

The Mary Wood Trust

Annual Report –2023/2024

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 held four trustees' meetings during the year, in May, September, December and March, all via Zoom, with regular communications throughout the year between the trustees and our beneficiaries and representatives in Uganda. The plan had been to have one in-person meeting but unfortunately illness made this impossible.

Holding regular meetings is essential for the smooth running of the charity. Keeping all the trustees up to date with the activities in Uganda and also making decisions about finances, forward planning and how best to fulfil our aims and objectives is very important.

There is full transparency about how our money is spent. We endeavour to make sure that the money we send out to Uganda, and spent there, is fully accounted for, receiving copies of 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 all give their time freely for their involvement in the charity and any trips made by trustees to Uganda are totally self-funded.

Activities Over The Past Year

Ruth Memorial Nursery School (RMNS) in Kihiihi continues to provide a basic primary education for approximately 75 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 headteacher 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 4 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. Many of the children's families cannot afford to pay the small termly fees and this can sometimes be a problem when it comes to paying the staff.

The Mary Wood Trust continues to pay for the regular food and milk that the children receive every day, along with the firewood and salary for the cook. In this way we can be sure that the children do get some nourishment every day.

We have paid for stationary that is needed throughout the year and this year we have responded to other needs of the school - repairing the perimeter fence, replacing the chalk boards, painting the walls white as requested by the local council. We have also repaired the broken outdoor play equipment, renovated and revarnished the desks and replaced broken footballs. On our annual visit we hand out boiled eggs, biscuits and juice to all the children and the staff and this is very much appreciated.

The children now have a conducive environment to learn and play in and our regular visits there are greeted with great enthusiasm and joy.

Nyakabungo Girls Boarding Secondary School (NGBSS)

This is a Church of Uganda school, and 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 support 40 girls at the school, most of whom are chosen from very needy backgrounds. Many would not otherwise get the chance to continue their secondary education. The Cliff Smith sewing room is a great asset to the school and we continue to pay the salary of the sewing teacher. It is hoped that in the future these vocational subjects might be taught up to an acceptable certificate level, allowing girls of all academic standards to leave school with a qualification.

The work on renovating Mary Hall - the female staff house - has at last been completed. With a rainwater collection scheme, an outdoor kitchen and solar power, it now provides 7 female staff with a pleasant and conducive place to live during term time.

We have provided smart sports kit for the girls taking part in football and netball.

We continue to provide mosquito nets for all the girls at the school and hope that they are being maintained and used sensibly.

We are fulfilling our commitment to providing sanitary towels to all the girls and female staff at the school and this is much appreciated. The building of a new incinerator is soon to be completed, paid for by a generous donor.

A new A-level and Fine Arts 3-classroom block is in the process of being built and will hopefully be ready for the celebrations that will take place on April 19th to celebrate 40 years since the school was first established.

Nyakatare Health Centre (NHC IV)

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 offer support towards the salary of the dental assistant, and we have given out donated toothbrushes and toothpaste during the last trustees' visit. We provided a new air compressor for the dental chair so that it can now be used.

Taking the health service into the far-reaching communities has been an aim of NHC for some while. Family planning, child welfare, immunisation, HIV testing and dental health are all covered during these sessions. This is such an important service as many people do not have or cannot afford the transport to take them into town. By providing the money for these community outreaches, the Mary Wood Trust is participating in improving the health education and care of many people.

Past Students

We are fortunate to be in the position to be able offer support for further education to some of our sponsored students after they have taken their national exams. Unfortunately, we cannot offer this to all the girls which of course does make for some hard decisions.

We endeavour to keep in touch with all those we support in further education and meet with as many as we can on our annual trips.

We are satisfied that the money we spend on the girls is well used and to their benefit.

Newsletters and raising awareness

Over the past year we have sent out 2 newsletters, realising the importance of keeping our sponsors, supporters and friends up to date with our work out in Uganda. There has also been an article in the St Barts Parish Magazine in Wilmslow. We are fortunate to have a very loyal group of supporters.

Future Plans

Brass instruments and drums have been donated at NGBSS by the chair of the board of governors and her family, so that a marching band can be formed. It is hoped that this will raise the status of the school and provide another interest for the students. Up till now there has been no musical input at the school.

The new A-level and Fine Arts block is soon to be completed ready for its opening on April 19th. This is a wonderful project made possible due to a very generous donation from the

Linden Trust, given in memory of its founder Margaret Pearson. She was a great friend and supporter of the Mary Wood Trust. Along with a rainwater collection scheme, solar panels and new desks, it is hoped that this new three-roomed classroom block will attract many new girls to join the school.

Financial Review

Overview of the year 2023-2024

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 fell by £5,121, partly because a regular donation that we receive of £5,000 fell outside this financial year.

Principal sources of funds

Most of the Trust's income came from:

Charities - £35,200 (£35,000 from the Linden Trust and £200 from the Redsetter Trust)

Individuals - (direct giving - £32,492, via PayPal - £2,780)

HMRC - Gift Aid reclaimed - £3,984

Interest on Investments - £3,491

eBay Sales - £2,623

Expenditure

Our expenditure has doubled as a result of doing a major building project using money from the Linden Trust.

Our main areas of expenditure were:

NGSS Building work including A-level Block - £41,203

Further Education Students - £9,446

NGSS Student support - £9,463

Kinkiizi Nyakatare Health Centre - £2,220

Ruth Memorial Nursery School Food etc - £4,462

Fundraising

Face to face fundraising has resumed including a Plant and Cake sale which was a great success. Selling donated items on eBay and Facebook marketplace has continued to bring in substantial funds.

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

Financial Policy

We have not worked through the Charity Commission self- assessment checklist this year but we are aware of the need to do it.

Reserve funds

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

How expenditure has supported the key objectives of the charity

By providing sponsorship for 40 girls at Nyakabungo Girls Boarding Secondary School (NGBSS), 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 in the future.

By providing mosquito nets each year to all students, we are ensuring that the girls have the best chance of staying healthy.

The provision of sanitary towels to all girls and women at the school ensures that no one is left in need.

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

The provision of suitable staff accommodation at NGBSS is important in encouraging the teachers, showing that they are appreciated. Hopefully this will reflect in their caring approach to their teaching.

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

By providing daily food and milk for 75 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.

Supporting Nyakatare Health Centre with its community health outreaches has a far-reaching benefit to the wider community.

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

The Mary Wood Trust

1144311

Receipts and payments accounts

CC16a

For the period from 06/04/2023 To 05/04/2024

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	22	-	-	22	20
CHARITABLE TRUSTS	-	35,200	-	35,200	200
CHURCH DONATIONS	-	975	-	975	5,000
CAF VOUCHER	-	320	-	320	-
DEPOSIT INTEREST	3,491	-	-	3,491	1,321
EBAY SALES	-	109	-	109	598
HMRC GIFT AID	1,739	2,245	-	3,984	2,452
PAYPAL GIVING FUND	105	2,409	-	2,514	527
PERSONAL DONATIONS	11,749	20,743	-	32,492	26,405
PERSONAL DONATIONS VIA PAYPAL	74	2,706	-	2,780	1,696
STEWARDSHIP	120	-	-	120	2,020
Sub total (Gross income for AR)	17,300	64,707	-	82,007	40,239
A2 Asset and investment sales					
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	17,300	64,707	-	82,007	40,239
A3 Payments					
FURTHER EDUCATION	-	9,446	-	9,446	7,157
FURTHER ED GOOD SAMARITAN FUND	-	-	-	-	36
KINKIIZI (Dental & NHC)	-	2,220	-	2,220	336
KINKIIZI STUDENT SUPPORT	-	714	-	714	1,724
NGSS BUILDING WORK	-	41,203	-	41,203	9,774
NGSS FINE ARTS	-	597	-	597	500
NGSS KITCHEN	-	1,537	-	1,537	284
NGSS NETS	-	161	-	161	-
NGSS SAMARITAN	-	-	-	-	236
NGSS SANITARY PADS	-	1,417	-	1,417	426
NGSS SEWING ROOM	-	618	-	618	367
NGSS SPORTS	-	285	-	285	-
NGSS SUPPORT	-	9,463	-	9,463	8,353
RMS FOOD	-	4,462	-	4,462	4,253
RMS GENERAL	-	1,736	-	1,736	2,481
UGANDA TRIP	-	-	-	-	2,000
GENERAL	2,734	-	-	2,734	340
Sub total	2,734	73,859	-	76,593	38,267
A4 Asset and investment					
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total payments	2,734	73,859	-	76,593	38,267
Net of receipts/(payments)	14,566	(9,152)	-	5,414	1,972
A5 Transfers between funds	(7,415)	7,415	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	63,566	45,825	-	109,391	107,419
Cash funds this year end	70,717	44,088	-	114,805	109,391

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)	1,864	-	-
	CO-OP BANK (SAVINGS)	12,941	-	-
	REDWOOD BANK (SAVINGS)	-	10,000	-
	CCLA (SAVINGS)	55,912	34,088	-
		70,717	44,088	

Total cash funds

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

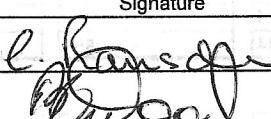
Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B2 Other monetary assets		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-

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	25/10/2024
	Peter Wood	25/10/2024



Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees/
members of

The Mary Wood Trust

On accounts for the year
ended

5th April 2024

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 05/04/2024.

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: 25/10/2024

Name:

George Large

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

Address:

166 Beeches Road

Chelmsford

Essex CM1 2RZ