



AUTUMN NEWSLETTER

A welcome word from Project Manager, Grace



Philippians 1:3-5: "I thank my God every time I remember you. In all my prayers for all of you, I always pray with joy because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now."

As we journey through 2026, Chilli Children's Project continues to walk alongside children living with disabilities and their families, bringing hope, practical support and dignity to children who often face significant barriers in accessing healthcare, education and opportunities for development.

So far this year, we have ministered to 135 children and 78 parents and caregivers through medical referrals to hospitals, our weekly Wednesday clubfoot clinic, physiotherapy and rehabilitation services, home visits and community outreaches. We have also continued supporting children at Kitazigurukwa Special Unit, where children receive education, care and life-skills development according to their individual abilities, as well as supporting blind and deaf children to attend specialist schools.

Alongside caring for the children, we continue empowering parents and caregivers through

counselling and Chilli growing as an income-generating activity, helping families become more able to meet the needs of their children.

We are deeply grateful to every sponsor, donor, partner, church, medical professional and friend who continues to stand with these children and their families. Your support is much more than financial assistance; it becomes a hospital referral for a child who needs treatment, physiotherapy for a child learning to move, a clubfoot service that can change a child's future, educational support for a child with special needs, food and care for a malnourished child, or an opportunity for a caregiver receive counselling and support.

Every financial and prayerful contribution helps us tell the story that a child with a disability is valued, loved and worthy of opportunity. We thank you for trusting Chilli Children's Project and for becoming part of this ministry of compassion. As we continue this journey together, we pray that God will bless you abundantly and enable us to reach even more children and families who need hope and support.

**AINEMBABAZI GRACE
PROJECT MANAGER**

Dickson's new beginning

Dickson's mother sadly died when he was just seven months old, and his father is unknown. Since then, he has been raised by his maternal grandparents.

For Dickson, surgery for genu valgum has been life-changing. It has brought enormous relief and opened up a future that his grandparents could never have afforded to provide for him without the help of the Project. Dickson's grandfather never gave up hope. He lovingly bought Dickson a school uniform, believing that one day his grandson would be physically able to go to school.

Recently, Dickson's grandfather came to the Project Office with wonderful news: now that Dickson is healed, he will be starting school! What an incredible new beginning for Dickson — and what a beautiful testament to his grandfather's love and belief in his future. Amazing! (Right, Dickson with his grandparents and Physiotherapist Flavia)



A mother's testimony: Simon's journey

Simon's Mum says it all:

"Simon's legs used to knock against each other when he walked, and he would often feel pain. He was taken for surgery, and now his legs are okay, and he no longer feels any pain. I thank you very much for supporting my child."

More life changing 'before and after' surgery from 2026...

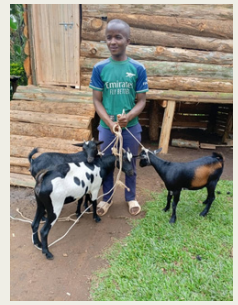


A New Start for Brian

Brian has recently finished school. Completely blind, he has worked incredibly hard to reach this important milestone, and we wanted to help him take his first steps into adult life with something that could provide a lasting source of independence.

After talking with Brian and his caring parents, we decided to support him with a goat house and three goats. This will give Brian the opportunity to build a livelihood of his own and look towards a more independent future.

Brian is incredibly thankful for this support — and we are so excited to see what the future holds for him!

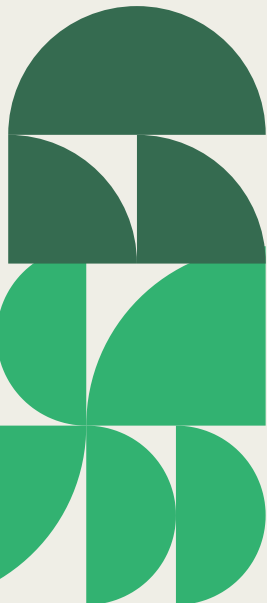


Making Disability Part of the Conversation

We are grateful to the Mothers Union of North Kigezi Diocese for giving us a slot on their radio programme to talk about disability, with a particular focus on cerebral palsy.

In Uganda, radio is listened to by the majority of people, so this was a great opportunity to reach hundreds, if not thousands, of people at the same time. Flavia and Grace did an amazing job explaining the causes of cerebral palsy, sharing advice on treatment and care, and encouraging caregivers who work so hard to support their children. The response was immediate. Before they had even left the studio, they had received more than five phone calls, and caregivers are still bringing their children to our office after hearing the programme. It was also a valuable opportunity to speak openly about disability, challenge some of the myths and beliefs surrounding it, and help reduce the stigma that many children and families continue to face.

The team hopes to have more opportunities to share the work of Chilli Children on the local radio — advocating for children with disabilities, empowering families, and helping to change perceptions in the wider community.



The Difference a Helping Hand Can Make

The majority of the treatable and operable conditions we come across affect the lower limbs. However, we also care for children with hand conditions, and we are passionate about ensuring that they have the best possible function in their hands. Our hands are essential to everyday life, from eating and dressing to writing and playing, so even small improvements can make a big difference.



Israel has arthrogryposis, and while there is unfortunately a limit to what can be done for him, we have supported him in getting specially fitted hand splints from CORSU Hospital. These splints are designed to help improve the function and development of his hands and arms as he grows.

Susan, seen here before and after surgery, developed severe contractures in her hands following a kitchen accident involving a pan of boiling water. As a result of the burns, her fingers became fixed in position and they had partially fused together, leaving her unable to use her hands properly or even hold a pencil to write at school.



Earlier this year, she underwent surgery, funded by Chilli Children, to release the contractures. She can now use her hands again and is continuing with physiotherapy to maximise the movement and function of her fingers.



Club Foot: Osborne

Meet Osborne, before and after his club foot treatment. He is one of the many children we have been able to treat this year.

Club foot is much easier to treat when children are babies, as their bones, joints and soft tissues are still soft and flexible, making them more responsive to gentle stretching and correction. After treatment, we encourage caregivers to keep the correction in place by using boots and bars, helping to prevent the club foot from returning as the child grows.

It's hard to imagine what life could have looked like for Osborne if he had not been able to access our free club foot service. He may have faced significant physical and social challenges. Thankfully, that wasn't Osborne's story. We were there to give him the treatment he needed, and he can now look forward to growing up with the freedom to walk, run and play like any other child.



Club Foot: Elias

Elias came to us with a neglected club foot. Due to his age, correcting the foot using casting alone would not have been successful. CORSU recommended that he first have a few casts before being referred to them for surgery. The treatment was successful, and we are delighted with the result. Elias is now wearing an AFO to support his foot and help maintain the correction as he grows.

When he came to the Project Office recently, he shared that he is now a Class Monitor due to his newfound confidence!



Prayer

Please do pray for the work of the Trust and Project - we believe it makes a difference!

These are the UK Trust's prayer requests for the next few months:

- Please pray for funding, as the needs of the Project remain high. We want to do as much as we can to support, improve and bless the lives of those we serve. Please pray that the Lord would provide through His people and give us the resources we need to keep doing this hugely impactful work.
- Pray that God would gently nudge those who may be called to become volunteers or trustees of Chilli Children. Ask that He would bring forward people who are willing to offer their skills, time and talents to serve the Trust and the Project, and that they would feel encouraged and equipped to get involved.

These are the Uganda Project's prayer requests for the next few months:

- We have a few children at the moment with very complex and challenging cases. Please pray for wisdom as we make decisions about their care, and for the right resources and support to enable us to help each child as best we can.
- We have been finding it difficult to find a consistent and reliable buyer for our chillies, which has been challenging for both us and our beneficiaries. Please pray that God would lead us to the right buyer, or bring the right buyer to us, and that we would be able to build a good and lasting relationship with them.
- Thank God for the amazing staff who work with Chilli Children. Pray that God will use us to touch the lives of many children and families in Uganda. Pray for wisdom, discernment, compassion, and energy.
- Pray for the children we support in education, made possible through the generosity of faithful sponsors. Pray that their time at school and what they learn will open up opportunities for their future, socially, economically, and financially. Thank God for the gift of education, and pray that it will be a real blessing to each of our children.



Note from Trustee, Clive Pearce

"My name is Clive Pearce, married to Pearl, with two wonderful children and three fantastic grandchildren. I retired from a career as a Finance Director in 2013, and after a year travelling, and living in our holiday home in Devon, we moved home to a village near Stamford.

My wife and I have been Christians for over 50 years, having initially come to faith in Decatur, Alabama – it's a long story! We have undertaken various leadership roles in churches wherever we have lived.

Having moved here we joined our local village church. The vicar had previously ministered in Spalding, where he knew two of the Chilli Children Trustees, members of his congregation. He invited them to come to our church and make a presentation of the work of the charity in Uganda. At the end of a very moving presentation, they mentioned that one particular need, and subject of much prayer, was the position of Trustee and Treasurer. "Ah! I think you might be talking to me Lord!".

So it was that I got involved in this wonderful charity, doing such amazing work with these disabled and under-privileged children. Every time I go to the bank to pay the quarterly grant (you'll need to ask Barclays why on earth it can't be done online!), I always wonder at how much can be done with so little, in UK terms. And it's an excellent opportunity to witness to this with bank staff!"

We are still looking to recruit one or two more trustees. If you would like to explore this wonderful volunteer opportunity further, or would just like an informal chat about it, we would love to hear from you! Please email us on contactus@chillichildren.com.

Leave a legacy. Make a lasting change.

Could you consider leaving a legacy to the Chilli Children Trust in your will?

What you've seen in this newsletter is just a snapshot of the dedicated, day-in, day-out work that takes place at the Project to support children with disabilities in so many different ways. October is Free Wills Month, a time to consider putting your wishes in place and thinking about the causes that matter most to you. If you are reviewing or making your Will this October, we would be grateful if you would consider leaving a gift to Chilli Children, helping us continue supporting vulnerable children and families for years to come. Even a small gift can make a lasting difference.

Please email us at contactus@chillichildren.com for more information.

Brand new Mission Partnership Link with St Mary's Church (Wirral)

The Chilli Children Trust welcomes the recent partnership opportunity with the congregations of both St Mary's Church & its affiliated St Mary's Centre, Upton, Wirral, who have prayerfully decided to include us as one of their new mission link partners, supporting us financially & in regular prayer. We'd like to thank their World Church Group and Church PCC for this consideration.

St Mary's Church is a thriving large Anglican family church, situated in the heart of the Upton community on the Wirral peninsula, with a congregation of around 300, led by the Rev Al Rodgers. The current Bishop of Chester, Bishop Mark Tanner, started his career working as a curate at St Mary's. The church has a focus on outreach work both locally and internationally and is currently supporting both present & past congregational members in both long & short-term mission work.

Above all, it is a church that believes that Jesus makes sense of the world we see around us, bringing meaning and certainty, and hope for eternity.
Church website: www.stm-upton.org.uk



Could YOU help us extend our Partnership Links?

Could your church consider a partnership opportunity with the Chilli Children Trust in the future? Are you a retired/working minister, lay reader, church warden/youth worker or simply a congregational member of a church which supports overseas mission work? Does your church's mission outreach have a heart for supporting families of children born with disabilities like you do?

Without our regular financial supporters & prayer partners, we could not carry on with this vital mission work. It all starts with having a simple conversation with us to explore possibilities about both short & long term partnerships. Please do get in touch with us at contactus@chillichildren.com to enquire.

How else can you get involved?

Become a regular supporter or fundraise for us!

We are proud to say that over 98% of what you give goes DIRECTLY out to Uganda. So, if you give £100 today, more than £98 of it reaches those in Uganda who need it most.

Can you support us with £10 or £20, or even £50 a month? Or a one-off annual gift? We would be so, so grateful. Alternatively, you could do a sponsored event, or a cake or bake sale for us. We can send you promo material for your event!

TikTok



We would love an improved social media presence, particularly amongst youth/young people. We trustees have heard of something called TikTok but don't know where to begin! Do you have some free time, or know a young person who does?

Do you know a young person who needs to do a service/skill for a Duke of Edinburgh Award? Or need a reference for a University application? It doesn't have to be a long-term commitment - just someone to give us advice and get us going in this unknown space!



Giving to Uganda

As you have seen from this newsletter, the Project and its committed staff are busy with so many different activities. But none of it can be done without your support.

We are committed to sending more than £75,000 to the project in Uganda annually. Unfortunately, we have fallen short of our fundraising needs in recent months. This means that our Project staff may need to make hard choices about which activities they are able to continue to fund in the next year.

If you can, please consider helping us with a financial donation.

What does my donation mean?

£8 can send a child to receive a neurological review in Mbarara

£10 can help a family to receive training and chilli seedlings to begin their income generating activity

£20 can feed a child at Kitazigurukwa Special Needs Unit for one month

£50 can pay boarding school fees for a blind student for a term

£500 can fix genu varum (bow legs) and genu valgum (knock knees)

The Project employs over ten staff to carry out work at the hospitals, school, clinics and office!

Quick Snapshot Updates...



Chilli farmers with their recent harvest



Caregivers receiving a food & household gift package



Three sponsored blind children being visited at their school



Victor, visiting Godson at his home



Orthopedic officer Kenneth, working on a club foot patient



Children at Kitazigurukwa Special Needs Unit saying hello!

How to Give

By cheque You can post a cheque to us, along with this page of the newsletter to include the Charity Gift Aid Declaration form (over leaf).

Please make cheques payable to Chilli Children of Rukungiri Trust, and send to:
Chilli Children Trust, 37 Forest Road, Bingham, Nottinghamshire, NG13 8RL.

By regular standing order You can give to us regularly by standing order. You can set this up directly with your bank. If you would like to set up a regular standing order, our bank details are as follows:

Barclays Bank Account Name: Chilli Children of Rukungiri (Uganda)
Account Number: 00848883
Sort Code: 20-84-17

If you are eligible for Gift Aid, this really helps too! Please post the Gift Aid Declaration Form (overleaf) to:
Chilli Children Trust, 37 Forest Road, Bingham, Nottinghamshire, NG13 8RL.

Alternatively, to save on postage, please copy the text overleaf, along with the required information, and email it to **clive@chillichildren.com**.

Through Stewardship You can give to us regularly, or as a one-off gift, through Stewardship, an online giving platform.

Go to **<https://www.stewardship.org.uk/partners/20095422>** and follow the instructions.



Charity Gift Aid Declaration

In order to Gift Aid your donation, you must tick the box below.

☐ I want to Gift Aid my donation of £_____ and any donations I make in the future or have made in the past 4 years to Chilli Children Trust.

☐ I am not eligible for Gift Aid.

I am a UK taxpayer and understand that if I pay less Income Tax and/or Capital Gains Tax than the amount of Gift Aid claimed on all my donations in that tax year, it is my responsibility to pay any difference.

Your address is needed to identify you as a current UK taxpayer.

Title

First name or initial(s)

Surname

Full Home Address

Phone Number

Postcode

Date

Signature

Please notify the charity if you want to cancel this declaration, change your name or home address, and no longer pay sufficient tax on your income and/or capital gains. If you pay Income Tax at the higher or additional rate and want to receive the additional tax relief due to you, you must include all your Gift Aid donations on your Self-Assessment tax return or ask HM Revenue and Customs to adjust your tax code.