

SOUTH SINAI FOUNDATION

England & Wales - Charity number 1128955

Details

Status Registered

Legal form Other

Registered 2009-04-01

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

Contact

Address St. Katherines Cottage
Back Lane
Ingoldsby
Grantham
NG33 4EW

Phone 07837401803

Email info@southsinaifoundation.org

Website www.southsinaifoundation.org

Activities

Objects: FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE PUBLIC IN PARTICULAR, BUT NOT EXCLUSIVELY THE LOCAL BEDOUIN COMMUNITIES IN SOUTH SINAI AND THE SURROUNDING AREA BY:A) THE RELIEF OF POVERTY B) THE ADVANCEMENT OF EDUCATIONC) THE PROMOTION AND PROTECTION OF GOOD HEALTHD) SUPPORTING THE CHARITABLE WORK OF THE COMMUNITY FOUNDATION FOR SOUTH SINAI E) ANY OTHER PURPOSE THAT IS CHARITABLE ACCORDING TO THE LAW OF ENGLAND AND WALES.

Activities: The South Sinai Foundation supports Bedouin communities in South Sinai, Egypt. Our aims are to address poverty through small-scale sustainable development projects including access to water; support educational and environmental initiatives and Bedouin culture; provide hardship and healthcare grants to individuals; and to capacity-build our local partner, the Community Foundation for South Sinai.

Classification

- **How:** Makes Grants To Individuals, Makes Grants To Organisations, Provides Advocacy/advice/information, Sponsors Or Undertakes Research, Acts As An Umbrella Or Resource Body, Other Charitable Activities
- **What:** General Charitable Purposes, The Prevention Or Relief Of Poverty, Overseas Aid/famine Relief, Environment/conservation/heritage, Economic/community Development/employment, Human Rights/religious Or Racial Harmony/equality Or Diversity, Other Charitable Purposes
- **Who:** People Of A Particular Ethnic Or Racial Origin, Other Charities Or Voluntary Bodies

Geography

- **Area of benefit:** SOUTH SINAI
- Egypt

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-03-31	£23,526	£24,688	-	-
2024-03-31	£20,819	£31,723	-	-
2023-03-31	£24,185	£26,595	-	-
2022-03-31	£35,613	£23,545	-	-
2021-03-31	£25,879	£22,024	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
DR HILARY CLAIRE GILBERT	Chair	
Adrian Kevin Curley OBE		2022-07-16
Cinzia Porcedda		2019-11-16
DR FRANCIS SYLVEST GILBERT		
Hannah Mary Harrington		2019-11-16
LUCY ELEANOR KIRSTEN GILBERT		
Nicola Dalby		2013-11-21
Revd Professor Michael Jonathan Reiss		

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FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR

31st MARCH 2022

Charity Registration Number 1128955

SOUTH SINAI FOUNDATION

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH 2022

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SOUTH SINAI FOUNDATION

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD AND PROFESSIONAL ADVISERS

Trustees as at 31st March 2022

Mrs Nicola Dalby
Prof Francis Gilbert
Dr Hilary Gilbert
Ms Lucy Gilbert
Rev Prof Michael Reiss
Ms. Hannah Harrington
Ms. Cinzia Porcedda
Mr. Kevin Curley OBE

Principal Address

St Katherine's Cottage
Back Lane
Ingoldsby
Grantham
NG33 4EW

Independent Examiner

Mark Newey, ACMA
Community Accountant
Derby Community Accountancy Service
Babington Lodge
128 Green Lane
Derby
DE1 1RY

SOUTH SINAI FOUNDATION

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH 2022

The trustees have pleasure in presenting their report and the unaudited financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31st March 2022.

South Sinai Foundation is a registered charity, whose date of registration was 1st April 2009.

Objects of the Charity

For the benefit of the public in particular but not exclusively the local Bedouin communities in South Sinai and the surrounding area by:

1. Relief of Poverty
2. The advancement of education.
3. The promotion and protection of good health.
4. Supporting the Charitable work of the Community Foundation for South Sinai.

Activities and performance

I'm writing at the end of a year that has seen South Sinai make headlines all over the world through the CoP27 meeting in Sharm el Sheikh in November 2022. Bedouin are generally excluded from Sharm, so though delegates may have admired Sinai's stunning scenery they will have learned little about the lives of its indigenous people. We in SSF are all too familiar with the challenges that blight the lives of many Bedouin. With poor or non-existent education and healthcare, unreliable water and electricity, inadequate housing and job prospects, many Bedouin still lack the basics of human development.

Even where economic development is visible, it often takes no note of the needs of local people. In 2021-22 the Egyptian Government embarked on a massive project to turn the modest Bedouin town of St Katherine into a major tourist resort. Some changes may ultimately prove beneficial for some; but they have been bought at an enormous price for local residents. Houses have been demolished leaving people homeless; shops and even the school bulldozed; and the landscape changed in places beyond recognition.

Much of what we did in this year was focussed on alleviating immediate problems arising from this development, helping families find accommodation when their homes had been demolished without compensation. We match-funded the restoration of an old building to provide a safe house for people with nowhere to go; provided food in Ramadan for 100 families; built water tanks for two whole communities displaced by demolition; and funded materials for people to fix their damaged homes.

We also continued to support our regular projects, and to focus on informing and empowering Bedouin women. In order to do so we had to raise the funds to cover the normal costs of running an organization, as well as finding support for our long-term projects. Help came via hugely appreciated grants from the Global Fund for Community Foundations, from the Souter Trust, and from a JustGiving appeal for our Women's Centre. We were also able to deploy funds of our own raised via a new initiative this year - the Friends of South Sinai.

We remain humbled and grateful that so many people - who may not themselves be familiar with South Sinai's challenges - have helped support our work over the years with both one-off and regular donations. The Friends of South Sinai scheme now gives us a more secure and predictable

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TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH 2022

income, making us more organizationally robust. We're fortunate to now be able to pay some core team members from our own funds as they tackle key problems on the ground. The work we support reflects local priorities as advised by our expert team, rather than the latest development trends preferred by many funders. When initiatives grow up from the community itself they have a far greater chance of succeeding, and even of bringing about lasting cultural change. Some aspects of our work can fairly make this claim. We hope to extend the Friends' scheme over time, and trust that everyone kind enough to help will be heartened by the impact of their generosity. As always, every penny donated goes to Sinai. This year our admin costs were a mere 3.76% of our expenditure, and all were covered by donations from our Board.

A group of donors helped us over two years to support eight trainee nurses through to graduation. Their contribution has been enormous; not just during the pandemic, but during the period of high inflation and economic hardship that has followed it. As well as giving workshops in the Women's Centre they have visited remote communities with no accessible healthcare, to give advice, reassurance and simple treatments. We thank them profoundly, and aim to continue supporting new trainees from our own resources, another fundraising priority.

The year started with a crisis, as our Women's Centre displayed alarming cracks due to encroaching tree roots. Happily our JustGiving appeal raised enough to match local donations so we could make it safe again. The building was refurbished with a new kitchen and bathroom. This has made it possible for more women than ever to attend workshops on health and nutrition, receive advice about their rights, information about job opportunities and how to apply for them, and much else besides. Hundreds of families have been registered online for Covid vaccinations. We are extremely grateful to the Global Fund for Community Foundations for supporting the Covid work. We're equally proud of our team, and their constant support for women to pursue education, work and rights.

The fruits of this approach were shown in the graduation of seven young Bedouin women from college or university in 2021. We had helped provide safe accommodation for them while they undertook their studies, accompanied by a rota of chaperoning mothers. But it was their mothers who paid their fees from the profits they made in the chicken co-op we set up ten years ago in el Tur, as well as other small business ventures we have supported. Traditionally girls were forbidden even to venture outside their home without a relative. Now, families are learning to be proud of their daughters' achievements. At the end of 2022 we helped 30 young women who had been offered university places with enrolment fees and accommodation, something unheard-of in even the recent past. Most encouragingly, some of this cohort want to train as teachers so they can teach in the Haddana, our education facility for Deaf and hearing children.

With generous funding in 2021 from the Souter Trust we were able to refurbish and re-equip the Haddana after a spell of patchy provision during the pandemic. It now caters for 32 profoundly deaf children or their hearing siblings. When we set it up in 2014 it was run purely by volunteers; but since recent volunteers have been qualified and have enabled twenty pupils to move into mainstream education, we focussed on paying them properly as soon as we could. This year we have been able to do this, and it will be an ongoing challenge to bring in funds to put their employment on a secure footing.

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TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH 2022

Alongside these major projects we have been able to support two students to attend secondary school, matched by a generous donor, and paid school fees for 40 children from very poor homes. We've maintained our livestock bank, which has now helped over 70 families, and provided a source of emergency medical funding for the countless people in immediate need who cannot afford to pay upfront fees.

None of this would be possible without our funders and donors; nor without the unstinting support of our trustees. We are always in their debt. But the greatest credit must go to our team on the ground, led with great dedication by Mohammed; to Halima who heads the Women's Centre; and to our wonderful team of 40 community link volunteers who inform and make possible our work. *Alf shukr!* A thousand thanks!

Hilary

Dr Hilary Gilbert,
Chair
18/01/23

SOUTH SINAI FOUNDATION

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH 2022

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of the South Sinai Foundation

I report on the accounts for the year ended 31st March 2022 which are set out on pages 6 to 8.

Respective responsibilities of the trustees and examiner

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

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

Independent examiner's statement

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

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

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

Mark Newey ACMA
Derby Community Accountancy Service
Babington Lodge
128 Green Lane
Derby
DE1 1RY

Date

SOUTH SINAI FOUNDATION

RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT

YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH 2022

2021		Unrestricted Fund	Restricted Fund	2022
£		£	£	£
7136	Opening Balances	10991	0	10991
	Receipts			
15824	Grants note 1	0	3750	3750
10053	Donations and Fundraising	31362	500	31862
0	Sundry	0	0	0
2	Interest	1	0	1
25879		31363	4250	35613
	Payments			
21265	Direct Charitable costs	18914	3688	22602
759	Costs of managing the Charity note 2	943	0	943
22024		19857	3688	23545
3855	Surplus/(Deficit) for year	11506	562	12068
10991	Closing Balances	22497	562	23059

SOUTH SINAI FOUNDATION

STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES

AS AT 31st MARCH 2022

2021		2022
£		£
10991	Balance at Bank	23059
	Less Creditors	
0	Grants received in advance	0
<u>10991</u>	Net Assets	<u>23059</u>

Treasurer

Date

Chair

Date

SOUTH SINAI FOUNDATION

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH 2022

Note 1

Grants	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Total 2022 £	Total 2021 £
Souter Trust	0	3750	3750	0
Global Fund for Community Foundations	0	0	0	15824
	0	3750	3750	15824

Note 2

Costs of managing the Charity in the UK	2022 £	2021 £
Bank charges	524	409
Accountancy charges	350	350
Other costs	69	0
	943	759

Note 3

Restricted Funds

	Opening Balance £	Income £	Expenditure £	Closing Balance £
Souter Trust	0	3750	3518	232
Donation	0	500	170	330
	0	4250	3688	562

The Souter Trust grant was spent on supporting the Haddana, the education facility for deaf children.

The donation was spent supporting students at secondary school.

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MEMBERS OF THE BOARD AND PROFESSIONAL ADVISERS

Trustees as at 31st March 2020

Mrs Nicola Dalby
Prof Francis Gilbert
Dr Hilary Gilbert
Ms Lucy Gilbert
Rev Prof Michael Reiss
Ms. Hannah Harrington
Ms. Cinzia Porcedda

Principal Address

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SOUTH SINAI FOUNDATION

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH 2021

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1. Relief of Poverty
2. The advancement of education.
3. The promotion and protection of good health.
4. Supporting the Charitable work of the Community Foundation for South Sinai.

The period covered by this report was momentous worldwide as the coronavirus pandemic swept the globe. Covid-19 was late to arrive in South Sinai, but the region did not escape its effects. For the South Sinai Foundation and our team on the ground it was a year of continually revised plans as priorities shifted almost from month to month.

The year began in the aftermath of disastrous storms and flooding that left countless houses damaged or destroyed, wells blocked and roads and paths swept away. As Covid restrictions started to bite this was particularly hard on those who had lost their homes and were sheltering with relatives. Widespread fear of the virus meant many such families found themselves homeless again. Livelihoods fell apart: the year's fruit crop was ruined by the storms just as flights were banned and tourism hit rock bottom. Camels – the most precious capital asset of most Bedouin who own them – had to be sold, and Mohammed, our manager, reported that while many people were hungry, some were starving. Compounding the problems, the Governorate's public hospitals were all closed simultaneously for reconstruction or refurbishment, leaving anyone in need of treatment with no choice but to make costly journeys to distant facilities.

Amid this maelstrom of misfortune our contribution could only ever be limited. However, though limited it was not insignificant. Following on from our successful social media project that equipped our community link volunteers with smartphones and taught women to use them, livestock, property and possibly lives were saved as the spread of flooding was relayed from area to area through women's networks. This enabled many people to move their animals and escape the water. Years of work establishing contacts, networks and donors proved their worth when our team leveraged twice the value of SSF's UK appeal for Ramadan food and goods from sources in Egypt. Due to Mohammed's acknowledged expertise we were able to work in partnership with the International Fund for Agricultural Development, providing greenhouses and water pipes to help people make a living. Our livestock bank and herd managed by Deaf people gave timely help, and the women from the chicken co-op provided cash and food for people in hardship. We re-established our Emergency Medical fund as well as helping to restore ten houses and saving sixteen families from eviction due to rent arrears caused by loss of work.

Our Women's Team have also played an important role in supporting the community through Covid. Seeing up to ten women a day, five days a week, in their Centre in St Katherine, they provided advice, reassurance and practical help. Working with community volunteers they have helped people register for a Covid vaccine, which – despite widespread poverty and illiteracy –

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TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH 2021

can only be done online. (Sinai is not a priority area, and vaccines became available in Sharm only from September 2021.) Working with the trainee nurses supported by one of our funds, our Women's Team ran workshops teaching women not only how to deal with symptoms of Covid and reduce transmission, but also concerns such as dealing with bereavement. They also ran sessions in Nuweiba and el Tur. The nurses themselves meanwhile were able to go out to remote communities, administer straightforward treatments, check children's health and give advice. With so little information and so much fear, especially in desert areas, their training could not have been put to better use.

The Haddana is our volunteer-run play and learning centre for Deaf and hearing children in a remote desert area whose local tribe has high rates of profound congenital deafness. It has run successfully since 2014, but last year was badly affected both by Covid and funding restrictions and operated patchily for much of the year. It nevertheless supported 32 children, both deaf children and their hearing siblings. Some twenty children have now made the transition from the Haddana into mainstream education. At least five of these children are deaf, but their ability to read and write has enabled them to attend school. As far as we know this is a first, as no specialist education is provided for deaf Bedouin children, and they normally receive none at all.

As so often, we were indebted to the Global Fund for Community Foundations for their support for our team in this financial year. Our plan - with the aim of building sustainability - was to help establish two new crops - saffron and pistachios - to go with the olives whose production and marketing we already support through our small social enterprise, which we had hoped to expand and register. All of these plans fell foul of everything described above: catastrophic weather, which ruined existing crops, and Covid restriction which made new ones unobtainable. Meanwhile further tightening of the laws governing NGOs made registration of the social enterprise inadvisable.

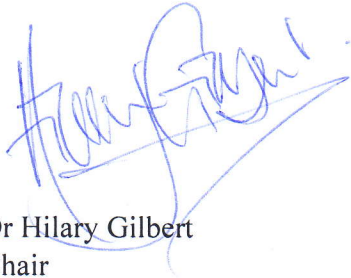
Thanks also to the support of the Evan Cornish Foundation, our team continued throughout the year to support critical cases with advice, advocacy and funding, much of it sourced from within the country, and often from within local communities in South Sinai itself. It did so in the face both of Covid, and a massive project to redevelop St Katherine in its entirety. For months now the formerly quiet Bedouin town - with no consultation of its residents - has been transformed into a building site of round-the-clock noise and dust, incorporating cement factories and bulldozers to clear any building - including many homes - that stand in the way of 'progress'. By this time next year the work will be complete, and I shall report on its impacts. In the meantime, our role at SSF becomes ever-clearer: to provide our team, sustainably, with the wherewithal to keep doing what they do so well. Our efforts to do that are starting to bear fruit, and I shall be able to report on that too next year.

This month marks fifteen years since we registered our partner organization, the Community Foundation for South Sinai - the first community foundation ever registered in Egypt. In spite of revolutions, natural disasters and pandemics, it continues to make life better for people whose lives seem often to be in continual turmoil. So I conclude with heartfelt thanks to those without whom this ongoing adventure would not be possible: our funders - in this year, the Evan Cornish Foundation, our Nurses Training funders and the Global Fund for Community Foundations whose faith in us means so much; all our donors, many of whom have supported us from the very beginning; our great Board of Trustees for their support, ideas and help; the people of South

SOUTH SINAI FOUNDATION

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH 2021

Sinai, for trusting us to work with them; and especially to our wonderful team - Mohammed, Halima, Jemi'a, Hoda and 'Amal, Faraj, and all our forty-plus community volunteers. May all the good they do come back to them.



Dr Hilary Gilbert
Chair
29/11/21

SOUTH SINAI FOUNDATION

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH 2021

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of the South Sinai Foundation

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- the accounts do not accord with the accounting records

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M. Newey

Mark Newey ACMA
Derby Community Accountancy Service
Babington Lodge
128 Green Lane
Derby
DE1 1RY

6/12/2021

Date

SOUTH SINAI FOUNDATION

RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT

YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH 2021

2020		Unrestricted Fund	Restricted Fund	2021 Total
£		£	£	£
6331	Opening Balances	2956	4180	7136
	Receipts			
15674	Grants note 1	15824	0	15824
10483	Donations and Fundraising	10053	0	10053
0	Sundry	0	0	0
3	Interest	2	0	2
<u>26160</u>		<u>25879</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>25879</u>
	Payments			
24836	Direct Charitable costs	17085	4180	21265
519	Costs of managing the Charity note 2	759	0	759
<u>25355</u>		<u>17844</u>	<u>4180</u>	<u>22024</u>
<u>805</u>	Surplus/(Deficit) for year	<u>8035</u>	<u>-4180</u>	<u>3855</u>
<u>7136</u>	Closing Balances	<u>10991</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>10991</u>

SOUTH SINAI FOUNDATION

STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES

AS AT 31st MARCH 2021

2020		2021
£		£
7136	Balance at Bank	10991
	Less Creditors	
0	Grants received in advance	0
<u>7136</u>	Net Assets	<u>10991</u>



PP. Treasurer

13.12.21
Date



Chair

13.12.21
Date

SOUTH SINAI FOUNDATION

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH 2021

Note 1

Grants	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Total 2021 £	Total 2020 £
Evan Cornish Foundation	0	0	0	5000
Global Fund for Community Foundations	15824	0	15824	7489
Seeds of Justice	0	0	0	456
University of Nottingham	0	0	0	2729
	15824	0	15824	15674

Note 2

Costs of managing the Charity in the UK	2021 £	2020 £
Bank charges	409	519
Accountancy charges	350	0
	759	519

Note 3

Restricted Funds

	Opening Balance £	Income £	Expenditure £	Closing Balance £
Evan Cornish Foundation	4180	0	4180	0
Global Fund for Community Foundations	0	0	0	0
	4180	0	4180	0