

## **Touched for Christ**

*by Sheila Etherington, Rwanda*

*Kibogora Hospital, a 230-bed facility located in southwestern Rwanda, serves approximately 135,000 people. This hospital, along with other Free Methodist medical ministries, has the privilege and unique opportunity to touch a vast number of people for Christ. Sheila Etherington introduces three such individuals.*

... is a young girl of 12 years who was admitted with burns covering almost half of her body. She became malnourished, anaemic and was in very poor condition. She has been in the hospital for over five months, first being stabilized and getting her ready for grafting and then having several grafts and surgery to deal with the effects of the burns. In other hospitals, she would not receive this care because her family does not have the money to pay for it.

... is a 22 year-old young man infected with AIDS. He is in our treatment program where free AIDS medicines are given, but because he contracted tuberculosis, he has been hospitalized. In addition to giving the necessary medical care, the hospital feeds him and provides necessary personal items – tasks which would usually be done by family members. He doesn't have any family with him, however.

.... is a young man who has been hospitalized for months with cardiac disease. Although there is little that can be done to restore his health, his condition can be controlled somewhat with medication. If he were to return home, he would probably not have the energy to walk the five hours to the hospital for repeat prescriptions and controls. He is now part of the "family" and does small jobs around the hospital when he feels well enough. He also hears the gospel and is visited regularly by the chaplain. He likes to hear Bible stories, and we believe that in his simple way he has accepted Jesus.