



Africa's Gift
Changing Lives, Nurturing Nature

ANNUAL REPORT 2023 - 2024



Africa's Gift Ltd
Company Number 08263480
Registered Charity number 1149830



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A WORD FROM THE CHAIR



Every step forward in Africa fills me with renewed hope and deepened commitment to this remarkable continent.

Over the past year, we have continued to share biodegradable cook bags with communities, which have already reduced smoke inhalation, decreased deforestation, and allowed families more time by easing the burdens of collecting firewood and water. These small innovations are creating tangible changes in everyday lives and in the environment.

Our efforts in promoting sustainable agriculture have helped more communities avoid the devastating effects of over-ploughing, with proper crop rotation ensuring that the land can continue to support future generations. Likewise, our ongoing support for the Batwa and Kigezi communities in Uganda is showing promising signs of reversing the effects of their displacement, empowering them to build a more secure future.

However, as our impact grows, so do the challenges. Africa's Gift is working hard to address these pressing needs, but we cannot do it alone. The scale of the work remains immense, and we need your continued support to make a lasting impact.

Together, we are changing lives—but there is still much to be done. Thank you for standing by us, and please continue to support us, share our story, and encourage others to join in this journey. Rest assured, every penny you contribute will be put to powerful, life-changing use.



KEN DUNN
CHAIR



A Word From Our Patron - Prince Seeiso



“I am very proud to be patron of Africa's Gift - a charity that changes lives, that champions collaborative working, and that promotes education for sustainable development.

Confident that its influence will continue to expand and develop, I encourage you to support this charity, as 100% of your donation will be used for maximum benefit in an African community.”

Our Supporters & Donors



Our huge thanks to everyone who has contributed to our work this year, including;

- Africa's Gift subscription members
- Africa's Gift Trustees & their families
- Africa's Gift volunteers and fundraisers
- Sheffield Hallam University
- Darcey for collecting shoes
- Birkdale School in Sheffield who names us as their charity of the year for 23/24
- Meena Samara, Angel Assets
- Harrison Wealth Management
- SAB Textiles
- Dr Charlotte Verney
- MDR LLP
- Luxe Club Retreats
- Kenneth Allen
- His Excellency, the British High Commissioner for Lesotho, Harry MacDonald



**Sheffield
Hallam
University**



**Birkdale
School**

Our Purpose & Public Benefit



Africa's Gift Ltd is a charitable company, holding no share capital, limited by guarantee, and governed by Articles of Association (November 2012). The charity exists primarily to:

1. **Promote sustainable economic and agricultural development in Africa with a particular focus on the Malealea valley, Lesotho through;**
 - the conservation and protection of the environment and prudent use of resources;
 - the promotion of sustainable agricultural practice and other means of achieving economic growth and regeneration
2. **Address poverty and improve living conditions in socially and economically disadvantaged communities, particularly, but not exclusively in the Malealea Valley by:**
 - contributing to the relief of financial hardship of both adults and children, by offering specific grants, subsidising goods that will improve people's lives or funding specific improvement projects;
 - supporting disadvantaged children, including orphans, to attend school by providing uniforms and other assistance, and funding fees;
 - working with schools to improve their facilities and the quality of education, including learning about sustainable agriculture and wider economic development.
3. **Build wider understanding and garner support for our work across communities in the developed world, with particular focus on Yorkshire, by;**
 - supporting school, workplace, university and social groups to undertake working visits to Africa (particularly Malealea Valley) and to make a longer term commitment to support our work;
 - tirelessly promoting our work and achievements by all appropriate means

ECO-COOK BAGS & CELEBRITY COOKING



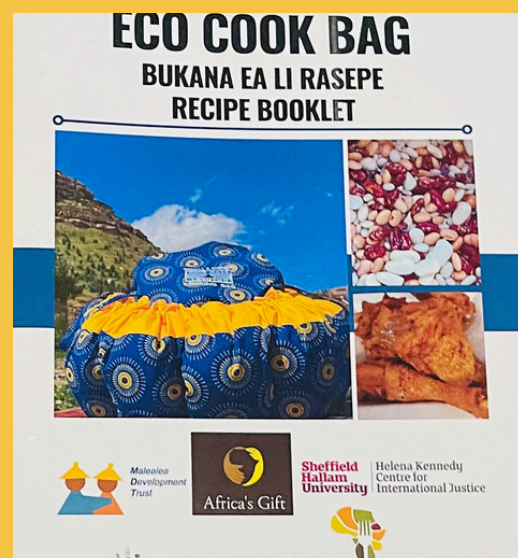
We are delighted that the Tanzanian Red Cross have 20 Eco-Cook Bags in use and that feedback from the field is that these have been very well received and that more are wanted. The funding of them remains an issue.

Celebrity Chef Ska Moteane joined Ken on a visit to take part in a cooking challenge. Her work promotes healthy eating using local sustainable produce, and her vision is to fight hunger in local communities. She's an impressive lady and we're delighted that she joined us. The aim of the project was to highlight the variety of meals that can be cooked in the Eco-Cook Bag and the results were delicious!



The Eco-Cook Bag uses sustainable hemp to provide its insulation

We launched a new cookbook embracing Basotho recipes for the Eco-Cook Bag. This work was supported by a grant from the British High Commission, drawing on funds from the Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office



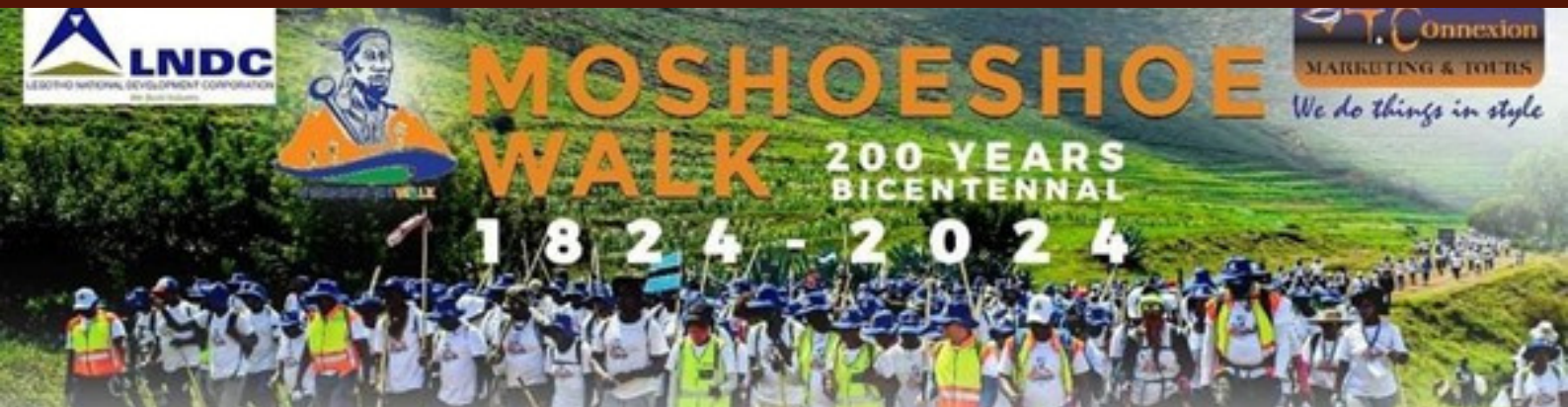


Uganda & Marian's Eden

Africa's Gift visited Marian's Eden in August 2023. During that time, members worked on the pocket pharmacy, removing invasive species and mulching, allowing the coffee and medicinal plants the space to thrive. The Manager, Lilian, is a multi-talented young mum! She made an Eco-Cook Bag with a template from Tanzania, then proceeded to cook with it, which was joyous to see. We have consolidated Marian's Eden as a forest for the Batwa & Kigezi communities. Non native eucalyptus has been cut down and the wood stored for the future building of a visitors centre.



Moshoeshoe Walk



In March of 2024, Ken participated in the Annual Moshoeshoe Walk to commemorate the founding father of Lesotho. It's an arduous 3-day walk and Ken was joined by volunteers.

As he always does, Ken took the opportunity throughout the walk to promote the work of Africa's Gift and the Eco-Cook Bag.



Masemouse



Masemouse a remote village in Lesotho, beyond the Malealea Valley, which has been the focus of much of our work (please contact is you'd like to see the report on the Malealea Teaching Farm we established to case study sustainable agriculture)



Here we were building upon earlier work, having identified new and committed leaders within the community. We funded extensive training in sustainable agriculture where the community has shown real enthusiasm. That encouraged us to work with the community to bring dormant fish ponds to life.



Masemouse - The Fish Farm



Draining &
Repairing
the Fish
Farm at
Masemouse



Looking ahead we hope to re-stock the fish ponds, having taken advice from the relevant Ministry on the species we should introduce.



The fish ponds are now watertight. Stronger fencing is needed along with drain holes at the bottom of each pond so that they can be flushed through and oxygenated. Shade netting is also needed. Consideration is being given to introducing ducks and a maggot farm. Security will be required when the fish are grown.

Malealea - The Teaching Farm



In 2022/23 we transferred ownership to the community with a local farmer taking over management under the Malealea Development Trust. We subsequently introduced greater expertise on sustainable agriculture but problems remained. This year that expertise and leadership has been further strengthened.



While not accountable, we will continue to take a close interest and offer support where needed.



In 22/23, we set the following priorities for 23/24. Here's how we performed against them;



- ✓ **1. Consider additional support for the development of Marian's Eden**
Land cleared, new plantings of native, particularly medicinal plants, and coffee. Introduction of an eco cookbag
- ✓ **2. Supporting Masemouse & the teaching farm with cover cropping**
Great application of sustainable agriculture including crop rotation and use of cover crops
- ✓ **3. Discussing with the Malealea Development Trust their first project in Tsinyane which will likely require our support to progress**
Significant donation attracted to support developing sustainable agriculture in Tsinyane, coupled with reviving keyhole gardens there and across Malealea to enhance the potential for self sufficiency
- ✓ **4. To conclude the building work in Leribe at the Phelisanong Children Centre**
The latest phase of construction is now complete thanks to the building team and significant fundraising led by Paul Selina in Canada
- ✓ **5. To continue to identify sources & funding for eco-cook bags**
Attracted over £3000 invest in the production of eco Cookbags, supported by new research evidence of their effectiveness and potential for carbon savings and a new cookbook in Sesotho language



Looking Ahead Our Priorities for 2024-2025



I) Respond to the threat to food security in Lesotho:

- * Expand the production and distribution of eco cookbags in Malealea and further afield . Cookbag free women to produce more food
- * Support the MDT in reinforce good practice in the use of cook bags
 - * Improve food production through more attention to sustainable agriculture
- * A focus on Masmouse, the teaching Farm and Tsinyane as centres of excellence
- * Extend the use of keyhole gardens throughout Malealea

ii) Marian's Eden: sustain current progress, while seeking funding for a step change in investment to support wide tourist engagement to build sustainability.

iii) Eco cookbags: seek funding to enable a step change in manufacture linked to a far wide promotion, potential linked to realising their carbon offsetting potential.



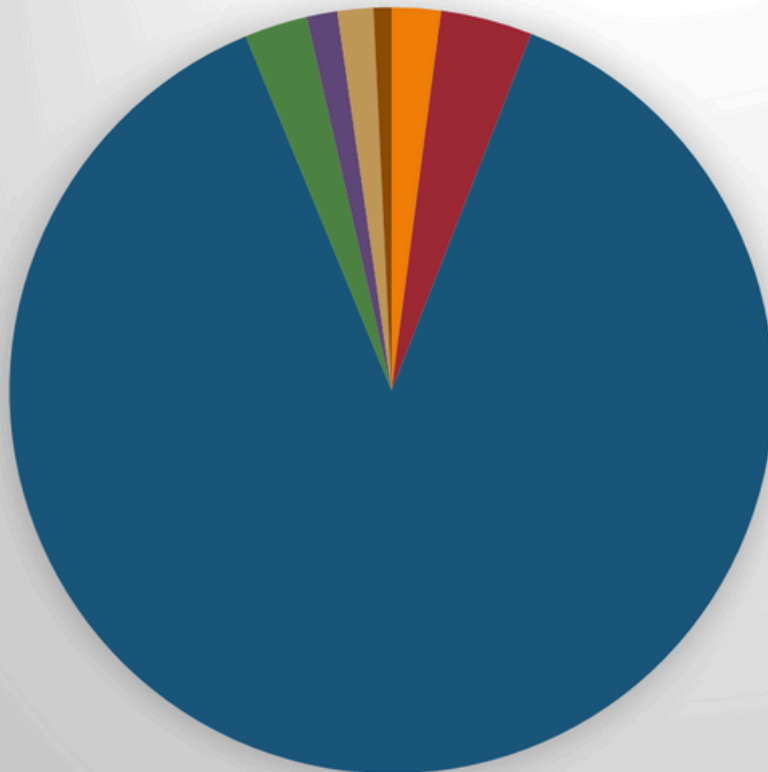
Our Finances



Our Finances at a Glance

Carry forward on 1 June 2023	£1,497
Charity income	£42,552
Charity expenditure	£37,636
Balance on 31 March 2024	£6,413

Expenditure 2024



- Educational assistance
- Conservation Agriculture, Malealea & Masemouse
- Cookbag manufacture & distribution
- Marian's Eden, Uganda
- Targeted community support, Malealea
- Charity Admin Costs
- Public Liability Insurance

Cash Reserves:

It is charity policy to ring-fence donations or support received for specific projects, whilst also keeping in reserve an agreed sum (annually reviewed) for unexpected costs. Thus for 2024-2025 we are carrying forward significant funds identified for planned developments at Tsinyane, Masemouse, and Ribaneng, further progress with our cookbag manufacturing initiative, and work on Marian's Eden forest pharmacy. Where the amounts held are insufficient, we expect to raise the balance through fund raising initiatives.

Our Governance

Our Trustees meet a minimum of 4 times a year, in addition to our AGM

Our Trustees serve an initial term of 3-years after which they can seek reappointment for further terms.

Any person willing to act as a Trustee will be considered and, where appropriate, appointed by the board at a General Meeting

Trustees take very seriously their duty to ensure that the charity's income is used for public benefit. Although there is an annual licence cost for the online processing of donations and Gift Aid, we do not spend donors' gifts on fundraising schemes, and we are confident that whilst reporting the impact of charitable activities upon the lives of both African and (visiting) volunteer beneficiaries, we also take great care to identify best value for money. Please see this year's financial review for further details.

Our Administration



Principle Charity Office

Carholme, 22 Parkfield Road,
Rotherham, S65 2AT

Our Trustees

Kenneth Dunn
Helen Bailey
Teri Stephenson
Michael Fletcher
Paul Keen
Val Penycate,
Julie Robinson (resigned 12th
September 2024)

Registered Company Number - 08263480

Registered Charity Number - 1149830

This report was approved by the
Trustees of Africa's Gift on 11th
October 2024





Africa's Gift

Changing Lives, Nurturing Nature



Africa's Gift Ltd

Company Number 08263480

Registered Charity number 1149830

Africa's Gift Ltd

Registered Charity Number 1149830

Company number 8263480

Financial Statements

Year ending 31 May 2024

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Directors' Report

Profit & Loss Account

Balance Sheet

Appendix A – details of cash income & expenditures

These accounts have been prepared under the historical cost convention, and in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard for Smaller Entities (effective January 2015).

The Company is limited by guarantee and does not have share capital.

Africa's Gift Ltd

Registered Charity Number 1149830

Company number 8263480

Directors' Report

The Directors have pleasure in presenting the report and unaudited company accounts for the year ending 31 May 2024.

The directors who served during the year are :

Helen Bailey	Appointed 13.11.2020
Kenneth Ronald Dunn	Appointed 22.10.2012
Michael Robert Fletcher	Appointed 02.12.2015
Paul Keen	Appointed 24.02.2016
Valerie Mary Penycate	Appointed 12.10.2018
Julie Corbyn	Appointed 29.04.2022
Teresa Mary Stephenson	Appointed 13.11.2020

This report was approved by the Board of Directors on 3 June 2024

Registered office

Carholme
22 Parkfield Road
Rotherham
South Yorks
S65 2AT

Signed

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'KRD', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Kenneth R Dunn (for the Board of Directors)

Africa's Gift Ltd

Registered Charity Number 1149830

Company number 8263480

Profit and Loss Account

Year ending 31 May 2024

	£
Total cash balance held at 1 June 2023	6,272.52
Income – charitable donations	42,551.75
Income – other	21,369.18
Expenditure – charitable objects	37,636.05
Expenditure – other	24,174.44
<i>Total carry forward at 31 May 2024</i>	<i>8,382.96</i>

For further details of individual items of income and expenditure, please refer to pages 5 & 6.

Africa's Gift Ltd

Registered Charity Number 1149830

Company number 8263480

Balance Sheet

Year ending 31 May 2024

❖ Current Assets	£
Cash in bank, charitable donations	8,218.31
Cash in bank, Happy Feet and SA crafts	164.65
Cash in bank, other (volunteer payments, future visit costs)	00.00
Total Assets	8,382.96
❖ Liabilities (2023-24)	
Donations held for contributions to running expenses (Community Teaching farm, Malealea, Lesotho)	156.56
Donations held on behalf of Malealea Development Trust (Ribaneng Catholic Primary School, and planned developments at Tsinyane and Masemouse)	5,185.51
Donations held for cookbag developments, and associated ongoing conservation works	1,615.07
Donations held for ongoing development of Marian's Eden, forest pharmacy, Uganda	396.50
Monies held to re-invest in new stock (Happy Feet and South African crafts)	164.65
Funds held for future volunteer visits (costed travel and accomodation)	00.00
❖ Cash Reserves	864.67
Total Liabilities, Reserves & Stock	8,382.96

Notes

For the year ending 31 May 2024 the company was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

- The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of it's accounts for the year in question in accordance with section 476, and
- The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and the preparation of accounts.
- These accounts have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to those companies subject to the small companies regime.

Approved by the Board on 3 June 2024

Signed



Kenneth R Dunn (for the Board of Directors)

Balance of accounts at close of business on 31 May 2024

INCOME

		£
Donations / payments received		
	by the charity	PIV volunteers
1 Cookbag activations and manufacturing support	27,913.75	1,325.87
2 Teaching farm, Malealea (Lesotho)	64.79	
3 Marian's Eden; Batwa heritage, forest garden in Uganda	1,614.80	
4 Peter Robinson Memorial (environmental support) Fund	137.76	
5 Donations for Malealea Nursery school	781.35	
6 Donation for planned works in Tsinyane and Masemouse	5,000.00	
7 Donation for Ribaneng Catholic Primary School	163.18	
8 General donations	2,442.75	
9 Membership subscriptions	3,003.52	
10 Gift Aid receipts	1.74	
11 Bank interest	102.24	
	41,225.88	1,325.87
TOTAL charitable income for the period		42,551.75

Charity funds balance held @ 1 June 2023	1,497.49
Charitable income	42,551.75
Charitable expenditure	37,636.05
Carried forward at 31 May 2024	6,413.19

As can be seen on page 4, we are carrying forward funds for known commitments in Lesotho. A sum is also identified for Reserves, which lies within the agreed limits of the charity's Reserves policy, and will be available to cover unexpected losses in income or occasional unforeseen expenditure - which protects our other restricted (ring-fenced) budgets, or enables us to respond to an emergency situation.

NON CHARITY INCOME

12 Income from shoe collections	600.00	
13 Client payments for Partnership Interaction Visits (PIVs)	20,769.18	
	21,369.18	0.00
Total 'other' income for the period		21,369.18

Non charity balance held @ 1 June 2023	4,775.03
Non charity income	21,369.18
Non charity expenditure	24,174.44
Cash carried forward (Non charity) at 31 May 2024	1,969.77

Accounts prepared by Lesley Cochrane

(Charity Treasurer)

Signature L CochraneDate 3 June 2024

(this page to be read alongside previous page)

EXPENDITURE

£

Project work supported	by the charity	PIV activity
1 Cookbag facilitation & manufacturing costs, not for profit, Lesotho	30,873.49	2,174.37
2 Teaching farm, cover crops to retain soil and smother weeds.	500.00	
3 Marian's Eden; Batwa heritage, forest garden in Uganda	1,000.00	
4 Conservation agriculture consultant, Masemouse & Malealea	900.00	
5 Support for Malealea Nursery School	781.35	
6 Support for local community, replacement generator in Malealea	489.00	
7 Tree planting (to replace lost fuel woods and stabilise soil)	62.13	
8 Public Liability Insurance	285.71	
9 Online collection & processing - annual licensing costs	498.00	
10 Banking costs	72.00	
Total charitable expenditure for the period	35,461.68	2,174.37
		37,636.05

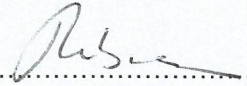
The impact of PIV groups on the work we undertake in southern Africa continues to be significant. In particular, the now regular visits of student cohorts from Sheffield Hallam University. Thus we are pleased to share above, details of the additional financial support our partner communities enjoy through our volunteers' activity on the ground as well as their pre-visit fundraising.

NON CHARITY EXPENDITURE

11 Costs and transportation of shoe collections	600.00	
12 Costs incurred for Partnership Interaction Visits (PIVs)	23,574.44	
	24,174.44	0.00
Total 'other' expenditure for the period		24,174.44

BANK RECONCILIATION

Total cash carried forward	8,382.96
TOTAL cash in bank on 31 May 2024	8,382.96

Accounts examined by	(Accountant)
Signature 	Footprints Accountancy Ltd Unit 24 Napier Court Gander Lane Barlborough S43 4PZ
Date <u>03/01/2025</u>	



Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

**Report to the trustees/
members of**

Charity Name
Africa's Gift Ltd

**On accounts for the year
ended**

31st May 2024

**Charity no
(if any)**

1149830

Set out on pages

(remember to include the page numbers of additional sheets)

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended **31 / 05 / 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:

03/01/2025

Name:

Julie Robinson

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

CIMA

Address:

24 Napier Court, Gander Lane, Barlborough, Chesterfield, S43 4PZ.

Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight matters of concern (see CC32, Independent examination of charity accounts: directions and guidance for examiners).

Give here brief details of any items that the examiner wishes to disclose.

N/A



Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

**Report to the trustees/
members of**

Charity Name
Africa's Gift Ltd

**On accounts for the year
ended**

31st May 2024

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(if any)**

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Set out on pages

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Signed:

Date:

03/01/2025

Name:

Julie Robinson

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

CIMA

Address:

24 Napier Court, Gander Lane, Barlborough, Chesterfield, S43 4PZ.

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