
The Mary Wood Trust

Annual Report- 2022/2023

Charity Name

The Mary Wood Trust

Registration Number ----- 1144311

Registered address --- 9 Handforth Road, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 2LX

Charity Structure, Governance and Management

Trustees

Chairperson --Clare Ramsden

Treasurer — Dr Peter Wood

Trustees — Kath Smith, Ann Gover, Pippa Hutchins, Rachel Wood

Trustee selection method – By personal invitation and approval by existing trustees.

Our Aims and Objectives

- 1.To provide scholarships for education and training with a view to improving disadvantaged young peoples' life skills and opportunities in Uganda.
- 2.To advance education and relieve poverty by providing sponsorship, training, funds or items for disadvantaged children, young people, and those in need in Uganda.
- 3.To develop facilities in Kinkiizi, Kanungu district, in particular but not exclusively, at Nyakabungo Girls Secondary School (NGSS) and Ruth Memorial Nursery School (RMNS), in order to achieve the aims outlined in 1 and 2 above.

We have held four trustees' meetings during the year, all via Zoom, which included a special meeting in February 2023 to confirm Rachel Wood as a new trustee. It is good to have some new and younger blood join the team. We also invited the headteacher of NGSS to join us via Zoom for our May 2022 meeting. This was a great opportunity to show our continued support for the school and to involve her in some of our decision making.

These meetings are very important and enable us to discuss in detail about the running of the charity and also take important decisions regarding our various projects in Uganda and plans for the future. We are in regular communication with Kinkiizi Diocese and the head teachers of both NGSS and RMNS.

There is full transparency about how our money is spent, and we try our hardest to make sure that the money we send out to Uganda and is spent there is fully accounted for, endeavouring to get receipts wherever possible.

Money sent for student sponsorship or building projects at NGSS is channelled via the Diocese of Kinkiizi, where the contacts we have there are trusted and reliable, the relationship having been built up over many years. The fees for university and further education tuition are sent directly to the individual respected institutions.

The trustees receive no remuneration for their involvement in the charity and any trips to Uganda by trustees are totally self-financed.

Activities and Objectives

Activities over the past year

Ruth Memorial Nursery School (RMNS) in Kihiihi continues to provide a basic primary education for approximately 70 young children, from the local area. All come from poor families, many of whom have been affected by AIDS/HIV.

The founder Ephraim Tumwesigye is the director of the nursery School. He is a retired teacher and he and his board of management (which includes family members) make sure that the nursery school runs smoothly and follows any local guidelines and restrictions. The school employs a head teacher (who has some nursery qualification) and 5 other ladies who are not formally trained. There is also a cook and night watchman.

The increased costs of food and other supplies have caused concern. The termly fees for the children just about cover the cost of the staff if everyone pays.

The Mary Wood Trust provides money to pay for the regular food, milk and pancakes, as well as the firewood and the cook's salary. In this way we can be sure that the children do get some nourishment every day. We have also paid for stationary needed throughout the school year and replaced all the footballs that were damaged.

The laptop has been bought and solar panels have been installed throughout the classrooms and the office. We have also agreed to finance the building of a new pit latrine and to paint all the classroom walls white, as directed by the local authority.

Our visit to Uganda in March 2023 highlighted other needs at the school such as replacing broken blackboards, fixing holes in the boundary fence and fixing broken outdoor toys. We have agreed to finance these during the next school year.

Nyakabungo Girls Secondary School (NGSS)

This Church of Uganda school was founded in 1987. It is the only girls boarding school under the umbrella of the Diocese of Kinkiizi. Its rural situation, on sometimes impassable roads, makes it very difficult to access, particularly when it rains. This emphasises the importance of its boarding status as many students live some distance away.

The Mary Wood Trust has been involved with the school since 2002 and has continued to grow in its sponsorship of students and improving the infrastructure of the school. This is seen by all the additional buildings and facilities provided by the MWT over the past 22 years.

We are supporting 42 girls at the school. After Covid there was some reluctance among some parents to allow their girls to return. This was due mainly to the increase in the cost of living and thus increased school fees. The sponsorship fees are now £20 per month.

Large numbers of teachers have been on strike in the country, causing problems at school and science teachers won a huge pay rise, making it almost prohibitive for small schools to employ full time science teachers. There was also disruption at the school due to the Ebola crisis, when

the president closed all schools two weeks before the end of the third term. Fortunately, those girls sitting their A levels were allowed to stay to complete their exams.

The girls we support are all chosen because of their great need and their poor family backgrounds, some being more academic than others. The new curriculum that has been introduced includes more vocational subjects which suits those who are less academic.

The Cliff Smith sewing room (fully equipped with 13 sewing machines) is such a great asset to the school, particularly with the new curriculum. The girls are introduced to the basics of pattern making and sewing various useful garments. This is a skill that they will be able to take away with them to use in the future.

We have replaced some of the solar power equipment at the school which makes evening study more possible.

Fine Arts is still a very popular subject for girls to take at O level. We have continued to support this with regular finance to buy supplies that are being used. In March we saw plastic woven baskets that the students had made and were hopefully selling to raise funds so that the Fine Arts can be more self-supporting.

The renovation of the Female Staff House - Mary Hall - is nearing completion and will hopefully provide good and pleasant accommodation for 7 teachers.

After a very successful Christmas fundraising campaign we have been able to continue to supply sanitary towels for all girls and female teachers at the school. We also supply mosquito nets to all and trust that they are being used sensibly.

There is a plan in place to build a new incinerator, thanks to a generous donor.

Mary Wood Day was celebrated on March 11th 2023 when Clare and Oliver Ramsden were visiting. It was a good opportunity to see the ongoing renovation work at Mary Hall and to iron out a few queries. It was also a day when parents and guardians of Mary Wood Trust sponsored girls were invited to enjoy the speeches and dancing and prizegiving to girls who had achieved well in their exams. We donated a cow on that day so that everyone could enjoy a hearty meal.

Plans have been drawn up to build a new A level and Fine Arts Block at NGSS. This is a very exciting project and should provide a very attractive place for A level students to study and hopefully make the school more marketable. The building will be built in memory of a very good friend of the Wood family, who supported the work in Uganda for many years.

NGSS is very fortunate to have a dedicated and caring headteacher. Molly Musinguzi continues to run the school with a supportive staff. It is a challenging situation with all the increased costs but she strives to do her best. We invited her to join in our trustees Zoom meeting in May and this was a real benefit to us all.

We trust that this good relationship will continue for some time.

Nyakatare Health Centre (NHC 111)

Situated in Kanungu Town, NHC is a Diocesan Health Centre and provides good quality medical care to the local community.

During the past year the health centre has had its status changed to a level 4 facility. There is a fully qualified doctor in charge now - Dr Joe Kalenzi.

Nexon Tusiime's role has changed and he is now in charge of the HIV/AIDS department.

The dental unit is still without a fully trained dentist which limits the extent of work that can be done. We help towards the salary of the dental assistant and have agreed to provide a much needed air compressor for the dental chair and appliances.

Past Students

We are fortunate to be in the position to be able to provide support for further education to some of our sponsored students after taking their A levels. Unfortunately, we cannot offer this to all the girls which of course does make for some hard decisions.

We have one girl studying for a certificate in Nursing at Bwindi Nursing School, one girl at Bukalasa Agricultural College studying animal husbandry, one girl who we have set up in her own small tailoring business. 5 girls are at present at Bishop Barham Christian University in Kabale. Their subjects include Mass Communication, Public Administration and Management, Business Administration and Education. We are very proud of all our girls. Achieving all this under the circumstances that they study in is commendable.

Newsletters and raising awareness

It is always important to keep our supporters and friends up to date with how the work of the Mary Wood Trust is progressing. We have sent out 2 newsletters during the year and written an article for the St Barts Parish Magazine in Wilmslow.

Future Plans

Fundraising activities can begin again now that Covid restrictions are lifted. Trustees have plans for a Quiz Night and a Cake and Plant stall. These all help to raise both money as well as awareness of the charity and its work.

We are looking forward to the completion of the renovation work to Mary Hall (the female staff house) at NGSS.

The new A level and Fine Arts block at NGSS will be built this year, including a rainwater collection system. We hope to be able to provide solar power to this building as well.

A new incinerator will be built at NGSS.

Financial Review

Overview of the year Financial Review 2022 - 2023

We have continued to be blessed by receiving regular donations from many individuals despite the fact of the economic downturn and hardship people face in these uncertain times. Our total income rose by a modest £1,887.

Principal sources of funds

Most of the Trust's income came from individuals (Direct - £26,405; via PayPal - £1,696), HMRC – Gift Aid reclaimed - £2,472, eBay Sales - £598, and £5,200 from 2 other charities.

Expenditure

Our expenditure has been more than 2021 – 2022 as we embarked on a renovation project of the female Staff House, and as students returned to their studies with the opening of schools etc, amounts spent increased in most areas.

Our main areas of expenditure were:

Further Education Students	- £7,157 (£7,703 last year)
NGSS Student support	- £8,546 (£5,634 last year)
Nyakatare Health Centre	- £336 (£3,974 last year)
Ruth Mem. School daily food	- £4,279 (£2,443 last year)
NGSS Building Fund	- £9,774 (£2,454 last year)

Fundraising

Selling donated items on eBay and Facebook marketplace has continued to bring in substantial funds. Purchasing items on the internet Amazon smile, and other schemes also raises a small amount of money.

We are thankful that our regular supporters have continued their generous giving, whether it be helping with the running of RMNS, supporting individual girls at NGSS, responding to specific support requests, providing university support, giving to the general fund. We are very grateful indeed.

Financial Policy

We have worked through the charity Commission Self – assessment checklist and checked that we are complying with all that is required of the charity.

Reserve funds

We hold reserve funds in case the charity was to fold so as to enable the commitments that we have made to the students at NGSS, RMNS and the various institutes of further education to finish their respective education.

How expenditure has supported the key objectives of the charity.

By providing sponsorship for 42 girls boarding at Nyakabungo Girls Secondary School (NGSS), all of whom come from needy backgrounds, we are helping to ensure that they have a good secondary education and therefore a good start in life. This in turn will improve the standard of their own families and hopefully uplift their whole communities.

By providing mosquito nets each year and supporting the sick bay and nurse, we are ensuring that the girls are being cared for when sick and hopefully learning to keep themselves safe. By providing sanitary towels to all girls and women at the school we are helping to boost their self-esteem.

The improvements to the fabric of both NGSS and Ruth Memorial Nursery School (RMNS), will give a clean and safe environment for the children and young people to learn in.

The provision of decent male and female staff accommodation at NGSS is encouraging for the teachers themselves, showing that they are appreciated and hopefully this will help them to be more caring teachers.

By providing daily porridge, pancakes, and milk for 70 children at RMNS we are ensuring that the children have daily nourishment. Replacing broken play equipment and providing all the stationary needs for the school are important in keeping up the standards of the school.

Our continued ability to support some girls beyond NGSS is hopefully going to produce useful and educated and informed citizens who will make a difference in their own families and the community beyond.

Privacy Policy

The Mary Wood Trust has written a privacy policy which is available to view on our website.





CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Charity Name

The Mary Wood Trust

No (if any)

1144311

Receipts and payments accounts

CC16a

For the period
from

06/04/2022

To

05/04/2023

Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds to the nearest £	Restricted funds to the nearest £	Endowment funds to the nearest £	Total funds to the nearest £	Last year to the nearest £
A1 Receipts					
AMAZON SMILE	20	-	-	20	29
CHARITABLE TRUSTS	-	200	-	200	300
CHURCH DONATIONS	5,000	-	-	5,000	300
DEPOSIT INTEREST	1,321	-	-	1,321	1,024
EBAY SALES	119	479	-	598	2,177
GIVE AS YOU LIVE/CASHBACK	-	-	-	-	17
HMRC GIFT AID	791	1,661	-	2,452	4,786
PAYPAL GIVING FUND	-	527	-	527	53
PERSONAL DONATIONS	8,542	17,863	-	26,405	27,977
PERSONAL DONATIONS VIA PAYPAL	-	1,696	-	1,696	1,658
STEWARDSHIP	-	2,020	-	2,020	31
Sub total (Gross income for AR)	15,793	24,446	-	40,239	38,352
A2 Asset and investment sales					
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	15,793	24,446	-	40,239	38,352
A3 Payments					
FURTHER EDUCATION	-	7,157	-	7,157	7,703
FURTHER ED GOOD SAMARITAN FUND	-	36	-	36	269
KINKIIZI (Dental & NHC)	-	336	-	336	3,974
KINKIIZI STUDENT SUPPORT	-	1,724	-	1,724	1,187
KISIIZI STUDENT SUPPORT	-	-	-	-	53
NGSS BUILDING FUND	-	9,774	-	9,774	2,454
NGSS FINE ARTS	-	500	-	500	-
NGSS KITCHEN	-	284	-	284	-
NGSS SAMARITAN	-	236	-	236	-
NGSS SANITARY PADS	-	426	-	426	494
NGSS SEWING ROOM	-	367	-	367	-
NGSS SUPPORT	-	8,353	-	8,353	5,634
RMS PORRIDGE	-	4,253	-	4,253	2,443
RMS GENERAL	-	2,481	-	2,481	747
UGANDA TRIP	-	2,000	-	2,000	-
GENERAL	340	-	-	340	186
Sub total	340	37,927	-	38,267	25,144
A4 Asset and investment					
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total payments	340	37,927	-	38,267	25,144
Net of receipts/(payments)	15,453	(13,481)	-	1,972	13,208
A5 Transfers between funds	(1,000)	1,000	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	49,113	58,306	-	107,419	94,211
Cash funds this year end	63,566	45,825	-	109,391	107,419

Section B Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B1 Cash funds	CO-OP BANK (CURRENT)	7,827	-	-
	CO-OP BANK (SAVINGS)	5,739	22,824	-
	REDWOOD BANK (SAVINGS)	50,000	23,000	-
	VIRGIN MONEY (SAVINGS)	-	1	-
	Total cash funds	63,566	45,825	

(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))

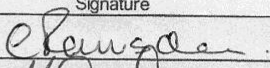
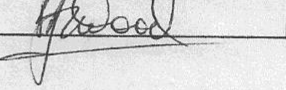
Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B2 Other monetary assets		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-

Categories	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
B3 Investment assets			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-

Categories	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-

Categories	Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
B5 Liabilities			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	

Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees

Signature	Print Name	Date of approval
	Clare Ramsden	07/09/2023
	Peter Wood	07/09/2023



Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees/
members of

The Mary Wood Trust

On accounts for the year
ended

5th April 2023

Charity no
(if any)

1144311

Set out on pages

CC16a

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 05/04/2023.

Responsibilities and
basis of report

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

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

Independent examiner's
statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention (~~other than that disclosed below~~ *) 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.

* Please delete the words in the brackets if they do not apply.

Signed:

Date: 07/09/2023

Name:

George Large

Relevant professional
qualification(s) or body
(if any):

Address:

166 Beeches Road

Chelmsford

Essex CM1 2RZ