



KWALE
EYE CENTRE



We are, of course, managing only emergencies at the Eye Centre to minimise the risk of spread of Covid 19. So we send you some uplifting news from those who can now see because of your generosity and support

RESTORING SIGHT

Cataract is still the main cause of reversible blindness in the areas surrounding the Eye Centre. Cost and accessibility the biggest obstacles to people receiving treatment. The Fred Hollows Foundation sponsored our team to perform over 200 cataract operations in a local government hospital. The photos show some of the people who underwent cataract surgery - now they can see!



THEATRE



Camp Kenya nurses watch the people they found in the field undergoing sight restoring surgery.



Sponsored by AKO, we train nurses in the government hospital to recognise and refer those with eye disease. Here the nurses watch surgery

TRAINING

Mr Roger Humphry is our honorary ophthalmic consultant of the UK charity, Eyes For East Africa. Each year visits the Eye Centre in Kenya at his own expense

Here he is training Charity, our new clinical officer, to do laser treatment for glaucoma.



Anne Jervell is an optometrist from Norway. We were so happy to have her visit the Eye Centre and share her expertise. Here in the photo she is showing our optometrist, Brenda, how to use a phoropter. A phoropter is a device for determining a persons spectacle prescription.

We were lucky to have Jane Tapley at the low vision and she was impressed on the strength of the department.



Training Midwives

Kwale Eye Centre were thrilled to be able to share their knowledge with staff at the local government hospital recently. It has the largest maternity unit in the county, and we were able to show the midwives and nurses there how to detect signs of serious eye disease in newborns. Things like eye cancers, complications of premature birth, and cataracts can be picked up, and early detection is essential for a good outcome. This training was sponsored by AKO



OPTICAL

A pair of glasses has changed the life of this small girl. She is a leading member of the vision club in her school. This club takes responsibility for testing everybody's sight and, if there is anyone who cannot see clearly, they get in touch with our community based worker



EYE CAMPS

Many people with eye problems either do not know about us, or cannot reach us. So we go to them. Our staff take their skill and equipment out into more rural communities and areas that are far away from accessible eye care. We test people, treat them, and take them to the Eye Centre as needed.



In schools, we have found that teaching the children and teachers to screen for eye problems is a really efficient way of finding those who need our help. The teacher contacts our community based worker and a plan is made for any child that has been identified as having eye problems.

St. Johns Primary School is only a few kilometres away from the Eye Centre, and 48 children were found to have reduced vision. Here are some of the children, happy now they can see clearly with their new glasses!

A fond farewell to Siti

Mwanasiti had worked at the Eye Centre for 19 years as the head housekeeper. She is a generous, warm lady, liked by everyone, and she rapidly became both unofficial patient and staff counsellor, always offering a calm, patient presence and a shoulder to lean on .

Siti, as she is affectionately known, decided that it was time for her to retire and enjoy her numerous grandchildren at home. We gave her a good send off and wish her well in her retirement.

Firdaus is her granddaughter !



Firdaus' story

Our Low Vision Therapist, Morris, was visiting a visually impaired child at a local primary school, when a teacher stopped him and asked him to have a look at a child in her class, a 7 year old girl called Firdaus.

The teacher suspected she could not see well but, even after moving her to the front of the class, Firdaus was still struggling to copy things down from the board. Morris checked and found that indeed- she had very poor vision. The child's mother was surprised to hear that there was a problem with her eyes. Firdaus is a twin, and her twin sister had been helping her so much that her visual disability had gone unnoticed. Firdaus had bilateral cataract surgery and now is a changed child!

Not only can she play sports and games with her friend but she is helping her twin sister in class



Great grannie Joyce

Great grannie Joyce, like most old people in poor rural Africa, went blind. She hadn't seen her great grandchildren, only heard them and hugged them.

At first she ignored the disability but, fiercely independent, she lost her way to the toilet in broad daylight, not making it in time. This embarrassed and frustrated her. Joyce has 5 daughters, and a married son in her own little hut. Her home was sparkling clean until a few months ago when she was really unable to keep it that way any more. Being a proud, independent woman, she wouldn't let her relatives help her to clean it nor would she let them wash her clothes which were becoming quite smelly!

Her daughter contacted Philip (our nurse) to whom they are related, he visited his grandmother and looked at her eyes. "You have bad corneal scars," he said, "but we may be able to do something for that cataract." He advised them to come for surgery. Great grannie Joyce was so looking forward to becoming independent again after surgery, and couldn't wait to get home to do her laundry and clean. Her face was a picture as she turned to her granddaughter when the eye pad was removed, "You look familiar..but different!" she said, "very like your mother! How amazing it is to be able to see. How could you have left me blind for so long ..it was your brother who was able to restore my sight!"



Philip, our nurse, chats to a happy Joyce after surgery.



Happy to see again!



61,481
Awareness



37,696
Patients Seen



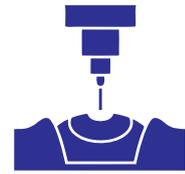
59
Low Vision



1,289
Cataract Surgeries



41
Children Surgeries



78
Glaucoma
& Laser Surgeries



2,183
Reading Glasses



2,391
Distance Glasses

**THANK YOU ALL
FOR YOUR SUPPORT**

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