



## MEDICAL DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE



Dear Friends and Supporters,

Thank you for your unwavering support of Kwale Eye Centre. Your generosity is not just a donation—it is the gift of sight, independence, and a future for so many people who would otherwise be left in darkness. Thanks to you, we are able to continue this life-changing work, reaching those who need us most.

This past year has been a remarkable one. We have broken records, performing the highest number of cataract surgeries in our history. Shockingly, 27% of our patients were completely blind before surgery, a stark reminder of how vital your support is. Among these operations, over 150 were on children, a significant increase from 100 the previous year. This rise reflects the trust in our outcomes and the success of our community screening programs, ensuring that no child is left behind due to treatable blindness.

As we look ahead, our focus remains clear:

- Strengthening training for caregivers to improve early detection and referral.
- Expanding paediatric services to ensure children receive the care they need.
- Growing our spectacle program to tackle uncorrected refractive errors, which impact education and livelihoods.
- Empowering government health workers to deliver primary eye care, bringing services closer to the community.

None of this would be possible without you. Every life transformed is a direct result of your kindness and commitment. On behalf of all of us at Kwale Eye Centre—and most importantly, on behalf of those whose lives you have touched—thank you.

Dr. Helen Roberts  
Medical Director, Kwale Eye Centre



## COMMUNITY BASED PROGRAMME

Many people with eye problems cannot reach us because they are too poor or blind or simply don't know that something can be done to help



So we go to them; spreading awareness in the community about keeping your eyes healthy and what to do if you find someone who needs eye care

## LOW VISION, CHILDREN'S DEPARTMENT and OPTICAL

We issued 780 spectacles and operated on over 150 cataracts in children this year



We began the upgrade of the children's area, expanding the waiting area and redesigning the inside of the building to make it more child-friendly. We invested in topography to seek a condition found only in children and young adults. Most important, we continue our support to children with visual challenges that we cannot completely solve



## FUNDRAISING

Eye Go Flower arranging raises funds in Crieff, Rag dolls and spectacle cases made in Nottingham for sale in the charity shop, Aidan, not content with climbing Kilimanjaro last year despite his visual challenges, summits Mt Kenya, raising funds for Eyes for East Africa, and the winners of the Eye Go Fishing



## VISITORS, TRAININGS, STUDENTS & REGIONAL CONFERENCES

Running an Eye Centre is very much about training, getting and giving input across the region, working with others both in Kenya and abroad



Dr Taylor from Oxford visits to teach us, Mark Barnes reviews the impact of his management training, Dr Shabbir, Lilian, Dr Nils Eric teach surgery in Zimbabwe, Vinita tests the Indian lens for the new technique in children



Vera looks on as Dr Helen explains at a medical meeting, Norwegian optometry students spend time at Kwale, Drs Shabbir, Kristian and Nils Eric observe on the video screen in theatre as Lilian operates



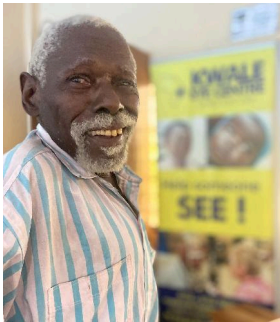
Student surgeon Miva practices in the wetlab, Intern Faith tests vision in the field, Mereke and her sister visit from Right to Sight





Corneal and contact lens specialist Anne visits from Norway, Dr Gichangi the head of ophthalmic services unit visits with Dr Rebecca, Vinita teaches in paed, Kate from Eyes for East Africa visits the field and meets the family of a child who had cataract surgery

## PATIENT'S PERSPECTIVES



One of our long term community health persons gets his cataracts done, ' Now I understand how my patients feel' Gasper smiles

Our purchasing manager undergoes cataract surgery. 'I was very frightened by the thought of an injection' confesses Francis, 'but there wasn't one! And as you can see I could see immediately after the surgery!'



## WORK DONE 2024



**31,287**  
Awareness



**37,867**  
Patients Seen



**172**  
Children Low Vision



**2,464**  
Reading Glasses



**2,239**  
Cataract Surgeries



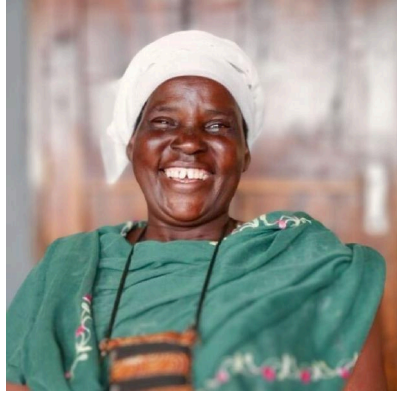
**157**  
Children Surgeries



**72**  
Glaucoma & Laser Surgeries



**1,946**  
Distance Glasses



**Thank you!**  
for helping us to make lives better

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<https://www.facebook.com/EyesForEastAfrica>  
[https://www.instagram.com/eyesforeastafrica/  
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