

# OPEN WAY

England & Wales · Charity number 1122055

## Details

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**Status** Registered

**Legal form** Other

**Registered** 2007-12-19

**Register** [View on the Charity Commission register](#)

## Contact

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**Address** 26 Spring Road  
Abingdon  
Oxfordshire  
OX14 1AQ

**Phone** 07901675917

**Email** [openway@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:openway@hotmail.co.uk)

**Website** [www.openway.org.uk](http://www.openway.org.uk)

## Activities

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**Objects:** A) THE RELIEF OF POVERTY AND SUFFERING RELATED TO THE LACK OF BASIC NEEDS FOR PEOPLE OF ANY AGE OR CULTURAL BACKGROUND IN POOR COUNTRIES WITH THE AIM OF BETTERING THEIR PRESENT SITUATION AND IMPROVE THEIR CHANCES OF FUTURE SELF-RELIABILITY.B) TO ADVANCE THE EDUCATION OF THE PUBLIC IN POOR COUNTRIES IN THE SUBJECTS OF: HEALTH; AND THE CONSERVATION OF THE NATURAL AND PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT.

**Activities:** We are working to alleviate extreme poverty in Ethiopia. Current activities include: enabling access to medical help for those who otherwise can not obtain it; enabling poor children to gain access to free early years education; providing assistance for elderly and vulnerable people who have no help from any other source; providing food aid and long-term support when needed due to emergencies.

## Classification

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- **How:** Makes Grants To Individuals, Provides Other Finance, Provides Buildings/facilities/open Space, Provides Services, Other Charitable Activities
- **What:** Education/training, The Advancement Of Health Or Saving Of Lives, The Prevention Or Relief Of Poverty, Overseas Aid/famine Relief
- **Who:** Children/young People, The General Public/mankind

## Geography

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- **Area of benefit:** NOT DEFINED IN PRACTICE WORLD-WIDE
- Ethiopia

## Finances

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Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-07-31	£47,360	£102,407	-	-
2024-07-31	£133,404	£129,501	-	-
2023-07-31	£163,736	£121,011	-	-
2022-07-31	£53,041	£50,371	-	-
2021-07-31	£41,746	£47,346	-	-

## Trustees

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Name	Role	Appointed
Nick Osborne	Chair	2007-12-02
Maria Lopez		2007-12-02

**OPEN WAY**

England & Wales - Charity number 1122055

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# Accounts

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# **Open Way**

Helping people out of poverty

(Charity Number: 1122055)

## **Trustees Annual Report & Financial Statements for the year ended**

**31st July 2025**

# **outsourc**

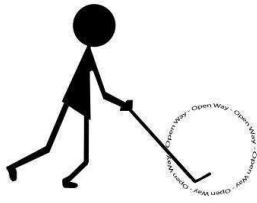
Charity accounts preparation &  
independent examination service

# **Open Way**

(Charity Number: 1122055)

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# Open Way

helping people out of poverty

Registered charity 1122055

## **Trustee's Annual Report for the period: 1<sup>st</sup> August 2024 to 31<sup>st</sup> July 2025**

### **Reference and Administration details**

**Name:**

Open Way

**Other names charity is known by:**

None

**Address:**

26 Spring Road, Abingdon, Oxfordshire. OX14 1AQ  
openway@hotmail.co.uk

**Charity Number:**

1122055

**Names of the trustees who manage the charity:**

Nicholas Osborne (chair)

Maria Lopez (Trustee)

**Name of trustees holding title to property belonging to the charity:**

None

**Funds held as custodian trustees on behalf of others:**

None of any kind

**Names and addresses of advisers:**

**Independent Examiner**

Karen Wood ACMA

Outsource Accounting Services & IE's, 2 Galligap Lane, York, YO10 3NR

**Banker:**

CAF BANK Ltd, 25 Kings Hill Avenue, Kings Hill, West Malling, Kent. ME19 4JQ

**Name of chief executive:**

Nick Osborne (Chair of Trustees)

## **Structure, governance and management**

### **Type of governing document:**

Trust Deed

### **How the charity is constituted:**

Trust

### **Trustee selection methods:**

Appointed by existing trustees

## **Objectives and Activities**

### **Summary of the purposes of the charity set out in its governing document**

The relief of poverty and suffering related to the lack of basic needs for people of any age or cultural background in poor countries with the aim of bettering their present situation and improving their chances of future self-reliability.

To advance the education of the public in poor countries in the subjects of: health; and the conservation of the natural and physical environment.

### **Summary of the main activities in relation to those purposes for the public benefit, in particular, the activities, projects or services identified in the accounts.**

Helping people out of poverty in Ethiopia by:

- Providing medical help.
- Providing free pre-school education in poor rural villages.
- Tackling malnourishment.
- Helping the vulnerable and the elderly.

The trustees consider that they have complied with their duties to have due regard to the public benefit guidance published by the Charity Commission.

## Achievement and performance



## Introduction

In 2025, Ethiopia is facing a complex humanitarian crisis. The after-effects of the civil war combined with climate events have taken their toll. The World Food Programme estimates that over 10 million people in Ethiopia are living in severe food insecurity, three million of whom are internally displaced, and that over half of under-fives are malnourished to some degree. On top of these internal issues, Ethiopia is hosting many refugees from war-torn Sudan and other countries.

The Sidama zone has suffered like everywhere else because of the general countrywide political unrest and ever-increasing prices, but it is relatively stable when compared to other parts of the country. Many people face extreme poverty, and both drought and flooding in recent years has made life very difficult for many farmers. Thankfully, at least the weather in late 2024 and early 2025 has been better, allowing farmers to rebuild to some degree.

The Ethiopian currency was unexpectedly liberalised in 2024 and became much weaker against the pound. While it is unclear what this means for the country, it does mean that the funding assigned for the year's activities went a lot further than planned.

We are really impressed with what the team in Ethiopia have achieved this year, and the strong impact that Open Way is having in the region. Thousands of people are getting reliable support in education, food security, shelter and medical help.

None of this work would be possible without our generous supporters and we would like to **THANK YOU** very much for helping to make it all happen. We hope you enjoy reading about what has been achieved.

## Education project

Open Way's ten schools registered nearly **1800 students**. Children get a crucial start in numeracy and literacy at OW schools. It is now 15 years since the first two OW schools opened at Bentibata and T-K with two classes at each school.

Two new libraries were constructed early last summer for the schools at Babe and Tula meaning all Open Way schools now have libraries. The libraries are also used as community centres in the evenings where local people can gather.

School	Classes 2024-2025	Number registered	library
Shigesho	8	401	✓
T-K	5	216	✓
L. Wemerera	4	200	✓
Lela Honcho	3	150	✓
Hatabo	3	162	✓
Kokosa	3	131	✓
Mi-ke	2	96	✓
Bentibata	2	110	✓
Babe Colmocha	3	149	✓
Tula Hiricha	3	150	✓
	<b>36</b>	<b>1,765</b>	<b>10</b>



The library at Babe Colmocha

### The school roll for 2024-2025

At the heart of the educational work are the teachers and librarians from the community. As well as teaching, they support the wider effort. For example, their deep community knowledge makes them key to recognizing those families who need extra help.



The Open Way teachers and librarians of 2025

All the schools had end of school year events to celebrate students' achievements. The students received their report cards and rewards.



The end of year celebration at Lela Honcho school





**The awards being presented at Shigesho school**



**Students receiving their end-of-year report cards at Shigesho school**

# Tackling food insecurity

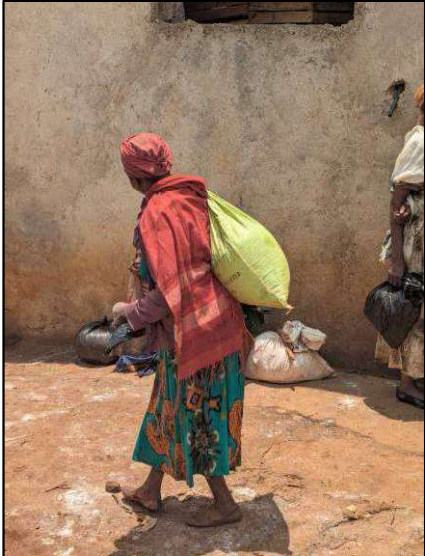
## Grain

Grain is a crucial lifeline for many vulnerable families. The families are referred to Open Way via teachers at the schools and by medical staff at local clinics and hospitals where patients are taken for medical help. Beneficiaries collect the grain directly from the mill. This year about 300 families per month have received 15 kg rations of grain/flour.



Maize flour being measured out at the mill

Grain beneficiaries at some of the collections



## Seedling distribution

The team in Ethiopia were very keen to focus on seedling provision this year, and specifically false banana as a key, drought resistant indigenous crop in Sidama.

Thanks to the currency devaluation, OW was able to provide seedlings to 1,600 families.

This distribution took place over several days in the false banana season in April and May. The seedlings were transported to four different distribution points in the countryside to minimise to some degree the distance people would have to carry the heavy bundles home.



**Seedling bundles  
ready for distribution  
at Banko Markos**



**One of the OW  
coordinators**



**Distribution of false banana seedlings at Dande**

**More distribution of seedlings at T-K**



## **Business training**

Last year the team in Ethiopia saw the potential for starting business training for people in the rural areas to incentivise self-reliability and change local attitudes to poverty.

The project was a huge success last year and so greatly appreciated by the participants that it was expanded this year.

The training comprises sessions on running a small-scale business, money management and attitudes to poverty. The business training spans five half-days in total as this makes it easier for people to attend to their daily responsibilities as well as attend the training.

In total 2,250 people received training: all the false banana seedling beneficiaries as well as 650 people who received two 45-day-old chicks to rear from the OW farm. One of the sessions in the training included a session either on the practicalities of chick rearing, or the cultivation and management of false banana seedlings.



**Trainees from Shoecho, Bentibata and Setamo assembled at one of the false banana training sessions in T-K**

There were many inspiring stories from the previous year's training where people had managed to grow a small business. Some of them were invited back to receive congratulations and to share their achievements in this year's training.

## Training and meeting hall

The business training sessions require large venues and typically the village churches are used. Sometimes these are not available and as the training program has grown, the need for a purpose-built venue became clear.

Construction of a training hall began in T-K in July. This will be capable of holding up to 400 people for training or other large gatherings.



**The new training hall under construction**

## Providing housing

Vulnerable people often live in houses which are unfit for habitation. For example, they may be in a state of collapse, let in the rain, or not protect from wild animals such as hyenas. New houses are provided which are simple timber constructions with metal roofs and mud rendering inside and out.

This project also provides employment for several teams of local builders.

Beneficiaries are typically single parents, elderly, sick or disabled people who have no other means to rebuild or repair their homes.

This year 25 houses have been constructed in villages around T-K town.



**Alemu and his family's house had collapsed, and his wife is blind making life very tough.**

**Here they are outside their new OW home.**



**Fekelech is a single mum whose house was not safe. Now they have a new safe place to live.**

## Medical assistance

The cost of travel, registration fees and medicine makes medical help impossible for many rural people. OW organises medical assistance at several medical centres including T-K Health Centre and hospitals in Dilla, Yirgalem, Hawassa, and even occasionally Addis Ababa. This project brings huge relief for patients and their families.

During the last 12-month period, 234 patients have been treated for various conditions. Of these patients, 96 were male, 138 were female, and 24 of these were children. Note some patients are treated for multiple issues.

Condition	No. Cases
Abdominal / ascites	5
Anaemia	7
Appendicitis	1
Armpit lump / gynecomastia	3
Asthma / lung	8
H. pylori infection	2
Breast cancer	1
Cataracts	17
Clubfoot	2
Deep vein thrombosis	1
Diabetes	3
Endometrial cancer	1
Endometrial hyperplasia	1
Epilepsy	5
Eye conditions (various)	7
Fistula	4
Food poisoning	1
Gastritis / gastroenteritis	7
GERD	1
Giardiasis / parasitosis	10
Glaucoma	9
Goitre / neck	5
Heart conditions	17
Hepatitis	2

Condition	No. Cases
High blood pressure	4
Wounding (hyena attack)	1
Impetigo	2
Injuries (leg; head)	3
Lipomas on cheek	1
Malaria	5
Meningitis	1
Pelvic organ prolapse	6
Peptic ulcer	10
Pneumonia	15
Psychiatric Disorder	3
Pyelonephritis / kidney disease	19
Scabies	1
Skin issues / dermatitis	4
STD	3
TB	8
Tumour / myomas	10
Typhoid	33
Typhus	13
Unknown	2
Urinary tract infection	4
Uterine tumours	4
Vaginitis	1
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>273</b>

## Mossy foot

Mossy foot is a disease endemic in the Ethiopian highlands where the combination of the specific soil type and bare-foot farming combine to create the problem. The volcanic red clay soil contains silica particles that get through the skin and ultimately block the lymphatic system causing swelling of the feet and legs, discomfort, and secondary infections. The illness also carries a lot of stigma. OW has helped many people with mossy foot in the past. One of those helped was OW's own coordinator Adanech who has been trained to help people with mossy foot.

Recently, the Haranjicho kebele offered us use of a room at their medical centre to help people with mossy foot, so with some of the additional funds available from the currency devaluation, we have started a mossy foot clinic there.

Ten patients are registered each week, five of whom come each morning and five each afternoon. They are trained in self-treatment which involves massage and the application of medical creams. They are also given shoes and socks and the required medicines. The patients return after one week on a Saturday for a progress check and then from time-to-time for more medicines.

This programme is up and running and the word is getting around that the treatment is available. People are coming from far and wide, so we aim to continue over the coming 12 months at least.



**Adanech training one of the mossy foot patients**

**Some of the patients waiting for treatment and training**



## **Assisting students into further education**

This project enables successful students to progress to further education by assisting them to cover costs for rent, food, stationery, and clothing. Without this help, it would have been impossible for them to take up their places.

Open Way currently supports 10 students in total: 5 high school students and 5 university students.

## **Helping other vulnerable people**

OW continues to help 16 elderly people and a small number of vulnerable families who have no support coming from anywhere else with food, clothing and support money.

## **Update on Jane Mason's memorial fund**

Jane is a much-missed previous trustee of Open Way. After several years waiting for the right project, part of Jane's memorial fund has now been put to use.

The fund was invested in Ethiopia and has gathered interest. Very recently, Mulu was approached by the town of T-K and asked if it would be possible to provide a water pump. The town lacks a pump for its main well, meaning that some residents must travel to find clean water. This doesn't make life easy.

We were really happy to agree that this would be a great use for Jane's fund. We know she would be very happy thinking that many people would be getting access to fresh, clean water as a result of the fund.

The pump is not yet installed but we are hoping this will occur soon.



**The T-K water authority receiving the pump**



The Sidama region where Open Way is working in Ethiopia.



Open Way is a UK-registered grant-giving organisation.

We support a group of Ethiopian nationals who carry out poverty alleviation work within their own communities.

We are not an international implementing agency; rather, we provide funding and encouragement to locally led initiatives.

## **Financial Review**

Open Way's reserves are reduced due to priority spending.

Our end of year balance is £3,442.56.

Our aim is to hold reserves of around 4 to 6 months.

Open Way has no funds in deficit.

## **Declaration**

The trustees declare that they have approved the Trustees Annual Report and Accounts.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees:

Signature

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Nick Osborne".

Nick Osborne  
Chair of The Trustees

Date:

10<sup>th</sup> Jan 2026

## Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Open Way

I report on the accounts of: **Open Way**  
for the year ended: **31st July 2025** which are set out on pages 19 to 22.

### 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 Charity's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all 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 giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

- 1 accounting records were not kept in respect of the Trust as required by section 130 of the Act; or
- 2 the accounts do not accord with those records

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



**Karen Wood (ACMA)**  
Outsource independent examination  
service  
2 Galligap Lane  
Osbalwick  
York YO10 3NR

07/02/2026

**Date:**

## Open Way

(Charity Number: 1122055)

<b>Receipts &amp; Payments Accounts for the year ended:</b>	<b>31st July 2025</b>
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	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2025 Total funds £	2024 Total funds £
<b>Receipts</b>				
Grants	-	36,656	36,656	124,270
Donations - standing orders	7,415	-	7,415	7,441
Donations - one-off	3,218	-	3,218	611
My Donate / Wonderful	-	-	-	60
Gift aid	-	-	-	964
Bank interest	71	-	71	58
<b>Total receipts</b>	<b>10,704</b>	<b>36,656</b>	<b>47,360</b>	<b>133,404</b>
<b>Payments</b>				
Grants to project	8,276	93,724	102,000	129,000
Travel expenses	22	-	22	41
Bank charges & trf fees	235	-	235	310
Independent examination fee	150	-	150	150
<b>Total payments</b>	<b>8,683</b>	<b>93,724</b>	<b>102,407</b>	<b>129,501</b>
<b>Net of receipts/(payments)</b>	<b>2,021</b>	<b>- 57,068</b>	<b>(55,047)</b>	<b>3,903</b>
<b>Transfers between funds</b>	-	-	-	-
<b>Balance brought forward</b>	<b>1,422</b>	<b>57,068</b>	<b>58,490</b>	<b>54,587</b>
<b>Balance carried forward</b>	<b>3,443</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>3,443</b>	<b>58,490</b>

**Open Way**  
(Charity Number: 1122055)

<b>Statement of Assets and Liabilities at:</b>	<b>31st July 2025</b>			
	<b>Unrestricted</b>	<b>Restricted</b>	<b>2025</b>	<b>2024</b>
	<b>funds</b>	<b>funds</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Total</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>funds</b>	<b>funds</b>
<b>Assets</b>			<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
<b>Cash at bank and in hand</b>				
CAF current account	3,443	-	3,443	58,490
	<b>3,443</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>3,443</b>	<b>58,490</b>
	<b>3,443</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>3,443</b>	<b>58,490</b>
	<b>Unrestricted</b>	<b>Restricted</b>	<b>2025</b>	<b>2024</b>
	<b>Funds</b>	<b>Funds</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Total</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>Funds</b>	<b>Funds</b>
<b>Liabilities</b>			<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Independent Examination fee	150	-	150	150
	<b>150</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>150</b>	<b>150</b>
	<b>150</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>150</b>	<b>150</b>

**Open Way**  
(Charity Number: 1122055)

**Notes to the Accounts for the year ended:**

**31st July 2025**

**1. Basis of Accounts**

The Trustees have taken advantage of section 144 (2) of the Charities Act 2011 and prepared the accounts on a receipts and payments basis.

**2. Analysis of Funds**

**2.1 Details of restricted funds**

All funds of the charity are utilised in the alleviation of poverty in Ethiopia. However the charity obtains grants and donations which are restricted for the following purposes:

Education

Elderly & vulnerable (Malnutrition, Housing and Farm projects)

Help to individuals

Medical

**2.2 Movement of major funds**

	Balance b/fwd £	Incoming resources £	Trf Resources between expended funds		Balance c/fwd £
			£	£	
<b>Unrestricted Funds</b>					
General unrestricted funds	1,422	10,704	8,683		3,443
	<u>1,422</u>	<u>10,704</u>	<u>8,683</u>	-	<u>3,443</u>
<b>Restricted Funds</b>					
<b>Education</b>					
Band Aid Trust	22,980	11,490	34,470	-	-
Just Trust	-	1,000	1,000	-	-
Ashworth Charitable Trust	-	3,000	3,000	-	-
	<u>22,980</u>	<u>15,490</u>	<u>38,470</u>	-	-
<b>Elderly &amp; Vulnerable</b>					
Band Aid Trust (Malnourishment)	29,240	14,620	43,860	-	-
Donations (Elderly)	-	-	-	-	-
Band Aid Trust (Housing)	3,681	5,667	9,348	-	-
	<u>32,921</u>	<u>20,287</u>	<u>53,208</u>	-	-
<b>Help to individuals</b>					
Donations	-	296	296	-	-
<b>Medical</b>					
Band Aid	1,167	583	1,750	-	-
<b>Total Restricted</b>	<u>57,068</u>	<u>36,656</u>	<u>93,724</u>	-	-
<b>Total Funds</b>	<u><u>58,490</u></u>	<u><u>47,360</u></u>	<u><u>102,407</u></u>	-	<u><u>3,443</u></u>

The transfer of funds is money that was originally budgeted for grain that has been reallocated to Education and Medical as it was needed more in these areas. This was agreed in writing by the funder, Band Aid.

<b>Approval of Accounts for the year ended:</b>	<b>31st July 2025</b>
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The report and accounts were approved at a meeting of the Trustees held on:

7th Feb 2026

**Date**



**Signed for and on behalf of the Trustees**

7th Feb 2026

**Date**

Nick Osborne

**Print Name**

Chair

**Position (e.g. Chair etc)**

**OPEN WAY**

England & Wales - Charity number 1122055

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# Accounts

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# **Open Way**

Helping people out of poverty

(Charity Number: 1122055)

## **Trustees Annual Report & Financial Statements for the year ended**

**31st July 2024**

# **outsourc**e

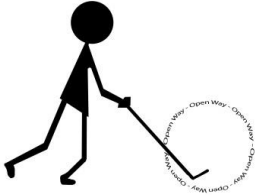
Charity accounts preparation &  
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(Charity Number: 1122055)

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# Open Way

helping people out of poverty

Registered charity 1122055

## **Trustee's Annual Report for the period: 1<sup>st</sup> August 2023 to 31<sup>st</sup> July 2024**

### **Reference and Administration details**

**Name:**

Open Way

**Other names charity is known by:**

None

**Address:**

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openway@hotmail.co.uk

**Charity Number:**

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**Names of the trustees who manage the charity:**

Nicholas Osborne (chair)

Maria Lopez (Trustee)

**Name of trustees holding title to property belonging to the charity:**

None

**Funds held as custodian trustees on behalf of others:**

None of any kind

**Names and addresses of advisers:**

**Independent Examiner**

Karen Wood ACMA

Outsource Accountancy Services & Independent Examination 2 Galligap Lane, York, YO10 3NR

**Banker:**

CAF BANK Ltd, 25 Kings Hill Avenue, Kings Hill, West Malling, Kent. ME19 4JQ

**Name of chief executive:**

Nick Osborne (Chair of Trustees)

## **Structure, governance and management**

### **Type of governing document:**

Trust Deed

### **How the charity is constituted:**

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### **Trustee selection methods:**

Appointed by existing trustees

## **Objectives and Activities**

### **Summary of the purposes of the charity set out in its governing document**

The relief of poverty and suffering related to the lack of basic needs for people of any age or cultural background in poor countries with the aim of bettering their present situation and improving their chances of future self-reliability.

To advance the education of the public in poor countries in the subjects of: health; and the conservation of the natural and physical environment.

### **Summary of the main activities in relation to those purposes for the public benefit, in particular, the activities, projects or services identified in the accounts.**

Helping people out of poverty in Ethiopia by:

- Providing medical help.
- Providing free pre-school education in poor rural villages.
- Tackling malnourishment.
- Helping the vulnerable and the elderly.

The trustees consider that they have complied with their duties to have due regard to the public benefit guidance published by the Charity Commission.

## **Achievement and performance**

### **Introduction**

Ethiopia is struggling with several internal crises: fighting between ethnic groups, widespread food insecurity, medicine shortages in the hospitals, government workers not being paid, large cost of living increases and so on. For these reasons there is a lot of stress and anxiety in the country. This is heart-breaking to see and makes the work we are supporting all the more important.

Although the whole country is affected by these issues, the Sidamo region remains relatively peaceful, and we have been able to continue all our projects.

The last year has been Open Way's most impactful year to date. The team in Ethiopia were even given awards from local government departments who have appreciated the difference Open Way has made in the region – so very nice to get that recognition.

### **Education project**



#### **The new school at Tula Hiricha**

It has been another successful year at the Open Way schools and nearly 2000 young learners have had a valuable year getting started in education.

This year, 36 teachers and eight librarians were employed at our ten schools. We were happy to be able to raise the salaries significantly this year, since the cost of living is increasing so fast, and this was greatly appreciated. The libraries double as community centres in the evenings, equipped with satellite dish and solar powered TV, so that people can catch-up on the news and have a place to meet each other.

**The school roll for 2023-2024.**

School	Classes in 2023-2024	Total Number	Schools library
Shigesho	8	418	✓
T-K	5	244	✓
L. Wemerera	4	169	✓
Lela Honcho	3	132	✓
Hatabo	3	150	✓
Kokosa	3	152	✓
Mi-ke	2	106	✓
Bentibata	2	120	✓
Babe Colmocha	3	154	
Tula Hiricha	3	146	
	<b>36</b>	<b>1,910 *</b>	<b>8</b>

*\* 980 girls / 930 boys*

The schools have now broken up for the summer - time for repairs and repainting after a year of wet and windy highland weather.

The last academic year started with the opening of two new schools constructed last summer; three newly constructed libraries at schools which didn't yet have one; and three classrooms added at existing schools.



**The new Babe school under construction (left) and the opening ceremony (right).**

A large proportion of students passing through Open Way schools go on to further education although it is difficult to get accurate numbers.

We were very happy to learn that 15 Open Way teachers have been given the chance to train on the government teacher training programme. This takes place at weekends over three or four years and is a great opportunity for them.



**The new library at Mi-ke school.**

## **Tackling food insecurity**

### **Grain**

The cost of a basic staple flour in Ethiopia at about 60p per kilo is not far off its cost in the UK or other European countries and is completely beyond the purchasing power of almost all rural subsistence farmers in Ethiopia. In the Sidamo region where we are operating, families typically subsist by growing what they can in their own plots and supplementing this with a few other essentials when some family members can earn money in the coffee picking season.



### **Grain distribution outside the mill**

Malnutrition is, unfortunately, very common in this situation of deep poverty that people face. Over the last 12 months, we have distributed over 50 tonnes of grain. Beneficiaries are vulnerable families identified by our teachers and coordinators, local village councils, and health workers.

## Seedlings

False banana seedlings have proved an efficient way to help people improve their food security situation. This is because they are a traditional staple, drought resistant, energy rich and nutritious, versatile and have a long storage life.

500 families received false banana seedlings during April and May 2024.

The distribution took place in two locations, TK and Tula. Distributing in Tula allowed us to reach more remote communities this time.



## Tula distribution



### **TK distribution**

We have now been distributing false banana seedlings for some years. It has been great to revisit some of the original recipients and see how they are doing. Many families have already benefited from harvests from their trees and have propagated new trees.



**Great to behold these fully grown false banana trees given to the family of a visually impaired lady five years ago!**

## Business Training

Last year, we started a new project aiming to improve food security in a more long-term way by providing a practical business training course.

The training, led by Mulu, took place over four days in September. 482 villagers benefited from the training and either attended in the mornings or the afternoon to make it feasible for them to attend and continue their daily responsibilities.

The training was so successful and popular that Mulu repeated it in December for 376 more people.

The training showed people how to use the resources at their disposal to improve their situation by running a small-scale business. Many people were very encouraged and inspired.

The Open Way farm manager Hailu taught people how to rear chickens successfully and attendees were given two chicks which they could keep or sell on to develop their own business.



**Chick distribution after the business training**

## Providing Housing

This project provides a simple house for people who are vulnerable in unsafe accommodation. Many people just cannot afford to rebuild or repair their houses due to old age, ill health and crippling poverty. There is no help available for people in such situations and it is common to hear of people forced to sell their plot to take a relative to hospital for example. After several years of this project, there are now well over 100 Open Way houses dotted around the countryside in Sidamo, each providing safe shelter for several people.

Over the last twelve months, Open Way has built 21 new houses for vulnerable people.

The new houses are 4m x 5m and are metal-roofed. They all eventually receive mud-rendering inside and out, but this is seasonal work, and families very often move in before this is complete.

Here are a couple of examples from this year's cases.



**Konjit and her children moved into their new house and no longer have to fear hyena attack at night.**



**Gatuso's family before and after receiving a bigger, safer and weatherproof house.**

## Medical Assistance

Assistance is organised for patients at several medical centres including TK Health Centre, Dilla Hospital, Yirgalem Hospital, Hawassa Hospital and occasionally Addis Ababa.

During the last 12-month period, 212 patients have been treated for various conditions. Of these patients, 111 were male, 101 were female, and 36 were children. Note some patients are treated for multiple issues.

Condition	No. Cases
Anaemia	3
Asthma	4
Benign moles on back	1
Body Swelling	3
Breast	4
Car accident	1
Cataracts	22
Cellulitis	1
Cervicitis	2
Diabetes	2
Ear, nose, throat	1
Epilepsy	6
Esophagus	2
Eye cancer	1
Eye issue	2
Fistula	2
Gastritis	12
Genital issue	3
Glaucoma	10
Goitre	1
Gynecomastia	1
HBP	4
Haemorrhoids	1
Heart issues	23

Condition	No. Cases
Kidney	8
Leg amputation	1
Leg injuries	8
Leukaemia	1
Liver issues	2
Lung issues	2
Malaria	1
Myoma	2
Pneumonia	13
Prostate	3
Psychiatric Disorder	3
Rheumatism	1
Scabies	2
Skin disease	6
Stomach issues	2
TB	2
Tumour	2
Typhoid	45
Typhus	31
UTI	3
Unknown	2
Womb	7
Worms	13
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>272</b>

## **Assisting students into further education**

This small project enables successful students to progress to further education when needing to cover costs such as rent, food, stationery, and clothing would have made it impossible for them to do so.

We have supported four university students and four high school students.

## **Helping the elderly**

For many years, Open Way has been supporting 16 elderly people with clothes, food support and a small pension. This is a hugely important help for vulnerable people who have no help coming from family members or the state and allows them to live their last years peacefully and with dignity.

## **Financial Review**

Open Way's reserves are reduced due to priority spending.

Our end of year balance is £58,490.10. This is almost all earmarked for upcoming projects from 1<sup>st</sup> Aug 2024.

Our aim is to hold reserves of around 4 to 6 months.


Open Way has no funds in deficit.

## **Declaration**

The trustees declare that they have approved the Trustees Annual Report and Accounts.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees:

Signature



Nick Osborne  
Chair of The Trustees

Date:

7th Feb 2025

**Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Open Way**

I report on the accounts of: **Open Way**  
for the year ended: **31st July 2024** which are set out on pages 13 to 16.

**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 Charity's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all 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 giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

- 1 accounting records were not kept in respect of the Trust as required by section 130 of the Act; or
- 2 the accounts do not accord with those records

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



**Karen Wood (ACMA)**

Outsource independent examination  
service  
2 Galligap Lane  
Osbalwick  
York YO10 3NR

17/02/2025

**Date:**

## Open Way

(Charity Number: 1122055)

<b>Receipts &amp; Payments Accounts for the year ended:</b>	<b>31st July 2024</b>
---	-----------------------

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2024 Total funds £	2023 Total funds £
<b>Receipts</b>				
Grants	-	124,270	124,270	147,308
Donations - standing orders	7,095	346	7,441	7,726
Donations - one-off	611	-	611	5,420
My Donate / Wonderful	-	60	60	80
Gift aid	964	-	964	3,163
Bank interest	58	-	58	39
<b>Total receipts</b>	<b>8,728</b>	<b>124,676</b>	<b>133,404</b>	<b>163,736</b>
<b>Payments</b>				
Grants to project	6,892	122,108	129,000	120,500
Travel expenses	41	-	41	-
Bank charges & trf fees	310	-	310	361
Independent examination fee	150	-	150	150
<b>Total payments</b>	<b>7,393</b>	<b>122,108</b>	<b>129,501</b>	<b>121,011</b>
<b>Net of receipts/(payments)</b>	<b>1,335</b>	<b>2,568</b>	<b>3,903</b>	<b>42,725</b>
<b>Transfers between funds</b>	-	-	-	-
<b>Balance brought forward</b>	<b>87</b>	<b>54,500</b>	<b>54,587</b>	<b>11,862</b>
<b>Balance carried forward</b>	<b>1,422</b>	<b>57,068</b>	<b>58,490</b>	<b>54,587</b>

**Open Way**  
(Charity Number: 1122055)

<b>Statement of Assets and Liabilities at:</b>		<b>31st July 2024</b>			
	<b>Unrestricted</b>	<b>Restricted</b>	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>	
	<b>funds</b>	<b>funds</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Total</b>	
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>funds</b>	<b>funds</b>	
			<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	
<b>Assets</b>					
<b>Cash at bank and in hand</b>					
CAF current account	1,422	57,068	58,490	54,587	
	<u><b>1,422</b></u>	<u><b>57,068</b></u>	<u><b>58,490</b></u>	<u><b>54,587</b></u>	
	<b>Unrestricted</b>	<b>Restricted</b>	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>	
	<b>Funds</b>	<b>Funds</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Total</b>	
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>Funds</b>	<b>Funds</b>	
			<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	
<b>Liabilities</b>					
Independent Examination fee	150	-	150	150	
	<u><b>150</b></u>	<u><b>-</b></u>	<u><b>150</b></u>	<u><b>150</b></u>	

**Open Way**  
(Charity Number: 1122055)

**Notes to the Accounts for the year ended:**

**31st July 2024**

**1. Basis of Accounts**

The Trustees have taken advantage of section 144 (2) of the Charities Act 2011 and prepared the accounts on a receipts and payments basis.

**2. Analysis of Funds**

**2.1 Details of restricted funds**

All funds of the charity are utilised in the alleviation of poverty in Ethiopia. However the charity obtains grants and donations which are restricted for the following purposes:

Education

Elderly & vulnerable (Malnutrition, Housing and Farm projects)

Help to individuals

Medical

**2.2 Movement of major funds**

	Balance b/fwd £	Incoming resources £	Trf		Balance c/fwd £
			Resources expended £	between funds £	
<b>Unrestricted Funds</b>					
General unrestricted funds	87	8,728	7,393		1,422
	<u>87</u>	<u>8,728</u>	<u>7,393</u>	-	<u>1,422</u>
<b>Restricted Funds</b>					
<b>Education</b>					
Band Aid Trust	17,925	40,905	42,800	6,950	22,980
Just Trust	-	1,000	1,000	-	-
Hazel's Footprints Trust	-	4,050	4,050	-	-
	<u>17,925</u>	<u>45,955</u>	<u>47,850</u>	<u>6,950</u>	<u>22,980</u>
<b>Elderly &amp; Vulnerable</b>					
Band Aid Trust (Malnourishment)	27,400	56,640	38,600	(16,200)	29,240
Donations (Elderly)	-	60	60	-	-
Band Aid Trust (Housing)	8,300	19,633	24,252	-	3,681
	<u>35,700</u>	<u>76,333</u>	<u>62,912</u>	<u>(16,200)</u>	<u>32,921</u>
<b>Help to individuals</b>					
Donations	-	346	346	-	-
<b>Medical</b>					
Band Aid	875	2,042	11,000	9,250	1,167
<b>Total Restricted</b>	<u>54,500</u>	<u>124,676</u>	<u>122,108</u>	-	<u>57,068</u>
<b>Total Funds</b>	<u>54,587</u>	<u>133,404</u>	<u>129,501</u>	-	<u>58,490</u>

The transfer of funds is money that was originally budgeted for grain that has been reallocated to Education and Medical as it was needed more in these areas. This was agreed in writing by the funder, Band Aid.

**Approval of Accounts for the year ended:**

**31st July 2024**

The report and accounts were approved at a meeting of the Trustees held on:

16th Feb 2025

**Date**



16th Feb 2025

**Date**

**Signed for and on behalf of the Trustees**

Nick Osborne

**Print Name**

Chair

**Position (e.g. Chair etc)**

**OPEN WAY**

England & Wales - Charity number 1122055

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# Accounts

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# **Open Way**

Helping people out of poverty

(Charity Number: 1122055)

## **Trustees Annual Report & Financial Statements for the year ended**

**31st July 2023**

# **outsourc**e

Charity accounts preparation &  
independent examination service

# **Open Way**

(Charity Number: 1122055)

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## Open Way

(Charity Number 1122055)

### Trustee's Annual Report

For the period: 1st August 2022 to 31st July 2023

#### Reference and Administration details

**Charity's Full Name:** Open Way

**Other names the charity is known by:** n/a

**Charity number:** 1122055

**Address:** 26 Spring Road, Abingdon, Oxfordshire. OX14 1AQ

**Email:** openway@hotmail.co.uk

#### Names of the Trustees who manage the charity

Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not whole year	Name of person entitled to appoint trustee
Nicholas Osborne	Chair		
Maria Lopez	Trustee		

**Name of trustees holding title to property belonging to the charity:**  
None

**Funds held as custodian trustees on behalf of others:**  
None of any kind

#### Names and addresses of advisers:

Independent Examiner:	Karen Wood ACMA	Outsource VSCE Support CIC, 29 Millfield Road, York. YO23 1NH
Banker:	CAF BANK Ltd	25 Kings Hill Avenue, Kings Hill, West Malling, Kent. ME19 4JQ

**Name of chief executive:**  
Nick Osborne (Chair of Trustees)



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## **Trustee's Annual Report**

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### **Structure, governance and management**

#### **Description of the charity's trusts**

<b>Governing Document</b>	Trust Deed
<b>How the charity is constituted</b>	Trust
<b>Trustee selection methods</b>	Appointed by existing trustees

### **Objectives and Activities**

The charity has power to do anything which is calculated to further its Object(s) or is conducive or incidental to doing so.

#### **Summary of the purposes of the charity set out in its governing document**

The relief of poverty and suffering related to the lack of basic needs for people of any age or cultural background in poor countries with the aim of bettering their present situation and improving their chances of future self-reliability.

To advance the education of the public in poor countries in the subjects of: health; and the conservation of the natural and physical environment.

#### **Summary of the main activities undertaken for the public benefit in relation to these objects**

Helping people out of poverty in Ethiopia by:

- Providing medical help.
- Providing free pre-school education in poor rural villages.
- Tackling malnourishment.
- Helping the vulnerable and the elderly.

The trustees consider that they have complied with their duties to have due regard to the public benefit guidance published by the Charity Commission.



## Trustee's Annual Report

### Achievements and Performance

#### Introduction

We are happy to have completed another year of activities despite a difficult general situation in Ethiopia.

There are many ethnic tensions in the country, and these have led to chaotic circumstances in several regions. Earlier this year, ethnic violence even reached Addis Ababa (where large numbers of people had their houses demolished due to ethnic conflict); and into the church where a split along ethnic lines resulted in numerous killings.

Travel between Addis Ababa and Sidamo also remains dangerous. In June, guerilla fighters kidnapped over 70 bus-drivers and co-drivers.

Fortunately, the situation in Sidamo itself is peaceful and the main battles are with hunger and inflation as usual. Open Way has delivered food in the form of grain and seedlings, shelter in the form of housing, health care by organizing medical assistance and education through its schools; and this has helped thousands of people to be a bit less in the grip of poverty right now and for the future.

#### Education Project

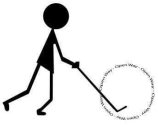
In October 2022, Open Way schools registered 1,348 students. We always aim to equally encourage girls into education and once again we have more girls 677 than boys 671 registered this year.

It was really good to see such high demand after the difficulty of the Covid period when numbers were forced down. In fact, there was more demand than we could accommodate. In the village of Shigesho, the community were so keen to give a place to all the children, that they got together and found two rooms that could be rented as classrooms, so we could hardly refuse to provide two more teachers! The community of Shigasho also paid for the desks for these two classrooms, so this is a great collaboration. With an additional class in Lela Wemerera too, we had three additional classes this year and employed three more teachers.

The libraries at five of the schools are used for students to study, read, and play games. In Shigesho, Lela Wemerera and Lela Honcho, these are used as community centres in the evening for people to gather and watch the news on solar powered tv.

In total the eight Open Way schools operated 30 classes and five libraries.

School	Classes in operation 2021-2022	Classes in operation 2022-2023	Schools with libraries
TK	5	5	✓
Shigesho	6	8	✓
L. Wemerera	3	4	✓
Lela Honcho	3	3	✓
Hatabo	3	3	✓
Kokosa	3	3	
Mi-ke	2	2	
Bentibata	2	2	
	<b>27</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>5</b>



## Trustee's Annual Report

During the summer, a survey was conducted of necessary repairs needed for the schools and libraries. Lela Wemerera's library needed some construction repairs and all the other schools needed minor repairs and painting. All blackboards at the schools were repainted ready for the beginning of the new school year.



**TK school after painting.**



**Hatabo school being painted.**

The school year was a very successful one with almost all of an initial roll of 1,348 students receiving a year of education. The children at Open Way schools learn Mathematics, Amharic, English, Environmental Science and Health Education and the schools are well known for giving a really good start in education.



**Exercise books being handed out.**

With rising prices of materials such as exercise books and pens (inflation is well over 30% for such items) budgets have become stretched. The teachers and other staff are also feeling the pressure of the ever-increasing cost of living. For these reasons, class running costs are increasing next year and we will be happy to be able to raise teachers', librarians', and other staff salaries.

The three schools without libraries have petitioned for one and they will soon also have this benefit next coming academic year.

For once, our existing teachers will remain mainly unchanged from this year to next year, following an announcement by the Ministry of Education that there are no new teaching jobs available this coming year. Normally, we have a few teachers move on to government schools following their experience with us and training.

After teachers flagged up the fact that some children had clothes that were literally falling to pieces, we found it important to purchase clothes for these children. The teachers helped select 80 students in need of clothes.



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## **Trustee's Annual Report**

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### **Tackling Food Insecurity**

#### **Grain**

Food insecurity is the main issue this year. As mentioned in the introduction, inflation has been tough on poor rural people. The price of vegetable oil for cooking went up more than five times during a 12-month period; and crucially for our work, the price of grain went up by nearly a third.

To put the situation in some kind of perspective, the grain we supply costs about 60p per kg and the ration a family receives from us (10 kg or 15 kg) is pretty much the only food the family has other than any vegetables they may grow on their plot like, for example, cabbage. Naturally, things are a bit better at harvest times and in the coffee picking season when people can earn a little money, but families don't even imagine having items that we might consider "basics" like milk or sugar. Malnourishment is, therefore, unfortunately very widespread. Many of the families we supply come to our knowledge because medical staff recognize malnourishment and point them our way and write out a "prescription" for our area manager.

Many people that are helped with grain have no plot or a plot which is too small to allow them to grow enough food. Grain, therefore, is a crucial survival food for such families.

Sirgu, our manager, negotiated a good price for grain at the mill which has helped. The assisted people are given a voucher, and they collect the grain directly from the mill themselves.

Over the last 12 months, we have distributed over 57 tonnes of grain.

From this coming August, we will be trying a new project to see if we can kick-start people's small businesses and give at least some a way out of their situation.

#### **Seedlings**

In May and June false banana seedlings were distributed to 484 families.



**Some recipients of false banana seedlings.**



**Some young plants.**



## Open Way

(Charity Number 1122055)

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### Trustee's Annual Report

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This year we gave false banana crops exclusively. While false banana crops require time to mature, they are beneficial for a number of reasons:

- They can be planted at any time, and they can be propagated from cuttings.
- They are drought resistant (their growth pauses during drought).
- The flesh is used to make a fermented staple called kocho that is nutritious and calorie rich.
- The root can be used as animal feed or even emergency human food boiled like a potato.
- The leaves of false banana plants can be used for animal feed or other uses. The fibers of the plant are used to make rope and leaves are used for traditional roofs.

The plant reaches maturity after three to five years after which it produces a harvest of around 40 kg of staple food. If a family can stagger the growth of their false banana plants by taking cuttings, then they will eventually have a reliable and nutritious food supply. 40 to 60 plants in an area of 300 square meters (which is a fairly typical plot size) can sustain a family of 5 or 6 people.



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## **Trustee's Annual Report**

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### **Providing Housing**

This year we have constructed 22 houses for people living in unsafe dwellings.



**A house under construction.**

Most rural people live in traditional mud round houses with grass roofs. These grass roof houses are great if they are well made and can be maintained, but vulnerable people such as the elderly, disabled, unwell or single parents can find themselves in a poorly constructed, deteriorated and unsafe dwelling which lets in the rain, and does not offer protection from hyenas. Tragically there are cases each year of people being killed by hyenas in the region.

People in this kind of difficulty are selected for house construction. The house constructed is a simple square timber and mud house with a metal roof. Like everything else, the price of metal roofing has increased a lot. Our manager Sirgu did well to purchase a large amount of metal roofing material early-on to make this project viable with the available funds.

Seventeen of the houses were built in different villages and this year five houses were built in the town of TK. People in the town tend not to have land, but the TK district authority gave Open Way a plot to build five houses for vulnerable and homeless people in the town.



**Houses before mud rendering.**



**Houses after mud rendering.**



## Trustee's Annual Report

### Helping the Elderly

For many years, Open Way has been helping about 16 elderly rural people in the project area who have no other support from anyone else. This includes clothing, soap, and blankets when needed and a little bit of money. They also receive monthly grain.

This makes a big difference, allowing them to live their final years with dignity.

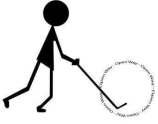
### Providing access to medical help

In the period August 22 to July 23, 202 patients received medical help thanks to Open Way paying for: cost of transport to clinics and hospitals; registration fees; medicines and tests, and food and accommodation when needed. These are people that otherwise would not have the means to get medical help. The treatments can vary from very simple to very serious cases which may even be referred to Addis Ababa hospitals on occasion. This coming year (August 23 - July 24) we hope to help a similar number.

A total of 202 patients were treated for the conditions in the table. Of these, 112 were female, 90 were male, and 29 were children.

Condition	No. of cases	Condition	No. of cases
Anaemia	6	Kidney issues	18
Asthma	7	Liver issues	3
Brain tumour	1	Lung issues	10
Breast issue	2	Malaria	2
Cancer	2	Mental health	1
Cataracts	52	Nerve issues	1
Depression	1	Pneumonia	5
Diabetes	2	Prostate	7
Diarrhea	1	Skin	4
Epilepsy	2	Stomach issues	1
Eye issues	3	Swelling	5
Fistula	1	TB	8
Gastritis	7	Typhoid/typhus	44
Giardia	1	Unknown	2
Glaucoma	17	Womb	6
Heart issues	3	Worms	11
HBP	2	Wounds	5
Hyena wound	1	<b>Total</b>	<b>244*</b>

\* The total number of medical cases is larger than the number of patients because some patients had more than one medical problem.



## Open Way

(Charity Number 1122055)

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### Trustee's Annual Report

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#### Financial Review

Open Way's reserves are reduced due to emergency spending.

Our end of year balance is £54,587.01. This is almost all earmarked for upcoming projects from 1st Aug 2023.

Our aim is to hold reserves of around 4 to 6 months.

Open Way has no funds in deficit.

#### Declaration

**The trustees declare that they have approved the Trustees Annual Report and Accounts.**

**Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees:**

**Signature:**

*Nick Osborne*

**Name:**

Nick Osbourne

**Position:**

Chair of The Trustees

**Date:**

10th February 2024

## Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Open Way

I report on the accounts of: **Open Way**  
for the year ended: **31st July 2023** which are set out on pages **11 to 14**.

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

### Independent examiner's statement

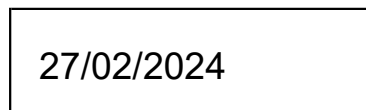
I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

- 1 accounting records were not kept in respect of the Trust as required by section 130 of the Act; or
- 2 the accounts do not accord with those records

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



**Karen Wood (ACMA)**  
Outsource independent examination  
service  
The Hiscox Building  
Peasholme Green  
York YO1 7PR



**Date:**

## Open Way

(Charity Number: 1122055)

<b>Receipts &amp; Payments Accounts for the year ended:</b>	<b>31st July 2023</b>
---	-----------------------

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2023 Total funds £	2022 Total funds £
<b>Receipts</b>				
Grants	-	147,308	147,308	40,660
Donations - standing orders	7,530	196	7,726	8,021
Donations - one-off	5,420	-	5,420	3,715
My Donate / Wonderful	80	-	80	644
Gift aid	3,163	-	3,163	-
Bank interest	39	-	39	1
<b>Total receipts</b>	<b>16,232</b>	<b>147,504</b>	<b>163,736</b>	<b>53,041</b>
<b>Payments</b>				
Grants to project	27,496	93,004	120,500	50,000
Postage & packaging	-	-	-	-
Bank charges & trf fees	361	-	361	221
Independent examination fee	150	-	150	150
<b>Total payments</b>	<b>28,007</b>	<b>93,004</b>	<b>121,011</b>	<b>50,371</b>
<b>Net of receipts/(payments)</b>	<b>(11,775)</b>	<b>54,500</b>	<b>42,725</b>	<b>2,670</b>
<b>Transfers between funds</b>	-	-	-	-
<b>Balance brought forward</b>	<b>11,862</b>	-	<b>11,862</b>	<b>9,192</b>
<b>Balance carried forward</b>	<b>87</b>	<b>54,500</b>	<b>54,587</b>	<b>11,862</b>

**Open Way**  
(Charity Number: 1122055)

<b>Statement of Assets and Liabilities at:</b>		<b>31st July 2023</b>			
	<b>Unrestricted funds</b>	<b>Restricted funds</b>	<b>2023 Total funds</b>	<b>2022 Total funds</b>	
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	
<b>Assets</b>					
<b>Cash at bank and in hand</b>					
CAF current account	54,587	-	54,587	11,862	
	<b>54,587</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>54,587</b>	<b>11,862</b>	
	<b>Unrestricted Funds</b>	<b>Restricted Funds</b>	<b>2023 Total Funds</b>	<b>2022 Total Funds</b>	
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	
<b>Liabilities</b>					
Independent Examination fee	150	-	150	150	
	<b>150</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>150</b>	<b>150</b>	

**Open Way**  
(Charity Number: 1122055)

**Notes to the Accounts for the year ended:**

**31st July 2023**

**1. Basis of Accounts**

The Trustees have taken advantage of section 144 (2) of the Charities Act 2011 and prepared the accounts on a receipts and payments basis.

**2. Analysis of Funds**

**2.1 Details of restricted funds**

All funds of the charity are utilised in the alleviation of poverty in Ethiopia. However the charity obtains grants and donations which are restricted for the following purposes:

Education

Elderly & vulnerable (Malnutrition, Housing and Farm projects)

Help to individuals

Medical

**2.2 Movement of major funds**

	Balance b/fwd £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Balance c/fwd £
<b>Unrestricted Funds</b>				
General unrestricted funds	11,862	16,232	28,007	87
	<u>11,862</u>	<u>16,232</u>	<u>28,007</u>	<u>87</u>
<b>Restricted Funds</b>				
<b>Education</b>				
Band Aid Trust	-	24,675	6,750	17,925
Just Trust	-	1,000	1,000	-
Hazel's Footprints Trust	-	4,050	4,050	-
	-	<u>29,725</u>	<u>11,800</u>	<u>17,925</u>
<b>Elderly &amp; Vulnerable</b>				
Band Aid Trust (Malnourishment)	-	64,720	37,320	27,400
Let Yourself Trust (Malnourishment)	-	2,277	2,277	-
Let Yourself Trust (Farm project)	-	27,223	27,223	-
Donations (Malnourishment)	-	153	153	-
Donations (Elderly)	-	535	535	-
Band Aid Trust (Housing)	-	21,300	13,000	8,300
Let Yourself Trust (Housing)	-	500	500	-
	-	<u>116,708</u>	<u>81,008</u>	<u>35,700</u>
<b>Help to individuals</b>				
Donations	-	196	196	-
<b>Medical</b>				
Band Aid	-	875	-	875
Total Restricted	<u>-</u>	<u>147,504</u>	<u>93,004</u>	<u>54,500</u>
<b>Total Funds</b>	<u>11,862</u>	<u>163,736</u>	<u>121,011</u>	<u>54,587</u>

**Approval of Accounts for the year ended:**

**31st July 2023**

The report and accounts were approved at a meeting of the Trustees held on:

27th Feb 2024

**Date**



27th Feb 2024

**Signed for and on behalf of the Trustees**

**Date**

Nick Osborne

Chair

**Print Name**

**Position (e.g. Chair etc)**

**OPEN WAY**

England & Wales - Charity number 1122055

---

# Accounts

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# **Open Way**

Helping people out of poverty

(Charity Number: 1122055)

## **Trustees Annual Report & Financial Statements for the year ended**

**31st July 2022**

# **outsourc**e

Charity accounts preparation &  
independent examination service

# **Open Way**

(Charity Number: 1122055)

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# Open Way

helping people out of poverty

Registered charity 1122055

## **Trustee's Annual Report for the period: 1<sup>st</sup> August 2021 to 31<sup>st</sup> July 2022**

### **Reference and Administration details**

**Name:**

Open Way

**Other names charity is known by:**

None

**Address:**

26 Spring Road, Abingdon, Oxfordshire. OX14 1AQ  
openway@hotmail.co.uk

**Charity Number:**

1122055

**Names of the trustees who manage the charity:**

Nicholas Osborne (chair)

Maria Lopez (Trustee)

**Name of trustees holding title to property belonging to the charity:**

None

**Funds held as custodian trustees on behalf of others:**

None of any kind

**Names and addresses of advisers:**

**Independent Examiner**

Karen Wood ACMA

Outsource VSCE Support CIC, 29 Millfield Road, York. YO23 1NH

**Banker:**

CAF BANK Ltd, 25 Kings Hill Avenue, Kings Hill, West Malling, Kent. ME19 4JQ

**Name of chief executive:**

Nick Osborne (Chair of Trustees)

## **Structure, governance and management**

### **Type of governing document:**

Trust Deed

### **How the charity is constituted:**

Trust

### **Trustee selection methods:**

Appointed by existing trustees

## **Objectives and Activities**

### **Summary of the purposes of the charity set out in its governing document**

The relief of poverty and suffering related to the lack of basic needs for people of any age or cultural background in poor countries with the aim of bettering their present situation and improving their chances of future self-reliability.

To advance the education of the public in poor countries in the subjects of: health; and the conservation of the natural and physical environment.

### **Summary of the main activities in relation to those purposes for the public benefit, in particular, the activities, projects or services identified in the accounts.**

Helping people out of poverty in Ethiopia by:

- Providing medical help.
- Providing free pre-school education in poor rural villages.
- Tackling malnourishment.
- Helping the vulnerable and the elderly.

The trustees consider that they have complied with their duties to have due regard to the public benefit guidance published by the Charity Commission.

## **Achievement and performance**



### **Introduction**

The situation in Ethiopia has continued to be a very difficult one. The war in the Tigray region has taken a terrible toll on the country and it is estimated by the United Nations that about half a million lives have been lost because of the conflict and consequent starvation and lack of health care. There is some hope in that a peace agreement has recently been signed (in November 2022) on the second anniversary of the war, and at least some essential aid is getting to Tigray and other affected areas.

There are other conflicts occurring around the country. Travelling has now become dangerous between Addis Ababa and our project area because the road passes through Oromia where there are ethnic disputes. Last month, the day after Mulu had made the journey, a bus was stopped on the same road and some of the passengers were killed due to ethnicity or affiliation.

The war and other global events have obviously impacted Ethiopia's economy hugely. Inflation has been above 30% and often close to 40% throughout 2022, and so the cost of basic commodities has created great food insecurity all over Ethiopia. Open Way has responded by providing as much funding as possible for emergency food.

Against this background, Open Way has kept all projects going safely and successfully thanks to the hard work and careful planning of its dedicated team in Ethiopia.

## Education project

### Schools and Libraries

In October 2021, Open Way schools registered 1,142 students.

This increase in pupils is great to see after the difficulty of the Covid period where numbers were forced down to about 850 students. We always aim to equally encourage girls into education and once again we have more girls than boys registered.

Five of the schools have libraries which are used for students to study, read, and play games. In Shigesho, Lela Wemerera and Lela Honcho, these are used as community centres in the evening for people to gather and watch the news on solar powered tv.

<b>School</b>	<b>Classes in operation 2021-2022</b>	<b>Schools with libraries</b>
<b>TK</b>	5	✓
<b>Shigesho</b>	6	✓
<b>L. Wemerera</b>	3	✓
<b>Lela Honcho</b>	3	✓
<b>Hatabo</b>	3	✓
<b>Kokosa</b>	3	
<b>Mi-ke</b>	2	
<b>Bentibata</b>	2	
	<b>27</b>	<b>5</b>

## Tackling food insecurity

### Grain

Food insecurity has been the main issue this year. As mentioned in the introduction, inflation has been really tough on everybody, especially poor rural people. The price of vegetable oil for cooking went up more than five times during a 12-month period; and crucially for our work, the price of grain went up by nearly a third.

Many people have become desperate, so we decided to give as much grain as was possible with the funds available to us.

For the year starting August 2021:

- 160 extremely vulnerable families have been helped with 15 kg of grain every month for ten months; and
- 500 one-off such rations were allocated on a case-by-case basis. Often malnourished families are referred to us by local health-centres.

This help is a lifeline to the people that it reaches, but this year there are many desperate people that we were unable to assist. We are raising extra funds for this reason.



**People waiting to collect a grain voucher from our HQ to take to the mill**

## **Seedlings**

Every year people are selected from the poorest in the communities for seedling distribution. These are impoverished households that have a small plot to grow food. Either cassava (yam) or false banana seedlings are given according to the size and the situation/altitude of the plot. The selected people are told in advance of receiving the seedlings so that they can prepare their plots in time.

This year, 400 households were given seedlings to plant in their plots - the same number as last year. Of those, 118 households received cassava, and 282 false banana seedlings.

Seedlings are a longer-term solution to target food insecurity. The yams will give a harvest during the same year and some of the crop can be saved and re-planted year on year; banana seedlings will not give food for some years until the plants get mature but then it is a reliable, drought-resistant source of staple food for several years to come.

Each year one of our coordinators visits some of these households to learn from their situation and to see if the project is working well. About 70% of the yam recipients managed to replant some of their harvest and the false banana crops are being looked after and are maturing well.



**False banana seedling distribution 2022**



**One of the beneficiary's maturing false banana plants 2022**



**Yam seedlings are distributed a few at a time as they come to the market**

## **Providing Housing**

Most rural people live in traditional round mud houses with grass roofs. These dwellings are great if they are well made and can be maintained, but vulnerable people such as the elderly, disabled, unwell or single parents can find themselves in a poorly constructed, deteriorated and unsafe dwelling which lets in the rain, and does not offer protection from hyenas. Tragically there are cases each year of people being killed by hyenas in the region.



**Unsuitable and unsafe dwelling 2022**

People in this kind of difficulty are selected for a house construction. The house constructed is a simple square timber and mud house with a metal roof. Like everything else, the price of the metal has increased a lot. Our manager Sirgu did well to purchase a large amount early-on to make this project viable with available funds.

This year 20 houses for vulnerable people have been built in different communities.



**A new house ready for rendering 2022**

## **Open Way Village**

Mulu reported that the number of homeless people in Teferi-Kela, the largest village where we operate from in the countryside, has increased. Homelessness is common in Addis Ababa but is unusual in rural areas and seems to be a result of people moving to find daily labour but not being able to afford rent; and, in some cases, due to displacement due to the war – even as far away as our project work is from Tigray. In fact, the idea of the project came about because of the situation of a Sidamo lady who was living in Tigray but lost her husband in the war. Because of her ethnicity, she and her children were ejected from Tigray. She had been attacked in an attempted rape when sleeping rough in Teferi-Kela and had her leg broken while trying to defend herself. Mulu saw the need to do something about this. After talking to the local authorities, they agreed to give us a plot to build some houses for homeless people.

As a result, two buildings consisting of five rooms, one kitchen, and one toilet have been constructed and homeless people have been selected to live in this accommodation (including the lady from Tigray). All houses have utensils, mattresses, and blankets. The people selected come from a variety of situations and they will be helped for a period while their situation improves so that they can move into their own accommodation.

Mulu went to visit the new residents in the “Open Way Village” as it is locally called. She was very happy to find them boiling potatoes and coffee in the kitchen. She has given them training on how to budget, save money, and open their own bank accounts.

Teferi-Kela is the only village where we work which has electricity. The authorities

contributed to the erecting of an electricity pole to supply the buildings. This has benefited not only these buildings, but other nearby residents who can now obtain electricity to their own houses.



**The new accommodation and some of the residents**

## **Helping the Elderly**

Every year we support 15 elderly people with a small pension and clothes, soap and blankets. This year one of the elderly people supported passed away. Sadly, her daughter had died a few months earlier. Another elderly person has been selected immediately for support with that fund.



**Some of the elderly folk helped by Open Way**

## Medical Assistance

During the period 1<sup>st</sup> Aug 21 to 31<sup>st</sup> July 22, a total of **223** patients were treated for the conditions in the table. Of these, 112 were female, 111 were male, and 31 were children.

<b>Condition</b>	<b>Number of cases</b>
Anaemia	1
Asthma	1
Bladder stones	1
Breast issue	1
Burns	3
Cancer	4
Cataracts	31
Cough	1
Ear, nose, throat	5
Eye issues (other than cataracts)	13
Gall-stones	1
Gastritis/digestive	14
Goitre	1
Giardia	3
High blood pressure	5
Heart issues	5
Intestinal issues	1
Kidney issues	20
Liver issues	1
Lung issues	9
Malaria	5
Mouth	2
Mental health	5
Migraine	1
Nerve issues	2
Plasmodium	1
Pneumonia	10
Prostate	8
Scabies	1
Sexual health (inc. miscarriage)	11
Skin	7
TB	6
Teeth	1
Trachoma	1
Tumours	7
Typhoid / typhus	44
Ulcer	2
Unknown	6
Worms	10
Wounds/breaks	7
<b>Total treatments</b>	<b>258</b>

## **Financial Review**

Open Way's reserves remain relatively small, but healthier than in previous years.

Our end of year balance is £11, 862.22

Our aim is to hold reserves of around 4 to 6 months.

Open Way has no funds in deficit.

## **Declaration**

The trustees declare that they have approved the Trustees Annual Report and Accounts.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees:

Signature

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Nick Osborne".

Nick Osborne  
Chair of The Trustees

Date  
14<sup>th</sup> January 2023

## Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Open Way

I report on the accounts of: **Open Way**  
for the year ended: **31st July 2022** which are set out on pages 13 to 15.

### 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 Charity's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all 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 giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

- 1 accounting records were not kept in respect of the Trust as required by section 130 of the Act; or
- 2 the accounts do not accord with those records

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



**Karen Wood (ACMA)**

Outsource independent examination  
service  
The Hiscox Building  
Peasholme Green  
York YO1 7PR

26/01/2023

**Date:**

## Open Way

(Charity Number: 1122055)

<b>Receipts &amp; Payments Accounts for the year ended:</b>	<b>31st July 2022</b>
---	-----------------------

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2022 Total funds £	2021 Total funds £
<b>Receipts</b>				
Grants	-	40,660	40,660	33,375
Donations - standing orders	7,165	856	8,021	6,360
Donations - one-off	3,715	-	3,715	1,694
My Donate / Wonderful	644	-	644	317
Bank interest	1	-	1	-
<b>Total receipts</b>	<b>11,525</b>	<b>41,516</b>	<b>53,041</b>	<b>41,746</b>
 <b>Payments</b>				
Grants to project	8,484	41,516	50,000	47,000
Postage & packaging	-	-	-	-
Bank charges & trf fees	221	-	221	196
Independent examination fee	150	-	150	150
<b>Total payments</b>	<b>8,855</b>	<b>41,516</b>	<b>50,371</b>	<b>47,346</b>
<b>Net of receipts/(payments)</b>	<b>2,670</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>2,670</b>	<b>(5,600)</b>
<b>Transfers between funds</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Balance brought forward</b>	<b>9,192</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>9,192</b>	<b>14,792</b>
<b>Balance carried forward</b>	<b>11,862</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>11,862</b>	<b>9,192</b>

**Open Way**  
(Charity Number: 1122055)

<b>Statement of Assets and Liabilities at:</b>	<b>31st July 2022</b>			
	<b>Unrestricted</b>	<b>Restricted</b>	<b>2022</b>	<b>2021</b>
	<b>funds</b>	<b>funds</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Total</b>
<b>Assets</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
<b>Cash at bank and in hand</b>				
CAF current account	11,862	-	11,862	9,192
	<b>11,862</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>11,862</b>	<b>9,192</b>
	<b>11,862</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>11,862</b>	<b>9,192</b>
	<b>Unrestricted</b>	<b>Restricted</b>	<b>2022</b>	<b>2021</b>
	<b>Funds</b>	<b>Funds</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Total</b>
<b>Liabilities</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Independent Examination fee	150	-	150	150
	<b>150</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>150</b>	<b>150</b>
	<b>150</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>150</b>	<b>150</b>

**Open Way**  
(Charity Number: 1122055)

**Notes to the Accounts for the year ended:**

**31st July 2022**

**1. Basis of Accounts**

The Trustees have taken advantage of section 144 (2) of the Charities Act 2011 and prepared the accounts on a receipts and payments basis.

**2. Analysis of Funds**

**2.1 Details of restricted funds**

All funds of the charity are utilised in the alleviation of poverty in Ethiopia. However the charity obtains grants and donations which are restricted for the following purposes:

Education  
Elderly & vulnerable  
Help to individuals  
Medical  
Housing

**2.2 Movement of major funds**

	Balance b/fwd £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Balance c/fwd £
<b>Unrestricted Funds</b>				
General unrestricted funds	9,192	11,525	8,855	11,862
	<u>9,192</u>	<u>11,525</u>	<u>8,855</u>	<u>11,862</u>
<b>Restricted Funds</b>				
<b>Education</b>				
Band Aid Trust	-	8,900	8,900	-
Just Trust	-	1,500	1,500	-
	-	<u>10,400</u>	<u>10,400</u>	-
<b>Elderly &amp; Vulnerable</b>				
Band Aid Trust		25,510	25,510	
Ashworth Trust		3,000	3,000	
Donations	-	560	560	-
	-	<u>29,070</u>	<u>29,070</u>	-
<b>Help to individuals</b>				
Donations	-	296	296	-
<b>Medical</b>				
Band Aid	-	1,750	1,750	
<b>Total Restricted</b>	<u>-</u>	<u>41,516</u>	<u>41,516</u>	<u>-</u>
<b>Total Funds</b>	<u>9,192</u>	<u>53,041</u>	<u>50,371</u>	<u>11,862</u>

**Approval of Accounts for the year ended:****31st July 2022**

The report and accounts were approved at a meeting of the Trustees held on:

25th January 2023

**Date**

25th January 2023

**Date****Signed for and on behalf of the Trustees**

Nick Osborne

**Print Name**

Chair of The Trustees

**Position (e.g. Chair etc)**

**OPEN WAY**

England & Wales - Charity number 1122055

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# Accounts

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# **Open Way**

Helping people out of poverty

(Charity Number: 1122055)

## **Trustees Annual Report & Financial Statements for the year ended**

**31st July 2021**

# **outsourcE**

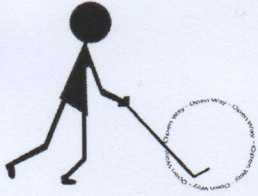
Charity accounts preparation &  
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# **Open Way**

(Charity Number: 1122055)

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# Open Way

helping people out of poverty

Registered charity 1122055

## Trustee's Annual Report for the period: 1<sup>st</sup> August 2020 to 31<sup>st</sup> July 2021

### Reference and Administration details

**Name:**

Open Way

**Other names charity is known by:**

None

**Address:**

26 Spring Road, Abingdon, Oxfordshire. OX14 1AQ  
openway@hotmail.co.uk

**Charity Number:**

1122055

**Names of the trustees who manage the charity:**

Nicholas Osborne (chair)  
Maria Lopez (Trustee)

**Name of trustees holding title to property belonging to the charity:**

None

**Funds held as custodian trustees on behalf of others:**

None of any kind

**Names and addresses of advisers:**

**Independent Examiner**

Karen Wood ACMA  
Outsource VSCE Support CIC, 29 Millfield Road, York. YO23 1NH

**Banker:**

CAF BANK Ltd, 25 Kings Hill Avenue, Kings Hill, West Malling, Kent. ME19 4JQ

**Name of chief executive:**

Nick Osborne (Chair of Trustees)

## **Structure, governance and management**

### **Type of governing document:**

Trust Deed

### **How the charity is constituted:**

Trust

### **Trustee selection methods:**

Appointed by existing trustees

## **Objectives and Activities**

### **Summary of the purposes of the charity set out in its governing document**

The relief of poverty and suffering related to the lack of basic needs for people of any age or cultural background in poor countries with the aim of bettering their present situation and improving their chances of future self-reliability.

To advance the education of the public in poor countries in the subjects of: health; and the conservation of the natural and physical environment.

### **Summary of the main activities in relation to those purposes for the public benefit, in particular, the activities, projects or services identified in the accounts.**

Helping people out of poverty in Ethiopia by:

- Providing medical help.
- Providing free pre-school education in poor rural villages.
- Tackling malnourishment.
- Helping the vulnerable and the elderly.

The trustees consider that they have complied with their duties to have due regard to the public benefit guidance published by the Charity Commission.

## Achievement and performance

### Introduction

It has been a tough time in Ethiopia since our last update to say the least!

Many people have been displaced and are facing extreme food shortage due to the disastrous civil war that began in Tigray in November 2020. More and more soldiers and civilians are being drawn into the conflict and the shadow of the war is now looming fully across Ethiopia. The situation in Addis Ababa has been very tense as rebel armies have expressed their determination to march upon the capital and seize control and people have been living in fear. There are deep ethnic tensions in the country which are not going to be easily resolved and it is difficult to know how the situation will play out. Anyhow, there may be signs of the situation calming down, so let's hope that things start to settle.

In the Sidamo region (about 300 km south of Addis Ababa) where most of our projects are based, the impact of the war is less direct but is being felt economically.

Unfortunately, the summer maize harvest in the area where we are working was lost due to too little rain. Our Ethiopian colleagues tell us that the situation has been more difficult than ever and that for some time people have been coming to our headquarters in Teferi Kela in desperation to plead for food for their families. This is a new situation for us that we haven't seen in past years. The winter coffee harvest which is occurring now is going well so that will help alleviate the situation.

There was a very worrying time in September when Mulu (our Ethiopian director) was struck down by Covid and spent two weeks in hospital in Addis Ababa on oxygen. Thankfully, she has fully recovered. In true Mulu-style, she had not informed us (or even her family!) that she was in hospital so as not to worry anybody. We only found out when we phoned her up to discover her in hospital and over the worst of the illness, so I guess we can only thank her for this secrecy as we would have been very worried had we known earlier.

So, on the note of Mulu's recovery we can turn to positive news and a summary of Open Way's activities over the last year or so. Thanks to Mulu and her colleagues in Ethiopia; and our supporters in the UK (that's you!), Open Way has helped more people with emergency assistance and development work than ever before. As you know, the work of Open Way is very simple and aims to meet the most basic needs: food, sanitation, shelter, medical help, and education. This simple and inexpensive help is life-changing and, sometimes, life-saving, so please read the following and enjoy a warm feeling about what your generosity has enabled.

## **Education project**

### **Schools**

Open Way's eight pre-schools were able to re-open in November 2020. Attendance was less stable than in an ordinary year with uncertainty about the pandemic and the outbreak of war. In the first semester, 747 students registered, and this increased to 847 in the second semester.

We followed the government coronavirus guidelines which permitted one student per desk with half the students taking a morning shift and the other half taking an afternoon shift (small classes for once - albeit not for a great reason!). We were happy that we managed to keep our gender policy of having at least as many girls as boys in our schools since reports have suggested that in poor countries the pandemic has kept more girls out of education than boys.

We are pleased to congratulate two of our teachers: Solomon from Hatabo school who obtained a position in a government school earlier this year; and Asamenech, one of our most experienced teachers, who has a new baby.

In October 2021, this school year started with renewed energy, and we have had a lot of demand for places in the schools. This is great and we have taken on a couple of extra teachers. The schools have opened as normal with full classes and well over 1000 students enrolled.

### **Libraries**

We have now built a library at Hatabo school meaning that five of the schools have libraries.

Students use the school libraries to study, read stories, complete homework, play games and watch television. This all offers enormous educational value for the children.

Adults from the villages use the libraries in the evenings to watch (solar powered) television and to get together and meet. This is really valued by local people who otherwise have no such opportunity (there is no electricity in any of the school villages except for Teferi Kela).

### **Soap provision**

In 2019 the Open Way schools received educational resources (laminated flash cards) to teach health and hygiene and the teachers received training. The resources were taken from UNICEF's water, sanitation and hygiene resources - Edition for Africa. When the schools reopened in November 2020, the heightened awareness around health and hygiene made it a good time to start a soap distribution project in conjunction with hygiene education. Each child received a bar of soap each month to take home. Liquid soap was also made available at all the schools so that the children could wash their hands during the school day. There are no water supplies at the schools, but the children bring a plastic bottle of water to school for drinking, and they use some of this to wash their hands.

The bars that are taken home do not last long since families tend to use them to wash all the clothes of the family. Although this means that the children may not be able to keep

on top of hand washing at home throughout the whole of the month, this laundry opportunity is beneficial. Some of the hygiene education also travels home with the enthusiastic students.

We are continuing the distribution of soap this school year as it can only help in the battle against coronavirus, scabies, and so many other health issues in the community.

### **Update on well drilling /Jane's memorial**

Following the very sad passing away of our trustee Jane Mason in June 2020, we have planned the construction of a well in her memory at Shoecho village using donations given in her memory. Unfortunately, we couldn't yet proceed with this plan as the machine used to drill wells (which is located in a different district) is no longer available to us. This was following a vote by the Sidamo people to come out of the SNNPR region of Ethiopia which created a political separation between us and the drill. There are a few other options on the table, so when the general situation in Ethiopia is calmer and the time is right, we will look forwards to completing the memorial in whatever form it finally takes.

### **Tackling malnourishment**

#### **Grain**

As mentioned in the introduction, there has been a worsening situation regarding hunger and malnutrition. Many factors have fed into huge price hikes making life extremely difficult for people. The local cost of grain increased by 80% in a 12 month period!

Each year we help many very vulnerable families with regular nutritional support in the form of grain. These families are selected through our schools. So many families have been in desperation over the last difficult months that we are now sharing those supplies between more families. Additionally, we have diverted extra funds to emergency food and are supporting many more families with a one-off ration of 15 kg of grain.

#### **Seedlings**

Providing seedlings is a more economical and long-term help and over the last 12 months we were able to help a total of 401 families in this way with either cassava seedlings in January or false banana seedlings in April.

The recipients of grain or seedlings are selected with help from the teachers who know the village communities very well. People find themselves in all kinds of difficulty and it is very typical that we help widowed parents with several children to support, or people with serious medical difficulties or disability. Our coordinators re-visit some families to evaluate the project and have seen that people make very good use of the seedlings. In the case of cassava, families were able to trade some of their crop for other things such as vegetables or salt, as well as getting a yield of staple food to eat. False bananas provide longer term security.

## Providing Housing

In this project, simple timber-framed and metal roofed houses are built as safe and dry shelters for families who are living in uninhabitable dwellings. We have now been doing this for several years. The team work very closely with local village groups such as church groups or elders who can often provide some timber or labour for a house. This assistance helps with the cost since the metal roofing, in particular, has become more and more expensive. The last budget intended for 21 houses ended up building 26 houses and housing more than 100 people.

We are well into our next wave of housing which we hope will achieve a similar result.

## Medical Assistance

137 medical cases have been treated over the last 12 months thanks to intervention from Open Way. As usual, people need help for all kinds of conditions from broken bones and simple infections to very serious medical conditions.

Condition	Number of cases
Broken leg	2
Cancer	4
Cataracts	15
Epilepsy	2
Eye conditions (other than cataracts)	5
Fistula	1
Gastritis	8
Glaucoma	9
Goitre	1
Giardia	5
Heart issues	3
High blood pressure	5
Kidney issues	9
Liver issues	1
Lung issues	8
Nerve condition	1
Pneumonia	7
Prostate	1
Scabies	4
Skin condition	2
Stomach (distended)	1
TB	1
Tumour (neck)	1
Tumour (back)	1
Typhoid & Typhus	25
Sexual health issues	10
Viral infection	1
Worms	1
Other wounds	1
Unknown	2
<b>Total</b>	<b>137</b>

Many of these illnesses are often directly linked to extreme poverty, and we are often able to help patients with other additional support. For example, we often provide a grain ration when a patient is ill which helps the patient and his or her family regain some strength.

The medical project is critical for patients and their families who are simply unable to access medical services through a total lack of means. People are generally willing to do anything to get loved ones the medical help they need. Through our housing project we have heard of several cases where people have been forced to sell their plot, which is their only means of livelihood, to raise the funds they need.

### **Helping the elderly**

There is no social security system in rural Ethiopia and so if an elderly person has no one to provide for them, they can find themselves in a very difficult situation at the end of their lives. Open Way has continued to support 16 elderly people who have no family or other support with a small pension and other essentials such as clothes, soap, food and blankets.

### **Thank you!**

It is often quite difficult to quantify the effect of help provided by Open Way. It is always uplifting to hear great news about someone helped by Open Way in the past, whose life has been improved as a result. For example, recently we heard news of three former street children for whom we had organized help during our first visits to Ethiopia. Having reconnected them with their families, Open Way supported them throughout their school years and they have now completed their secondary education and have started work in various trades. They are now supporting themselves and their families.

A huge number of people have now been helped by Open Way in many different ways. All this is possible thanks to the kind donations we receive, so please accept a big thank you from us and our Ethiopian colleagues.

### **Financial Review**

Open Way's reserves remain relatively small, but healthier than in previous years.

Our end of year balance is £9,191.80.

Our aim is to hold reserves of around 4 to 6 months.

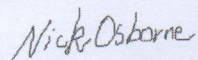
Open Way has no funds in deficit.

## Declaration

The trustees declare that they have approved the Trustees Annual Report and Accounts.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees:

Signature

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Nick Osborne".

Nick Osborne  
Chair of The Trustees

Date  
13<sup>th</sup> February 2021

**Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Open Way**

I report on the accounts of: **Open Way**  
for the year ended: **31st July 2021** which are set out on pages 10 to 12.

**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').

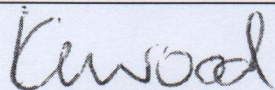
I report in respect of my examination of the Charity's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

**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 giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

- 1 accounting records were not kept in respect of the Trust as required by section 130 of the Act; or
- 2 the accounts do not accord with those records

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



**Karen Wood (ACMA)**  
Outsource independent examination  
service  
The Hiscox Building  
Peasholme Green  
York YO1 7PR

03/03/2022

**Date:**

**Open Way**  
(Charity Number: 1122055)

**Receipts & Payments Accounts for the year ended: 31st July 2021**

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2021 Total funds £	2020 Total funds £
<b>Receipts</b>				
Grants	-	33,375	33,375	30,290
Donations - standing orders	5,804	556	6,360	5,726
Donations - one-off	1,284	410	1,694	1,100
Jane Mason memorial collection	-	-	-	5,676
My Donate & Virgin Money Giving	317	-	317	1,029
Gift aid reclaimed	-	-	-	1,854
<b>Total receipts</b>	<b>7,405</b>	<b>34,341</b>	<b>41,746</b>	<b>45,675</b>
<b>Payments</b>				
Grants to project	12,659	34,341	47,000	39,035
Postage & packaging	-	-	-	60
Bank charges & trf fees	196	-	196	160
Independent examination fee	150	-	150	150
<b>Total payments</b>	<b>13,005</b>	<b>34,341</b>	<b>47,346</b>	<b>39,405</b>
<b>Net of receipts/(payments)</b>	<b>(5,600)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>(5,600)</b>	<b>6,270</b>
<b>Transfers between funds</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Balance brought forward</b>	<b>14,792</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>14,792</b>	<b>8,522</b>
<b>Balance carried forward</b>	<b>9,192</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>9,192</b>	<b>14,792</b>

**Open Way**  
(Charity Number: 1122055)

<b>Statement of Assets and Liabilities at:</b>		<b>31st July 2021</b>			
	<b>Unrestricted</b>	<b>Restricted</b>	<b>2021</b>	<b>2020</b>	
	<b>funds</b>	<b>funds</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Total</b>	
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>funds</b>	<b>funds</b>	
<b>Assets</b>			<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	
<b>Cash at bank and in hand</b>					
CAF current account	9,192	-	9,192	14,792	
	<u>9,192</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>9,192</u>	<u>14,792</u>	
	<b>Unrestricted</b>	<b>Restricted</b>	<b>2021</b>	<b>2020</b>	
	<b>Funds</b>	<b>Funds</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Total</b>	
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>funds</b>	<b>funds</b>	
<b>Liabilities</b>			<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	
Independent Examination fee	150	-	150	150	
	<u>150</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>150</u>	<u>150</u>	

**Open Way**  
(Charity Number: 1122055)

**Notes to the Accounts for the year ended:**

**31st July 2021**

**1. Basis of Accounts**

The Trustees have taken advantage of section 144 (2) of the Charities Act 2011 and prepared the accounts on a receipts and payments basis.

**2. Analysis of Funds**

**2.1 Details of restricted funds**

All funds of the charity are utilised in the alleviation of poverty in Ethiopia. However the charity obtains grants and donations which are restricted for the following purposes:

Education  
Elderly & vulnerable  
Help to individuals  
Medical  
Housing

**2.2 Movement of major funds**

	Balance b/fwd £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Balance c/fwd £
<b>Unrestricted Funds</b>				
General unrestricted funds	14,792	7,405	13,005	9,192
	<u>14,792</u>	<u>7,405</u>	<u>13,005</u>	<u>9,192</u>
<b>Restricted Funds</b>				
<b>Education</b>				
Band Aid Trust	-	10,875	10,875	-
Just Trust	-	1,500	1,500	-
Hazel's Footprints	-	4,050	4,050	-
	-	<u>16,425</u>	<u>16,425</u>	-
<b>Elderly &amp; Vulnerable</b>				
Band Aid Trust	-	15,200	15,200	-
Donations	-	360	360	-
	-	<u>15,560</u>	<u>15,560</u>	-
<b>Help to individuals</b>				
Donations	-	196	196	-
<b>Medical</b>				
Band Aid	-	1,750	1,750	-
<b>Housing</b>				
Donations	-	410	410	-
<b>Total Restricted</b>	<u>-</u>	<u>34,341</u>	<u>34,341</u>	<u>-</u>
<b>Total Funds</b>	<u>14,792</u>	<u>41,746</u>	<u>47,346</u>	<u>9,192</u>

**Approval of Accounts for the year ended:**

**31st July 2021**

The report and accounts were approved at a meeting of the Trustees held on:

20th Feb 2022

**Date**

*Nick Osborne*

**Signed for and on behalf of the Trustees**

21st Feb 2022

**Date**

Nick Osborne

**Print Name**

Chair

**Position (e.g. Chair etc)**