

## September News Update



*A cleaner operating washing machines.*

### **Laundry**

During July, the Hospital welcomed yet another group of new team members; a set of three washing machines and three dryers to provide much needed services to the Hospital, especially to our patients. The arrival of the dryers lifts a huge burden from the eleven cleaners working at BCH, who previously had to do the washing of all the linens in the 62-bed Hospital by hand. We are incredibly grateful to the donor who had a vision of a laundry room in this Hospital and helped to make that vision become a reality.

### **Sexual and Reproductive Health**

The month of September has been a busy one for our Sexual and Reproductive Health team; they delivered 105 babies, exceeding our target of 100. We are grateful to Marie Stopes International for having agreed to partner with us and improve on our services in Sexual and Reproductive Health. Marie Stopes allows women to buy a voucher for 3,000 shillings that entitles them to four antenatal visits, a Hospital delivery and a postnatal visit.

### **Child Health**

The Children's ward has become one of the busiest in the Hospital, partly due to the success of the Child Health Access Programme (CHAP). CHAP, supported by the Eurochange Charity, entitles all children under the age of five years to access free health care in Bwindi, paying only a nominal fee to discourage abuse of the service. The number of children on the ward has more than doubled, and our staff has been quite busy keeping up with the increased workload.



### **Drainage**

For a long while Bwindi Community Hospital has had to deal with the issue of proper drainage of rainwater, as it rains huge amounts during the wet season here. In September, we completed a drainage project at the Hospital that has greatly helped us in removing stagnant water from the facility, preventing flooding and improving on our rainwater harvesting capacity. These improvements would not have been possible were it not for the generosity of Swarovski, who has funded all drainage work at the Hospital.

*Men at work*

### **Staff Update**

The Hospital has continued to attract more staff in order to meet the increasing demands of the local population. The total number of staff was 97 at the end of June, and in a span of three months this number has increased to 118. We are grateful to Dr. Doreen who has left for all the work she has done for the Hospital and we welcome Dr. Julius who is replacing her. We also welcome Mark and Natasha, doctors from England who are here to volunteer for one year.

We are currently looking for support for the clinic that we have opened in Byumba and our Community Health Program. If you would like to help us help the people of this area in any way, please email us at: [bwindihospital@gmail.com](mailto:bwindihospital@gmail.com).