

'...helping to bring hope to the people of the democratic republic of congo.'



friends of cme trust

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Dear friends and supporters,

This letter is a little unusual in that it is going to cover 2 unusual topics. The first is about some changes in our Trustees, the second about a marathon fundraiser by a friend of CME.

Change of Trustees

I am sad to have to write that Elsie Harris, a founding member of our charity, has had to retire due to poor health after 12 years' service. Elsie is a retired nurse who is connected closely with the village of Nyankunde where CME had its base for nearly 40 years. "My late husband worked in



a leprosy control/training program in which I partnered", says Elsie. She and John worked in India, Nepal and different parts of Zaire before their final work at Nyankunde. Elsie has lived in Nottingham since her return to the UK in the mid-1990s and her church, Cornerstone, has been a wonderful supporter of CME throughout that time. We are so grateful for Elsie and her church's commitment to the people of DR Congo.

Hannah Morrell has joined our Board. Hannah lived in Nyankunde 1990-4 (aged 5-9) and returned with the family in 2004 to visit the CME hospitals in Beni and Nyankunde. Prior to becoming a trustee, she assisted with the administration, newsletters and website of Friends of CME Trust. She lives with her husband, Guy, in Bicester, Oxfordshire where they belong to a local baptist church.

Fundraising across the UK

We don't usually ask directly for financial support, but one of our friends, Dennis, has decided to cycle the length and breadth of Great Britain to raise money for CME. He will cycle 2,160 miles starting in Cornwall and zig zagging across GB to raise money for Friends of CME Trust and two other charities (Project 229 and CRY). He will cycle, alone, 80 miles a day for 4 weeks heading through London to Lowestoft in Norfolk, then back across and up to the Lake District and the Western Isles of Scotland then up and across Scotland to the

THE ROUTE

LIZARD POINT > Helston > Truro > St Austell > Liskeard > Tavistock > Exeter > Honiton > Yeovil > Shaftesbury > Amesbury > Andover > Basingstoke > Camberley > London/Lambeth > St Albans > Bedford > Cambridge > Newmarket > Bury St Edmunds > Diss > **LOWESTOFT** > Norwich > Dereham > Kings Lynn > Long Sutton > Sleaford > Lincoln > Scunthorpe > Beverley > Market Weighton > York > Weatherby > Otley > Ilkley > Skipton > Settle > Kirk By Lonsdale > Kendal > Ambleside > Keswick > Carlisle > Gretna > Annan > Dumfries > Sanquhar > Cumnock > Irvine > Ardrossan > Isle of Arran/Brodick > Lochranza > Claonaig > Tarbet > Lochgilphead > Oban > Craignure (Isle of Mull) > Tobermory > Kilchoan > **ARONAMUCHAN** > Salem > Lochailort > Mallaig > Isle of Skye > Kyle of Lochalsh > Achnasheen > Garve > Ullapool > Inchnadamph > Scourie > Durness > Bettyhill > Melvich > Thurso > **DUNNET HEAD**

far north-east. Please support him in this monumental effort!! He would love to raise £20,000 with half coming to us. His fundraising site is: <https://my.give.net/bludsweatngearsall4points>

Please take a few moments to visit the site and encourage Dennis – and provide funds for CME. Thank you to Den and all of you who are able to give. If you live anywhere near his route and would like to cheer him along, please let us know. Sosé hospital (see below) is a brand new hospital created wholly by our support including Dennis's previous fundraisers.

Hospital photos

Our good friends Philip and Nancy Wood continue to work as doctors for CME from time to time. They are currently in DRC and sent through this selection of photos of the three CME hospitals.



Above: Bunia hospital – has about 90 beds and cared for over 4,000 hospitalized patients last year.



Above: Nyankunde – left: MAF are back!; Centre: The view from the runway; Right: 'modern' mowers behind the operating theatre & maternity and the 120-bed hospital where over 8,000 patients were treated last year.



Above: Beni/Sosé – the 70 beds are full. 2,000 patients were hospitalised last year. The board shows the day's surgery. 2,400 operations were performed in 2015. A double-hernia patient wants his photo with his surgeon, Philip Wood.

Thank you for your concern for the people of DRC and the work of CME. Please support Dennis and us if you can. A little goes a long way in DRC.

Sincerely, from all the Trustees, thank you!