Christian Engineers in Development

SHARING SKILLS
CHANGING LIVES

CED
CHRISTIAN ENGINEERS IN DEVELOPMENT

# Newsletter No. 123

## June 2026


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*Water carrier, Kanyindo, Biharamulo. When people have water tanks his services will no longer be needed in the wet season. The need is great, so that is some time away!*

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CHRISTIAN ENGINEERS IN DEVELOPMENT

## About CED

Christian Engineers in Development (CED) is a Christian professional consultancy service dedicated to development work with overseas communities, and through service, to give witness to the Christian faith. Operations usually comprise of a tri-partite arrangement between a developing country organisation, a funding agency and CED providing technical assistance. CED responds to various requests for assistance. Improved water supply is the most frequent but by no means the only request. CED promotes self-help with the maximum use of local resources.

CED's income comes primarily from grants for projects together with donations from churches, trusts, members and supporters. CED is not a funding agency and therefore cannot directly fund major projects but it can, and often does, fund preliminary investigations for potential projects.

CED is managed by an Executive Committee overseen by a Board of Trustees, all of whom give their services voluntarily. Membership of CED is open to any person who is professionally qualified, supports the Aims, accepts the Statement of Faith, supports the activities of CED in any way, or serves as an employee or volunteer, both in the UK and overseas. Becoming a Supporter of CED is open to any person or group that supports the Aims, and wishes to be kept informed of CED matters. Anyone wishing to become a Member or Supporter should contact the Secretary.

## Newsletter

The newsletter is published twice annually. We would be delighted to provide additional copies for friends, colleagues, church book stands etc. Please contact ian@ced.org.uk and let us know how many you would like. The newsletter can also be downloaded from the CED website.

The editor would be happy to receive contributions for the next newsletter. Please send to ian@ced.org.uk

## PrayerPoints

Copies of our monthly prayer bulletin are available by e-mail or post. Please request a copy by email to pray@ced.org.uk or by writing to the Secretary.

## Privacy Statement

For administrative and mailing purposes we hold your name and contact details in our records. They will not be given to any other person or organisation. If you prefer not to receive publicity and information literature, then please inform the CED Secretary.

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# From the Chair of the Exec.

Welcome to the May/June Newsletter.

Things don't always work out the way you want them to! Over the last few months Joel Viney and I have been making preparations to visit Uganda in early June, with Joel staying on for several weeks to help out with projects at Kagando and Kuluva Hospitals.Flights were booked, and visas applied for.Then on 16th May we started hearing news of an Ebola outbreak in eastern DR Congo, and since then it has become obvious that the extent of the epidemic is not yet known, and at least seven people in Uganda have fallen victim to it.

So today, after some conversations with our partners at Kuluva and Kagando, I had to take the decision to postpone the visit until later in the summer.Not an easy decision, but it was the right thing to do – the last thing the staff at Kuluva and Kagando need at a time like this is visitors distracting them from more urgent matters.

Problems and setbacks can be difficult to deal with. We wonder why they happen to us. But often when we look back with the benefit of hindsight, we can see God's hand in the situation, and we can see how "all things work together for good" (Romans 8:28). And that is an encouragement and a comfort to us.

As always, we would be grateful for your prayers. Prayers for the victims of Ebola and their families; prayers for the medics and support staff on the front line in DR Congo and Uganda; prayers for Kagando and Kuluva Hospitals in particular, that they will be spared having to deal with Ebola cases. And prayers too for Joel, that this temporary "setback" will not be fruitless, but actually prove to be valuable for him and for CED.

Yours in Christ,

*Jonathan Appleby*

# Another Newsletter...

We hope you enjoy the CED Newsletter. We try to be informative and to "tell it like it is", trusting you to believe in our experience and knowledge to "*demonstrate the love of Christ by enabling Christians with engineering and allied skills to serve poor communities overseas".* Because we work closely with overseas partners you can be confident that the projects we undertake are making a difference to people's lives, have an engineering element and are integrated into our partners' ministries to the people they serve in Jesus name.

We hope that you, our readers, will see yourselves as part of this enterprise and join with us in prayer (the link to our monthly prayer bulletin is available by emailing pray@ced.org.uk) and in sharing your own thoughts and stories. The newsletter isn't simply for reporting on CED projects; we'd love for our members to share something of their own lives, that we might grow in fellowship together. Please email ian@ced.org.uk

*Ian Rankin, Editor.*

# Strategy Weekend 22nd to 24th May 2026

Ten CED members gathered at Micklepage Farmhouse near Horsham in Sussex on a warm summer Friday afternoon to seek God's guidance and inspiration for the future direction of Christian Engineers in Development. Some of us were Trustee Directors and some were Members of the Executive Committee. We prayed, first in silence and then aloud, that the Lord would be at the centre of all that we discuss and decide, knowing that no good work is possible without the power of the Holy Spirit. It felt very appropriate that we were meeting on the weekend of Pentecost Sunday.

Roger Holland guided us on Friday evening as we discussed the strengths and weaknesses of CED and the opportunities and threats facing our work, after considering many political, economic, social, technical and theological factors affecting our world.

Some of the issues were familiar, such as political instability and funding challenges. We are all aware of the rise of nationalism, both in the global north and to a lesser extent in the countries where we work. Social issues included Community Led Total Sanitation (CLTS), where people are encouraged to improve hygiene practices using their own resources. We considered new technologies, including AI, which may not always be appropriate in meeting the needs of the poorest communities.

Theological issues included the contrast between the prosperity gospel and the vision and example of St Francis of Assisi in the context of poverty and inequality.

**What are CED's strengths?** We are faith-based, we have low overheads, we work with local partners, and we have real expertise. In addition to that, our small organisation size makes us friendly and relationship-oriented.

**What are our weaknesses?** We are volunteers – which limits our time-commitment, and sometimes slows us down. We are getting older, and feel the need to recruit new members and engage more effectively with existing members. We are not great at publicising ourselves.

**What opportunities are there for us?** Links with some universities hold promise, and we have a student placement about to start this summer. We also have links with Engineering Ministries International (EMI) and with Discipling Marketplace Leaders (DML) which may be fruitful. And of course we have our

*Micklepage Farmhouse*

members, who have a wealth of experience and possibly also some time to contribute.

**What threats are there for us?** At the moment we rely on a relatively small number of members to do many things, and this isn't sustainable in the long run. We also are significantly affected by funding difficulties.

On Saturday morning we had a regular meeting of the Executive Committee – a chance to discuss projects and practicalities in-person, rather than meeting online. Then the Saturday afternoon sessions got down to the business of looking forward to the next few years.

**What is CED's purpose?** We've decided to leave this almost unchanged:

*"CED exists to demonstrate the love of Christ by enabling Christians with engineering and allied skills to serve poor communities overseas."*

**What are CED's values?** These are also largely unchanged:

Faith-driven, impartial, sharing skills, cost-effective, collaborative, listening, professional, having integrity.

**A plan of action**

Gradually, after long discussions on Saturday evening and Sunday morning, our Chairperson Colin Gibson guided us towards drafting an Action Plan, under five headings:

- ***Established Institutions***
- ***Local Church Partnerships***
- ***Member Involvement***
- ***Future Resources***
- ***Improving the Way we Do Things.***

We are still called to assist the poor in communities overseas, but we realise that there are hospitals, schools and other institutions who appreciate our technical expertise. We are also exploring links with Christian organisations which have contacts worldwide.

We want to know our membership better, and encourage members and supporters to be as engaged as they are able to be, given their own circumstances.

We need to improve the way we do some things – especially when it comes to identifying new partnerships, new projects and new funding opportunities.

We need to improve the way we communicate, both within and outside CED.

**Worship**

In our worship on Sunday morning, Pentecost Sunday, we read Acts 2:1-21, and reflected that the coming of the Holy Spirit took the disciples well outside of their comfort zone, but in doing so created courage and equipped them for an extraordinary mission. Volunteering with CED often takes us outside of our comfort zones, but if we rely on God and His Spirit and His leading, we find ourselves equipped and encouraged as we trust in Him.

**In conclusion**

At the time of writing, the Action Plan is still under development, and we hope to be able to share more of this with you by the time we meet together for our AGM and Open Day on 3rd October at Woodmansterne Baptist Church.

*Rob Wakeling and Jonathan Appleby.*

# Kuluva Hospital Given a New Lease of Life!

In 2020 Jonathan Cox and Jonathan Appleby went to Kuluva Hospital in the north west corner of Uganda to assess the aging and poorly maintained micro hydro plant serving Kuluva hospital. Over the next four years a scheme was developed, the power house was refurbished and a new turbine commissioned, complete with associated electrical and hydraulic control equipment.

It was a pleasure to see this in operation on a recent visit in April 2026. The system generates power for the hospital and provides a consistent supply throughout the year; something it wasn't doing previously. This saves the expensive cost of electricity from an often unreliable grid and allows the hospital to continue to function serving a needy community.

Following on from the Power Supply Project has been the Water Supply Project undertaken by Jonny Burns and Jonathan Appleby. This was to replace and refurbish parts of the old water distribution network, providing 2 new borehole pumps in existing boreholes and 1 new 20,000 litre elevated steel tank as well as refurbishing the old one. This provides storage tanks on either side of the hospital to supply the hospital buildings, the Nursing School and tap stands for the staff accommodation and community via a new HDPE pipe distribution network. The tank serving the hospital side will also be fed through a chlorinator providing safer water to the hospital wards. The pictures are from my time helping with the distribution network in April.

Both these projects have been vital in securing the future viability of the hospital to serve this needy area of Uganda.

The driving force at the hospital for both these schemes has been Dr Luke Vos who has been in the area working at Kuluva Hospital with his family for about 8 years and has achieved a massive amount for the community both in his time at the hospital and the legacy he leaves for the future. Luke is returning to Australia this summer for his children's education, which has been accelerated due to the real risk of Ebola due to the hospital being so close to the border with the DRC.

I'm sure they will miss Dr Luke at Kuluva greatly, however there is plenty of scope for future projects. Please pray for Luke and his family as they settle back in Cains and for CED's ongoing relationship with the hospital.

*Darran Waters*

*Refurbished water storage tank*

*Pipe laying*

# Academic Study, Rainwater Tank Contamination

*Roof branches contribute to contamination in the tanks.*

In 2024 we surveyed a sample of our rainwater tanks, as reported in NL 120. Earlier this year Phaustine Jacob, a Masters' student at Dar es Salaam University, followed this up when he visited the project in pursuance of his study into "*Assessing the water quality risks and treatment strategies in rainwater harvesting storage systems for domestic use in Kagera, Tanzania*". The study was funded jointly by CED and the Water Institute.

Phaustine travelled to the project area in January. He met up with a laboratory technician who took samples back to Rusomo on the Rwanda border to do coliform tests while he took other samples back to the Water Institute in Dar es Salaam to measure chemical content.

They sampled 30 water sources, 20 in Ngara district and 10 in Biharamulo district. 83% of the tanks had proper covers and 80% utilized galvanized sheet chutes for the water. Whilst nearly all homes have galvanized steel roofs these days, the quality is poor and 47% of the roofs were rusty. Only 33% of the tanks had mosquito wire over the collection basin, though in 77% of cases the surrounding area was kept clean.

All 30 tanks were sampled for Total Coliform Count (TCC) and E. Coli. Although 70% of samples were contaminated with coliforms, no E. Coli was found.

One tank was leaking and the sample from this tank showed high turbidity despite it having a very good cover. This suggests that the leakage was allowing foreign particles to enter the tank, causing contamination.

Phaustine's findings were really helpful. He reckons that the E Coli detected in the previous survey was a result of tanks being used to store pond water rather than from contamination on the way from the roof to the tank. He noted that none of the tanks with charcoal filters had coliforms, though the filters did not help with turbidity. He suggested that in one of the tanks the high turbidity was because of the overflow not being protected by mosquito mesh, so allowing insects and small animals to enter.

He reckons that the reasons that the coliforms were able to get into the tank were:

(i) Cover was absent in some tanks (4 tanks=13%)

(ii) Mosquito mesh was absent in some tanks (19 tanks=63%)

(iii) Roof with branches above in some houses (8 tanks=27%)

(iv) Dirty environment surrounding the tank (7 tanks=23 %)

We obviously have work to do in ensuring that our partners finish the tanks properly and educate the recipients about the importance of keeping the tanks covered and keeping the surrounding area clean. The leaking tank will be

*Typical rainwater delivery by galvanized chute. The tank cover has been removed.*

repaired. Apparently, some people remove the lids and mosquito mesh during rain storms so the tanks will fill more quickly. This should not make a difference!

These are issues that we will discuss in our forthcoming workshop / seminar when all six partners will meet together in Ngara. Phaustine also recommended the use of first-flush diverters. The idea is that the dirty water washed off the roof at the start of a downpour will be diverted into a branch pipe. We used diverters in our early tanks but realised that they collect very little water (we were using around 2m of downpipe as a reservoir) so were not convincing. We struggled to find a cheap method of sealing them at the bottom and in the end abandoned them to keep costs down. Perhaps we should re-visit the idea.

I have found it really useful to have another pair of eyes looking at the project. I get excited by the fact that we have now commissioned over 400 tanks and continue to do this under a very tight budget. As we look to how we can develop the programme it's timely to be reminded that we have work to do to improve execution. Please pray that our time together in Ngara in July will be fruitful and inspire our partners to redouble their efforts to deliver robust, safe and effective rainwater harvesting systems.

I remain grateful to all the people who have in the past, and some continually, supported the programme. It makes a huge difference to the lives of poor people among the rural communities of Tanzania.

*Ian Rankin*

# CED AGM and Open Day

We're delighted to announce that we have a time and date for our 2026 Open Day and AGM:

- **Saturday, 3rd October.**
- **Woodmansterne Baptist Church, Banstead SM7 3QA**

For supporters who want to make a weekend of the event (or skip a session), Woodmansterne is a small village that combines the charm of a traditional English village with modern amenities and a strong sense of community. The surrounding countryside offers opportunities for hiking, cycling and observing local wildlife.

The nearby St Peter's Church has stunning stained glass windows and an impressive bell tower. The village is centred around the Holy Trinity Church, a medieval church dating back to the 13th century (as reported by Google).

Woodmansterne Baptist is home to our Chair and Colin looks forward to welcoming us. Discussions will kick-off in the morning and there will be workshops in the afternoon then a meal together in the evening for those who can stay. We'll provide more detail nearer the time.

With CED members being spread across UK and beyond, this is the one time in the year that we meet with each other. It's a great opportunity to learn about what drives CED (the Holy Spirit!), understand current projects and to discuss areas where people might be able to use their talents in the service of those facing real challenges overseas.

It's always a very enjoyable day so please, if you are at all able, sign up to attend when the invitation hits your in-box.

*Ian Rankin*

# Rob and Barbara Support Crisis UK

Occasionally, it's good to support the work of other charities!

I guess most of us know where we'll be sleeping tonight. Sadly 333,000 families and individuals in this country do not have a place to call home.

Crisis UK does a great job helping the homeless across the UK find their way back into both homes and employment. So, 2 of our members, Rob & Barbara Brighouse, decided to jump on their bikes and cycle the 1,000+ mile LEJOG route (Lands End – John O'Groats) to raise money for Crisis, but also for fun. After thinking about it for 40+ years they started to realise that the clock was ticking…

They set off from Lands End at the end of April and 19 days later, having experienced headwinds (reaching 40mph) on most days, they arrived at John O Groats, weary but elated.

"In addition to the beautiful varied scenery this country has to offer, the key memory has to be the many kind people encountered on route: coffee van owners who provided free cake when they heard what we were doing; AirBNB owners who contributed to the cause; café owners who opened specially when seeing two bedraggled cyclists at their door; and, last, but not least, Jonathan Appleby, the CED CEO, who came and joined us for one of the toughest sections of the route south of Inverness before he and Sue fed us!"

Did we enjoy it? Absolutely yes!

Would we do it again? Absolutely NOT!

*Rob Brighouse*

# QUIZ ....with an edible prize for the highest scoring entry!

1. In which year was CED formed?
2. How many projects has CED delivered since its formation?
3. In which country has CED delivered most projects?
4. Name one current CED project which involves solar power.
5. What is CED's stated purpose?
6. How many goals does the UN have for sustainable development and which one of these relates to water and sanitation?
7. Sub-Sahara Africa is home to 16% of the global population, but what % of the world's population living in extreme poverty lives there: 16%; 32%; 67%; or 90%?
8. Name one current CED project which involves providing a valley tank?
9. CED is delivering life-changing tanks to people across Tanzania. What does it cost to twin your tap with a 1,000 litre CED tank? £150; £270; or £360
10. In which city did CED carry out repairs to save a cathedral from collapse?
11. Who is the newest CED trustee?
12. How many tanks has CED installed since 2020 as part of its Rainwater Harvesting project in Tanzania? 50; 100; 300 or 5,000?

## Tie breaker:

Given the current major reductions in government foreign aid budgets, CED can be most effective by concentrating on "…….

……."

Please email your entry by 31st July 2026 to admin@ced.org.uk

The winner will be contacted by email and announced in our next newsletter. The judge's decision is final!

*Rob Brighouse*

"God is good !" Thank you to all members, supporters, matched funders, their churches and congregations for their generous support in helping fund the future work of CED to the tune of £25,000 as a way of giving thanks for the past 40 years of CED. Your generosity and support is much appreciated and gives encouragement to all involved with the work of CED"

| | |
|---|---|
| Members: | £5,589 |
| Supporters: | £62 |
| Other: | £3,952 |
| For Rwanda: | £1,340 |
| For Tanzania RWH: | £1495 |
| Matched Funding: | £12,500 |
| **Total** | **£24,938** |

On behalf of our beneficiaries,

*THANK you!*

## I wish to give to CED:

I enclose a cheque to the value of:

£ _____ made payable to Christian Engineers in Development.

or

## I wish to set up a Standing Order:

Name of bank or building society

Address of bank or building society

Your sort code and account number

Account name:

## Please pay until further notice to:

**Treasurer Account, Christian Engineers in Development, Sort Code 40-17-16, Account 91456504, at HSBC Bank PLC, 94 East Street, Chichester, PO19 1HD,**

The sum of £ (figures) _____ (words)

on the _____ of each (please circle) month/qtr/year

First payment to be made on / /

quoting as reference

(surname and initials in capitals) _____ (date) _____

Signature _____

Please fill your name and address overleaf, sign for Gift Aid if eligible and return this tear-off to:

**Hon. Treasurer CED**
**David Beak**
**South Felldyke, Lamplugh,**
**Workington, Cumbria,**
**CA14 4SH**

# *I'd like to support CED*

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postcode

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## Please sign below to Gift Aid this and all future donations:

I confirm I have paid or will pay an amount of Income Tax and/or Capital Gains Tax for each tax year that is at least equal to the amount of tax that all the charities that I donate to will reclaim on my gifts for that tax year.

I understand that other taxes such as VAT and Council Tax do not qualify. I understand that the charity will reclaim 25p of tax on every £ that I give.

Signature

date

Please complete gift details overleaf.

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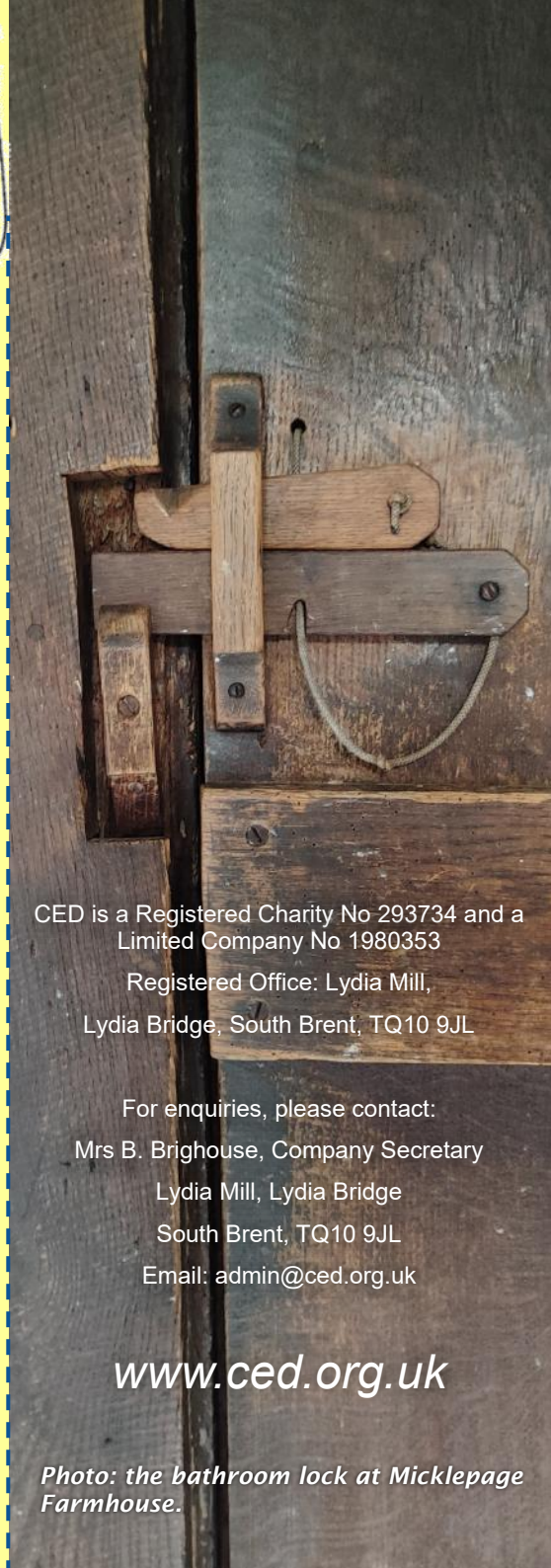

CED is a Registered Charity No 293734 and a Limited Company No 1980353

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***Photo: the bathroom lock at Micklepage Farmhouse.***