MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRMAN

It is with great joy and honor that I introduce to you this issue of the Sanyu Babies Home newsletter, the very first one since the new Board of Governors was inaugurated on 21st July 2010. I take this opportunity to introduce to you the members of the board. On their behalf and on my own behalf, I take this opportunity to thank God and the Bishop of Namirembe Diocese the Right Reverend Wilberforce Kityo Luwalira for trusting us with the care for and direction of the affairs of Sanyu Babies’ Home. We all feel honored and privileged, since this is such a worthy cause – the love and care for the most vulnerable in society. This work would be impossible to do without your help and support. For everything each one of you has done for Sanyu Babies Home, I thank you wholeheartedly. I also take this opportunity to encourage you to do more to help. I also request you to always remember to talk about Sanyu Babies to everyone you meet. Who knows that they will not be touched and offer to help? As Jesus himself said, “The harvest is plentiful but the harvesters are few”.

Rev. Prof. Sam Luboga
Chairman Board of Governors

A LETTER FROM THE ADMINISTRATOR:

It gives me great pleasure to reach all of you our dear readers through this 8th issue of the Newsletter. In the past three months, God has kept the entire Sanyu Babies’ Home family well and safe. We are forever grateful. I applaud you all who have made it a culture to visit, volunteer and support the babies of Sanyu. You have made a great difference in the lives of Sanyu Babies.
The past three months have been so busy here at Sanyu Babies’ Home. We had the privilege of hosting the Retired Bishop of Namirembe Diocese; the Right Reverend Samuel Balagadde Sekadde and the New Bishop of Namirembe Diocese; the Right Reverend Wilberforce Kityo Luwalira. This was during the farewell and welcoming function of the above said bishops on the 10th of June, 2010. On the 21st of July, 2010, we had the old Board of Governors under the chairmanship of Venerable John Gitta Kavuma hand over leadership to the Bishop, and the inauguration of the new Board members under the chairmanship of Reverend Professor Sam Luboga. We thank the retired Bishop and the old Board of Governors for the guidance, support, love, care and great counsel accorded unto to the entire Sanyu family; and we welcome the new Bishop and the new Board members to the great service of Sanyu Babies’ Home. During the same period, we have said goodbye to 19 children and welcomed 10 children into the Sanyu family. Please join us in prayer for God’s continued providence to the Sanyu family. Our prayers and best wishes for you always!

Be blessed!

Barbara Nankya Mutagubya
Administrator

HELLO’S & GOODBYE’S AT SANYU BABIES HOME

It has been a busy last three months at Sanyu, with 10 children arriving into the Sanyu family, and a massive 19 children having left through being re-united with family or having been adopted! This is wonderful news as it means many of the children are now in happy new homes! We thank the Lord for his help in making such joyous events possible:

NEW ARRIVALS:

Jacob Mbonigaba; Aged 6 months
Abandoned in the Mukono District

Edith Namatovu; Aged 2 years
Abandoned at the gates of Sanyu Babies’ Home

Abigail Nazziwa Sanyu; Aged 2 months
Abandoned and found near the Kasubi Tombs

James Kalungi; Aged 1½ years
Abandoned in Kawempe

Betty Najjemba; Aged 18 months
Abandoned and found in Nateete

Isaiah Jethro Mukisa; Aged 3 weeks
Brought into Sanyu by the mother

Nathan Angelo Busuulwa; Aged 5 weeks
Abandoned at Mulago Hospital
Watson Mayanja Kauma; Aged 1½ years
Brought into Sanyu by the father

Owen Mukisa; Aged 2 years
Abandoned at Makindye

Samuel Mugabi; 1 day old
Abandoned by the mother at Wakisa Crisis Pregnancy Centre

LEAVERS

Re-united with family:

Jacob Mbonigaba                          Christine Acanit
Alvin Wasswa                                Florence Nakimbugwe
Arthur Kato                                   Maxwell Kaboyi
Frank Lutaaya

Adopted:

Nelson Mubiru                               Robert Okello
Fredrick Bogere                             Ezra Lukwago
Kenneth Kaboggoza                           Martha Achiro
Daniel Ssempa                                 Joseph Kirabo
Linda Busingye                                  Ruth Paula Nantongo
Job Hosea Segawa                             Joshua Atuhaire

BAPTISMS:

On the 13th of June 2010, a total of 14 children were presented to St. Paul’s Cathedral Namirembe to be baptized. A big thank-you to all those who were involved in taking the children to the service, we definitely could not have done it without you!
The babies that were baptized:

Angella Nasaazi (Namata)   Maxwell Kaboyi
Moureen Nyangoma           Benjamin Otala
Milly Nyakato              Faith Nakitende
Florence Nakimbugwe       Mark Opio
Gladys Nassaka             Mathew Odong
Augustus Ssemuyaba         Vincent Lubega
Edith Namatovu             Abigail Nazziwa

“Let the little children come to me and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these”
FEATURE: - The Official function for farewell/welcoming of the Bishops, and the Board Members change over:
On the 10th of June, 2010 Sanyu bid a fond farewell to the retired bishop, the Right Reverend Samuel Balagadde Ssekadde, and welcomed the newly appointed bishop of Namirembe Diocese, the Right Reverend Wilberforce Kityo Luwalira.
The event was marked by the presence of the board members, staff, children and volunteers. It was a wonderful function and we are looking forward to working with our new bishop on the many issues with which Sanyu Babies’ Home are involved.
Additionally, on the 21st of June the handover of the old board members to the Bishop and the inauguration of new board members took place. The normal length of term for board members to serve is 4 years, at which point it can be renewed.

The names of the new board members are as follows:

Reverend Professor Sam Luboga – Chairman of the Board
Mr. Sam Ntulume – Treasurer
Mrs. Barbara Senkatuka
Mrs. Petrina Kawooya
Hon. Florence B. Nkalubo
Mr. Anthony Katamba
Dr. Margaret Mpalampa
Mr. Patrick Bakka Male
Venerable John Gitta Kavuma

The event was marked with speeches, food and drinks, songs and words of prayer. Everybody who was present during the afternoon function had a great time getting to hear from the new board members and we would like to take this opportunity to once again welcome them into the Sanyu family.

BREAKING NEWS:
Sanyu Babies’ Home would like to congratulate Barbara Nankya Mutagubya and her husband on the birth of their first child, a baby boy named Christian Charles. He arrived safely into the world on the 18th of July, 2010. We all wish Barbara and her family the best of health and fortune for their new son, and look forward to seeing Barbara back around the home at the end of September, when her maternity leave ends. Relish the uninterrupted time with Christian and enjoy every moment!

Additionally congratulation is in order! Teacher Jackie has also given birth in the last month, to a beautiful baby girl called Erinah Penninah. We will have Barbara and Jackie in our prayers to ensure that God is protecting and watching over them, especially during these first few months of life.

New Calf – We also must mention another new arrival to the Sanyu home. The resident cow gave birth to a female calf on the 20th July, 2010! It had been a confusing time as we weren’t sure how many months pregnant the cow had been. We thank God for this blessing, as this event had been in our prayers. However,
as the cow now has a baby, all the milk which she is expressing is going to the calf. Therefore, we ask you to continue in joining us in prayer for an increase in the amount of milk being produced by the cow, so that it can be given to the children.

**THE DRIVEWAY PROJECT - VOLUNTEERS GET STUCK IN!**
In the month of July (16\textsuperscript{th} & 17\textsuperscript{th}) a group of six male volunteers worked tirelessly in the daytime heat to help mix concrete and lay a new section of driveway (with many wheelbarrow trips in between!) It has made a great improvement to the entrance of the home, as in recent month’s vehicles bringing supplies, or volunteers inside, had struggled on the loose terrain to drive up the hill.
The driveway project, however, is only partly completed. We still intend to finish the entire drive and small parking lot. We therefore ask for support in either being able to come to Sanyu and physically get involved with the construction or raising funds to help complete the project. Anybody who is interested, or feels they can help with either of these options, please e-mail the administration and make your donations/willingness known.

**THE VOLUNTEER REPORT** - Emma Brailsford

I had always wanted to travel to Africa to do some volunteer work with children, and this summer my dream came true. Several people had recommended Sanyu Babies’ Home as a place where they had spent many memorable weeks.
I was expecting to find children who were looking for attention and fun. In contrast, I found children who were smiling, well fed, changed regularly and cared for effectively by the Mamas (the care workers).

I have spent seven weeks at Sanyu and over this time I have got to know each child’s individual personality, along with their capacity to give and receive love. It is such a privilege when you walk through the gates and dozens of children run to you calling your name, wanting you to play with them.
I have many memories of my summer here, but in particular it has been a pleasure to watch the tiny premature twins gain weight and see their little faces transform into happy, healthy, smiling ones.

It has been a joy to witness the progress in the children’s development; watching the babies becoming stronger and more confident to sit up by themselves, children beginning to crawl or walk independently, and the improvement of some of the children’s speech. It goes without saying that it has also been a delight to be present at the parties of children, who after receiving the love and care they experienced at Sanyu, have been adopted into loving families, both within Uganda and worldwide.

Looking back at my time at Sanyu I will always remember the smiling, happy faces of the beautiful children, each of whom is very precious and special in their own right.

“Religion that God our father accepts as pure and faultless as this is this: to look after orphans and widows in their distress......” James 1:27
FEATURE - Teacher Stella’s Story

Class time at Sanyu takes place from 9am – noon, Monday to Friday.
If you take a peek into the junior class you will see all the children either amusing themselves with various toys, all sitting down at the tables drinking milk and eating biscuits, brushing their teeth or singing and dancing to the beat of the Sanyu drums. Sitting behind one of these drums you will find Stella, one of the amazing teachers here, and a real asset to the Sanyu family.

Born in Busega and now living in Nankuwadde with her only child, aged 3 years old, she has worked at Sanyu for the last two years. However, as soon as Stella steps into the classroom she becomes a mother to the entire classroom of children.

The love and respect that she has for the children and its reciprocation can be witnessed after only having spent a couple of minutes in the classroom. She explained how that, no matter how hard life and if she is experiencing difficulties in other aspects of her life, when she is with the children she forgets such things and just soaks up all the love and happiness that the kids give her everyday that she comes to work.

Her favorite part of the job is being able to see the children grow and learn new things each and every day. On asking her to recall one of her most memorable moments she replied, with a huge smile on her face, of Joseph (who is in this current newsletters list of leavers) being adopted by an amazing couple from Canada. She explained how he used to call her ‘mummy’ and that it was such a wonderful day when he was finally able to go home with his new forever family. Any volunteer who is able to come to Sanyu and see this special relationship that Teacher Stella has with the children will come away feeling uplifted and smiling knowing that the children, under her loving supervision, are extremely well cared for.

FEATURE - The arrival of Augustus

Augustus was the tiniest little boy, aged one and a half years, when he first arrived at Sanyu in May of this year. He was abandoned by the roadside in Nansana Warf II and was found by a good Samaritan and taken to the local police station, and then brought to Sanyu Babies’ Home.

Upon his arrival at Sanyu everybody was extremely concerned by the severe malnourishment he was suffering from. Luckily, when Augustus was brought into the Sanyu family, there was an amazing female volunteer staying at the guesthouse who is a qualified midwife back in the UK. On one his first few nights into his stay here she realized that he was unable to suck on her finger. At this point it became apparent that Augustus was suffering from a severe case of tongue-tie. This meant that his malnourishment was not due to the fact he didn’t want to eat, but because he physically was not able to do so. A corrective procedure to his tongue meant that this problem was solved.

Now what we see before us is such a different boy, in size and personality! It is hard to believe it is the same little person! Although he cannot crawl yet, due to his leg muscles still not being strong enough to support
his weight, you can tell just by looking at him that he is itching to get mobile and get involved in exploring his surroundings.

He has one of the most adorable little faces and the brightest smiles, that even though he is still very small for his age, it will light up any room. We thank God who watched over Augustus when he was at such a fragile point in his life, and we pray that this little boy will carry on down his road to recovery at the continued pace in which he has massively progressed in the last three months.

**FEATURE** - An update on Faith

In the last issue of the newsletter we brought you the story of Faith, who had been abandoned in December 2009, upon her arrival at Sanyu being quite an unhappy little girl, and how she was moving forward in learning to walk and become much happier. Well, three months down the line and she has come on leaps and bounds. Faith is now able to walk unaided (although sometimes she gets ‘going forward’ and ‘going backwards’ slightly mixed up!) Her smile is definitely one that rivals little Augustus, and although she has a slight stubborn streak, you can tell that this will aid her in growing up to be a very self assertive young lady. Faith is a joy to spend time around and each and everyday it is so easy to watch her blossom into a beautiful and happy little girl.

**FEATURE** - Martha leaves Sanyu!

We have the most wonderful news to share with you, our readers. Martha Achiro, who has been a prominent feature in past newsletters, has been adopted and has left the Sanyu family!

We have watched Martha grow from an extremely malnourished child when she first arrived into an amazing child with an infectious personality, who, whilst at Sanyu, learnt to walk, run and talk?

We could not be happier for Martha and her new mother, who plans to raise her in Nairobi, in Kenya. Martha has become engrained within the hearts of all the staff members and volunteers that she came into contact with during her time at Sanyu. We pray that God keeps on blessing Martha and her new forever family as they embark on a new life together in a new country!

**FEATURE** – New volunteer orientation points

There has been some visible changes around the Sanyu home, to help new volunteers who have come to lend a hand become more quickly orientated to the home’s layout and the timetable of the children and Mama’s daily schedules. The main ‘welcome’ notice board has been fixed to the wall, outside of the administration office. This is the first point of reference for helpers, who can read about helpful tips in caring for the children and a map showing where help is needed around the home. Inside you can also find several ‘Information Points’, which have been erected in key
areas, with explanations as to how visitors can be of help with chores in that specific area. The Mamas do an exceptional amount of work day in and day out to make sure the children’s needs are met. Therefore we believe if we can encourage volunteers, through these information points, to help them in these tasks, such as laundry, sorting clothes, mopping, making beds etc, then the work will be done faster and more effectively. If you are planning a visit to Sanyu, please look out for these information boards and get stuck in, the Mama’s will greatly appreciate the help you offer!

**DONATIONS NEEDED**

Sanyu Babies’ Home relies almost entirely on the generosity and support of the ‘Friends of Sanyu’. Over the years, we have received many donations which have been enormously valuable to the home and especially the children. We thank you for all your love and support.

However, we are always in need of contributions to keep the home running. Our wish list is endless and includes some of the following:

- Lactose free baby milk
- Baby Formula Milk
- Baby Wipes
- Pampers/ diapers
- Food
- Cleaning Products
- Toy Cars & Trucks
- Musical Instruments
- Durable Books
- Milton sterilizing tablets
- Toys (for our sand box!)
- Shoes (for 1 – 3 year olds)
Any assistance would be greatly appreciated. Alternatively, you can always make a financial donation.

To donate to Sanyu Babies’ Home and become a ‘Friend of Sanyu’, please send the following details:

Cut on dotted line

Your Name: .................................................................
Your Address: .................................................................

Your Email: .................................................................
I would like to donate (amount): .................................
Every (please tick): month [ ] year [ ] one off [ ]
Your Signature: .................................................................

Date: ........................................................................

Kampala Road, 
Kampala
Account Number: 0140009757701

Or: if you prefer, donations can be made directly to the Home’s Ugandan Bank Accounts:

Standard Chartered Bank Uganda Limited
5 Speke Road, 
Kampala,
PO Box 7111
Account Number: 0102010619500
Sort Code: 08-02-47

Stanbic Bank Uganda Limited
City Branch,

Or: donations can be paid directly to the Home’s Ugandan Bank Accounts:

GOD LOVES A CHEERFUL GIVER

Contributors: Emma Brailsford; Kizza T Isaac and Angela Gault

“GOD LOVES A CHEERFUL GIVER”