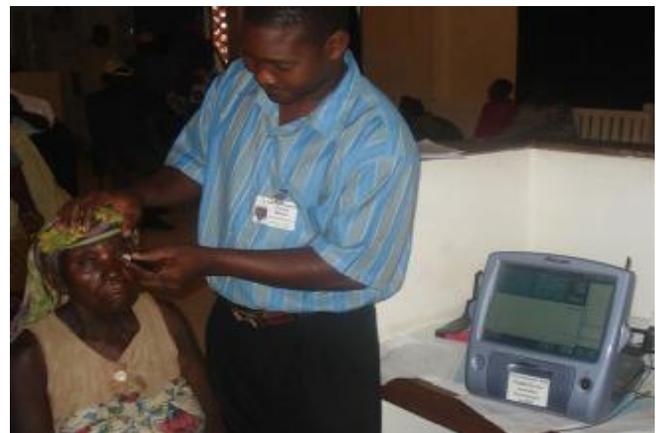
We wish Roger and Jane very much happiness together.



Dr. Humphry, EFEA(UK) Honorary Ophthalmic Consultant marries Jane

## Infrastructure

- The Australian High Commission, Nairobi donated an Ocuscan machine for measuring the power of the lens which is to be inserted at cataract surgery



Ocuscan in use. It measure the length of the eye by ultrasound

- Meghraj Properties (UK) gave a digital camera for field work and two computers for the Community Based Programme
- CBMI donated a motorbike for field work

## Visitors to the Project

- S. Abdalla & D. Ngugi—MEWA Medical Centre
- F. Dato—Bilal Muslim Mission of Kenya
- Mary Douglas, CEO, Aga Khan Hospital, Mombasa
- F. Zitoh, Kwale County Council
- Mr. & Mrs. Merinsky—Switzerland
- Mr. & Mrs. Stedler—Germany
- Ms. M. Biagini & Mr. E. Segre—Italy
- Messrs J. Lenkulate, S. Obonyo & A. Waweru—Siana Springs & Mara Intrepids Camps
- Mr. R. Engel—Germany
- Michael & Les—England
- Mr. C. Dooley—Ireland
- J. Crow, Trustee, Eyes for East Africa (UK)
- Hommy Khosrowpanah
- Dr. R. Humphry, Honorary Consultant, Eyes for East Africa (UK)
- R. Graham & J. Muiruri & Ms. C. Cross—Sight Savers International
- Dr. M. Thiel—Germany
- Ms. S. Marshall—England
- Mr. S. Monaghan
- Fr. A Fantoeci—Ukunda Catholic Church
- Sylvia Miloyo, CBM II, Nairobi
- CBM I co-workers from different countries worldwide attending a conference in Mombasa.
- M. Mohamed & Mr. Sujay—Imperial bank, Mombasa
- Fr. J. Kenga—Shimba Hills Parish, Kwale
- G. Atieli—Sense International
- B. Brueggemann, M. Lupo, N. Berman & P. Armstrong—Ohio State University
- Dr. H. Gaeckle—Germany



**Dr. Gaeckle examines a patient**

## Fundraising & Publicity

### Safaricom Diani Rules 2007



**Safaricom's Benjamin Kioko presents the sponsorship cheque of Ksh1 million (US\$13,333)**

**Our annual beach sports event on the weekend of 1st June raised a record Ksh1.5 million (\$21,429) for eye care. Our huge thanks to all our sponsors and supporters, particularly Lucy Marsden who has taken over the running of the Diani Rules website. Our thanks to Rimal Patel for his work in setting it up.**

**Have a look on [www.dianirules.com](http://www.dianirules.com)**

**Charity Shop and Awareness Centre in Diani Shopping Centre.**

**Continues to flourish. A local glassware company donated 16 cases of their goods**

**Website [www.eyesforeastafrica.org](http://www.eyesforeastafrica.org)**

**Eye Give – Our thanks to all those generous people who have chosen a gift this way thro' our website**

### **Future Events**

**World Sight Day 11th October at KDEC. This years continues schools awareness.**

**Liaison Eye Go Fishing competition—17th & 18th November on the North Coast.**

## Statistics

Activity	Target (2007)	Done (As at 30th June 2007)
<b>Eye Care</b>		
Patients seen at KDEC	9,100	4,729
Operations	1,840	1,561
Of which how many were IOLs	1,500	1,382
Of which how many were blind in both eyes	500	402
Glaucoma Operations	40	37
<b>Community Work</b>		
Awareness Creation Meetings	240 reaching 20,000 clients	133 reaching 11,147 people
Train traditional healers	50	46
Community Workshops	12 reaching 300 people	8 reaching 198 people
Outreach clinics	130 reaching 9,100 people	73 reaching 6,919 people
<b>Low Vision / Education</b>		
New Cases found	55	31
Integrated into mainstream education	25	27
Primary schools visited	50 reaching 400 teachers	18 reaching 174 teachers
Community meetings held	40 reaching 2,000 people	27 reaching 1,842 people
Follow-up low vision cases	80	79
<b>Rehabilitation</b>		
New Cases found	55	35
assessed (initial)	55	48
No. followed up	100	83
Given home based training	55	26
Rehab training for Irreversibly Blind Persons & carers	80	78
Community meetings held	50 reaching 2,500 people	29 reaching 1,701 people
Integration of visually impaired people into existing social groups	40 visually impaired persons	7 visually impaired persons