

# **Reach The Children**

## **Trustees' Report and Accounts**

**Year ended 31 December 2023**

**Registered charity number: 1108058**

# REACH THE CHILDREN

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# REACH THE CHILDREN

## Trustees' Report

The Trustees of Reach the Children are pleased to submit their report and accounts for the year ended 31 December 2023.

### Charitable Objects

To relieve poverty of children living in Africa who are in conditions of need, hardship and distress. To advance the education of such children.

### Annual Review

A purpose built facility for the preparation and processing of dried fruit products was completed during the year. Following completion of remedial work, occupation of the facility went ahead. At the beginning of the year a heat exchange dryer was ordered from China and shipped to Luwero for installation in the new processing facility. Grandmas subsequently received training in health and safety requirements, and the preparation and drying of the fruit. Since that time pineapples grown and harvested at Luwero have been processed with great success.

The product range of dried tropical fruit under the 'from Grandmas Gardens' brand has been extended to include dried mango pieces through a partner organisation Jakana. From the model garden established in 2019 in one acre and 15,000 pineapple suckers, the Luwero Centre has extended the pineapple plantation to four fields with a total of 75,000 pineapple suckers under cultivation. Sales of dried pineapple and dried mango through Amazon are very promising, increasing week on week.

The I Told My Story Competition 2023 was rolled out to 20 state schools with beneficial outcomes for P7 schoolchildren preparing for secondary school. The project continues to be sponsored by Tony Jordan, CEO of Red Planet Pictures, part of the Asacha Media Group, who is passionate about the programme. All 20 schools receive initial training sessions designed to encourage children to develop and use their imagination. This will help improve writing skills, enabling them to write better stories and have a clearer view of their future potential.

Remote springs continue to be protected, providing hundreds of families in the community with clean water. This work further benefits the local communities by providing employment for local tradespeople. Springs selected by local community leaders are those that never dry out though the water pressure may lessen during the dry season. This reliable water source enables children to collect water each morning for washing, cooking and laundry and still get to school on time for daily lessons. The most significant benefit however is the reduction in water-borne diseases to the children and the wider community.

The Birungi Skills Centre for disabled and hearing impaired children has now been fully funded, with decoration and floor tiling the final items to be completed. This centre will train children with special needs in life skills that will assist them to earn a living and sustain a family. The first students will be taken in as boarders in early 2024 due to the ill health of Halima, the Chairwoman and founder of the Centre.

The year 2024 represents the 20th anniversary of Reach the Children in Uganda. A number of projects have been highlighted including school latrines with a washroom for girls; protection of springs; and planting of eucalyptus trees and stone markers indicating the border of RTC Centre near Luwero. Charitable donation requests continue to be directed to supporters past, present and future, including friends of Reach the Children. We are grateful to them all for their ongoing support.

# REACH THE CHILDREN

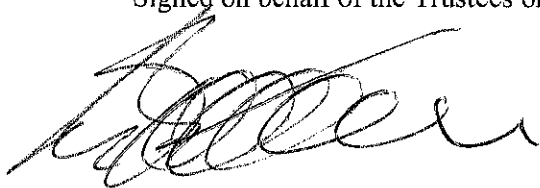
## Charity Trustees

Ray Botterell	Chairman
Kathryn Gibson	Trustee
Tony Jordan	Trustee
Tarig El Sheikh	Trustee
Rachel Mace	Trustee

## Principal Address

2 Manor Gardens  
Westoning  
Bedfordshire  
MK45 5NA

Signed on behalf of the Trustees on 23 July 2024



**R Botterell**  
Chairman



**K Gibson**  
Trustee

# REACH THE CHILDREN

## INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF REACH THE CHILDREN

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 31 December 2023.

### **Respective responsibilities and basis of report**

As the charity trustees of the Trust, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act").

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

### **Independent examiner's statement**

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act or
- the accounts do not accord with the accounting records.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



**David Chapman BA FCA**  
Chapman Gain  
4 Tregarne Terrace  
St Austell  
Cornwall  
PL25 4BE

23 July 2024

# REACH THE CHILDREN

## Receipts and Payments Account

Year ended 31 December 2023

		2023		2022
	£	£	£	£
<b><u>Receipts</u></b>				
Donations		71,271		66,228
Gift Aid tax repayments		13,437		13,875
Interest received		4		-
		<hr/>		<hr/>
		84,712		80,103
<b><u>Payments</u></b>				
Projects and expeditions	77,573		96,536	
Insurance	549		285	
Bank charges	1,656		1,334	
Marketing	7,438		7,975	
Website expenses	1,186		1,157	
Just Giving charges	216		216	
Commission paid on donations	182		200	
Other expenses	2,177		1,542	
	<hr/>	(90,977)	<hr/>	(109,245)
<b>Net (payments)</b>		<hr/> (6,265)		<hr/> (29,142)
Bank balance at 31 December 2022		19,112		48,254
		<hr/>		<hr/>
<b>Bank balance at 31 December 2023</b>		<b>12,847</b>		<b>19,112</b>
		<hr/>		<hr/>

All funds held are unrestricted and available to be applied in the furtherance of the Trust's charitable objectives at the discretion of the Trustees.

# REACH THE CHILDREN

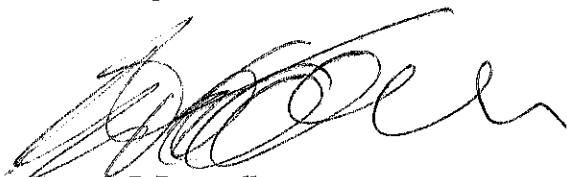
## Statement of Assets and Liabilities

*As at 31 December 2023*

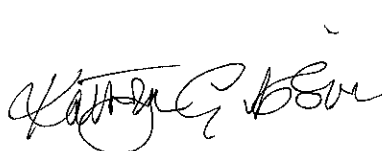
	2023 £	2022 £
<b><u>Cash Funds</u></b>		
HSBC Charitable Bank Account	12,635	18,827
HSBC Business Money Manager Account	212	285
	<hr/> 12,847 <hr/>	<hr/> 19,112 <hr/>

All funds held are unrestricted and available to be applied in the furtherance of the Trust's charitable objectives at the discretion of the Trustees.

Signed on behalf of the Trustees on 23 July 2024



**R Botterell**  
Chairman



**K Gibson**  
Trustee