



## Edinburgh University Student Elective Report

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| Country visited   | Uganda  |
| City or town  | Kisiizi , South West Uganda   |
| Hospital/unit/clinic  | Kisiizi Hospital  |
| Dates visited (length)  | Sept-Oct 2008 (8 weeks)   |
| Supervising doctor  | Dr Toni   |
| Contact details of your host:                                 | <a href="http://www.kisiizihospital.org.ug/">www.kisiizihospital.org.ug/</a> : <i>Fill out online elective form.</i>  |
| Please give an overview of what you saw / did (200 words max) | <p>It's a fairly small Christian hospital in remote South West Uganda. It has strong links with a Church in Reading, England. Many of the hospital staff/ visitors are English. Ugandan hospital staff speak English but you will need a translator (nurse) to communicate with most of the patients. I rotated around the different wards- general medicine, tropical disease, obs and gynae, surgery, paed's and spent some time clerking in patients in out-patient department.</p> <p>I stayed in the guesthouse across the road-lovely friendly staff.</p> <p>I got lots out of the placement from joining in and even taking some ward rounds, seeing patients in the out patients department, helping on community clinics and assisting in surgery. However, some other people I know who were there found it very quiet and left early. I thought 8 weeks was a good amount of time as it allows you to get involved and into the placement but others thought 4 weeks was better.</p> |
| What were the best things about the visit? (150 words max]    | <p>Very friendly and a real community spirit. Given responsibility but there are always people around to ask questions.</p> <p>Experience tropical medicine and the Ugandan culture.</p> <p>Stunning surrounding scenery and travelling opportunities.</p>  |
| What problems did you encounter? (150 words max)              | <p>Difficulties in communicating with patients.</p> <p>Significant motivation is required to turn up to wards, go to outpatients as it's left up to you what you do- it won't be organised for</p>  |

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|   | <p>you. Must make an effort to fit in and find out what there is to do.</p> <p>Difficult to travel at weekends as it takes so long to travel anywhere- best to leave that 'til end.</p> <p>Be aware that Ugandans will frequently ask you for money.</p> <p>Many people found it too isolated, slow and quiet but I thought this is all part of the experience-depends on what sort of person you are.</p> |
| What accommodation was provided?                                    | Rose Cottage Guesthouse-see website. All meals served, decent very clean accommodation, very sociable and lovely staff. Wireless internet.   |
| Would you recommend this to someone else?<br>(explain if necessary) | Yes  |
| Details of any funding you received:                                | Donation from Rotary Club  |

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| Your name:   | Emily Rudd   |
| Contact email:<br>(optional)                           | emilyclairerudd@hotmail.com  |
| <b>Category of Elective</b><br>(delete as appropriate) | <p>General Surgery</p> <p>Obstetrics and gynaecology</p> <p>Othopaedic Surgery</p> <p>Plastic Surgery/ Maxillofacial Surgery</p> |

Many thanks for filling out this form. It will be uploaded in pdf form on the Society's website.

James Blackmur  
ESSS Publicity Officer  
On behalf of the ESSS Committee

Bernard Roberston  
ESSS Vice President

March 2009