



Trustees' Report and Accounts

for the year ending 31 December 2020



Nurture hope in the Butaleja District of Uganda by enabling people to overcome the hurdles that prevent them reaching their full potential.

Introduction to a little bit of HOPE

a little bit of HOPE's vision is to **nurture hope in the Butaleja District of Uganda by enabling people to overcome the hurdles that prevent them reaching their full potential.**

The objects of a little bit of HOPE are, for the public benefit:

- To provide grants to charities, other organisations and individuals in the Butaleja district of Uganda in fulfilment of the following charitable purposes:
 - the advancement of education;
 - the advancement of health and/or saving of lives; and
 - the relief and/or prevention of poverty; and
- The advancement of education in the United Kingdom in particular as regard issues concerning the relief and/or prevention of poverty.

Money raised by *a little bit of HOPE* in the UK was given to *a little bit of HOPE (Uganda)*, a registered Non-Governmental Organisation in Uganda, registration number 10219, to fund a wide range of grassroots development programmes in line with the objects of *a little bit of HOPE*. Our key activities are to raise awareness and funds, and to ensure that money raised is spent effectively.

Our programmes are divided into four main areas:

- **Education:** including school farms, community library, reusable sanitary towels, and scholarships.
- **Health, water and sanitation:** including health education programmes, pit latrine and smokeless stove construction, and borehole fixing.
- **Business and innovation:** including apprenticeships, training, and saving and small loan schemes.
- **Vulnerable households:** including the support of vulnerable children, and working with widows.

In 2020, responding to the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic and resulting lockdown was a key focus within each of these programme areas.

Our work is guided by a number of 'approach statements'. They are:

- We focus our resources on the poorest of the poor
- We endeavour to promote sustainability, not dependency
- We only fund projects initiated and led by local people
- We take monitoring and evaluation seriously
- We account for every penny we spend
- We support people of all faiths, because our work is founded on Christian principles.

We confirm the trustees have had regard to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit.

Highlights from 2020

At the beginning of 2020, there were detailed plans for the year ahead. COVID-19 changed most of them! In 2020, the people of Butaleja were largely spared from the ravishes of the virus itself, however, the impact of lockdown were significant. However, what was evident through was resilience and innovation. Although our priorities shifted many of our core programmes continued - some like borehole fixing becoming more urgent than ever, others like the making of reusable sanitary pads saw were adapted so they continued to have impact.

Our COVID 19 Response

Working closely with the District's COVID-19 Taskforce, *a little bit of HOPE (Uganda)*, were at the heart of responding to the pandemic. This was made possible by our supporters in the UK donating £15,304 as part of our emergency appeal.

Prevent

- Part of the taskforce's education campaign which aims to inform people about COVID-19 and reduce the likelihood of it spreading. This reached approximately 180,500 people. Later, a similar campaign focused on educating the community about gender-based violence and violence against children – both of which rose dramatically as a result of lockdown. This effort reached 240,000 people.
- We stepped up our programme of fixing boreholes, repairing 16 boreholes during the year. This enabled 13,300 people to have easier access to safe water – essential for washing hands.

Prepare

- We helped Busolwe Hospital to prepare for an outbreak. We enabled them to establish a 10-bed isolation ward. We also supplied them Personal Protective equipment (PPE), cleaning supplies, and an infrared thermometer.

Provide

- With so many people relying on daily income to buy daily food, lockdown provided a serious challenge. We provided 2,240 households with food parcels, benefiting 11,700 people.



Repairing a borehole



Equipping an isolation ward



Delivering food parcels

Education – a RUMPs production centre

One of our headline projects is our RUMPs programme. We educate girls – in school, and women in the community, how to make 'Reusable Menstrual Pads'. Too many girls miss school for several days each month, and as they get further behind, dropping out completely becomes more likely. With schools closed, we couldn't run this programme in our usual way – but our team in Uganda recognised that RUMPs were more essential than ever – as sanitary products were increasingly hard to access.

Therefore, as restrictions began to ease, we created a 'RUMPs Production Centre' at the Busolwe Community Library!

We painted one of the spare rooms, connected electricity, provided furniture – including storage for materials and the finished pads, and purchased four sewing machines. By the end of the year, 1,537 pads have been made at the Centre and distributed to girls and women in the community. When the pads are given out, training is also provided, and where possible, we conduct follow up visits to ensure that pads are being used correctly, and provide further instruction where necessary.

Running the centre, is a volunteer named Geoffrey. He was part of our scholarship programme and studied tailoring at college. He's using this as an opportunity to improve his own skills in using a sewing machine and is

enjoying training others to make RUMPs. It was surprising that a man volunteered for this task – but when asked about it, he explained that he was happy to make anything which enabled him to practise his tailoring skills. We are hoping that he is setting an example in the community and will make other men more comfortable with the subject of menstruation!

The centre serves as a central place for women and young people to learn how to make the pads, which is particularly important while schools are closed and women can't meet in larger groups. With more free time, many girls from local schools have been coming to the centre to use the sewing machines to make pads for their own use, and also to sell on at affordable prices to friends.



During lockdown, there has been a significant increase in teenage pregnancies – the *a little bit of HOPE (Uganda)* team have been involved in a number of initiatives to provide education, and safety, to young girls. One of these initiatives is a 'youth corner' – a youth club style activity based at the local library. This has also increased the number of girls learning how to make RUMPs.

Health, water and sanitation – Focusing on four villages

While giving so much of our attention to the health emergency facing the entire world and being part of the District-wide education efforts, we continued our commitment to the villages of Suni, Namadumwe, Madungha and Nabala B to work with the community to promote good hygiene and sanitation – with the aim of reducing the outbreak of disease. In the four villages, households with access to a latrine rose from 34.6% to 56%.

Fazira Mutambuli says, "I am a mother of four children [and] also a member of the village health team in this village, overtime I have been hearing that [a] little bit of hope is implementing a sanitation program in Namahoho our neighboring village I have been admiring such a program to be implemented in my village to improve on the sanitation standard but am so happy that such a program will be in my village this year"



Business and innovation – Apprenticeships

The 2020 cohort were unable to be enrolled at the beginning of the year, but towards the end of the year, 20 young women did begin our apprenticeship programmes – either learning tailoring or hairdressing. This is Joseline's story: *'I got pregnant in 2018 at the age of 18 years in primary Five (P.5) then dropped out of school and now am 21 years old, am staying with my mother because the boda boda man (motorcycle-taxi driver) that made me pregnant ran off! I have had many challenges in raising up my baby because I had no source of income but when such an opportunity by a little bit of HOPE came that could enable me learn a skill that would later earn me some money I was more than ready to take it up. Am already having some critical techniques in hair dressing through being attached to an experienced hair dressing trainer and I bright new future ahead'*

Vulnerable households – enabling farming to generate income

Much of our work with vulnerable women groups is to enable them to generate income through small scale farming efforts. We provide education, along with essential inputs (such as seeds, tools, chickens and goats). This is Maria's story, *"I am so grateful for the support from a little bit of HOPE for the harvests from rice that I received. I planted 5kg of rice and I applied all the knowledge the staff of a little bit of HOPE advised me to do and to my surprise I harvested 300kg which I am sure I am going to see part of it to buy iron sheets to complete my house which has been pending since last year. I am equally thankful for the knowledge and skills I have received from the staff in savings, crafts and farming that has made me stand on my own now as a widow without begging, I as well sell vegetables, crafts and this partly increased my shares in my savings group and I bought a bull at 600,000UGX. I am happy for having mentored and nurtured by a little bit of HOPE"*



Reference and administrative details

Registered Charity (England and Wales) No.

1162178

Registered Office:

100 Mile End Lane
Stockport
SK2 6BP

Trustees:

Malcolm Bebb
David Elton (Treasurer)
Isobel Elton
Hannah Green (appointed 17/05/21)
Phil Green (Chair)
Rachel Mortimer (resigned 22/02/20)
Eliza Reger (appointed 08/10/20)
Amy Smyth
Amy Spooner (resigned 08/10/20)

Bankers:

The Co-operative Bank
P.O. Box 101
1 Balloon Street
Manchester
M60 4EP

Independent Examiners:

Stewardship
1 Lamb's Passage
London
EC1Y 8AB

Structure, governance and management

a little bit of HOPE was registered as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) on 12th June 2015*. Trustees are appointed by existing trustees. The day-to-day activities – for example, communications, fundraising, and administration are shared between the trustees. In 2020, our volunteer – who was managed by the trustees - retired. During 2020 our fundraising – from charitable trusts – was enhanced by the services of a fundraising consultant (we had received specific funding to pay for this).

One of the trustee's main responsibilities is to monitor how monies we grant to *a little bit of HOPE (Uganda)* is spent. The treasurer receives detailed monthly finance updates, the chair of trustees talks regularly both the director and chairperson of *a little bit of HOPE (Uganda)*, trustees each have one or two projects that they specifically oversee – including receiving quarterly reports. Phil Green visited in January 2020 – to see the impact of the projects first-hand, however since then no visit have been possible as a result of COVID-19.

* Previously *a little bit of HOPE* was a registered trust (1147623) – following the transfer of assets, the trust has been closed and removed from the Charity Commission's register of charities.

Financial Review

Reserves policy

Our current policy is to retain a minimum of £4,000 in unrestricted reserves at all times. However, during 2018, in order to ensure *a little bit of HOPE (Uganda)* had sufficient cash to undertake its activities during the transfer process from the current charitable trust (Registered charity number 1147623) to this charity (Registered charity number 1162178), our reserves were drawn upon. With the transfer process completed in 2019, we successfully rebuilt this during the year. The charity ended 2020 with a cash balance of £17,680, of this £9,033 was restricted, leaving £4,647 in unrestricted free reserves and thus £4,000 of this designated as reserves.

Income

Our total income in 2020 was £61,168. Income from individuals (including gift aid) and churches accounted was £55,396 while the remaining £5,772 was received from charitable trusts.

Expenditure

97.6% of our expenditure went to fund the work of *a little bit of HOPE (Uganda)*. This calculation excludes that expenditure restricted for fundraising - as a result of income we received in 2017 specifically to enable fundraising from trusts and foundations.

End of year balance

Our total end of year cash balance was £17,680 (2019: £18,638).

Independent examination

As our total charitable income exceeded the threshold of £25,000, our accounts are subject to an independent examination.

Declaration

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signatures	DAVID ELTON	PHILIP GREEN
Full names	David Elton	Philip Green
Position	Trustee – treasurer	Trustee – chairperson
Date	22/09/2021	22/09/2021

Independent Examiner's Report

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of *a little bit of HOPE* ('the charity') for the year ended 31 December 2020 on pages 7 to 9 following.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the trustees of the charity you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the 2011 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 2011 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 accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act; or
- 2) 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.

JAIMÉE YOUNG

Jaimée Young

For an on behalf of:

Stewardship
1 Lamb's Passage
London
EC1Y 8AB

Date: 13/10/2021

Detailed summary of accounts

Money brought forward from previous years

	2020 £	2019 £
Reserves	4,000	-
Restricted funds	11,188	13,620
General funds	3,450	2,827
Total	18,638	16,447

Income

	2020			2019		
	General £	Restricted £	Total £	General £	Restricted £	Total £
Regular giving	21,310	7,052	28,362	17,703	7,002	24,705
Single donations	7,924	16,441	24,365	14,136	2,137	16,272
Trusts	-	5,772	5,772	-	3,900	3,900
Gift aid	1,995	673	2,668	4,308	48	4,356
Total	31,230	29,938	61,168	36,147	13,087	49,234

Expenditure

	2020			2019		
	General £	Restricted £	Total £	General £	Restricted £	Total £
Grants given to a little bit of HOPE (Uganda)	28,617	28,814	57,431	24,421	15,519	39,939
Professional fees	1,417	-	1,417	688	-	688
Bank charges	-	-	-	176	-	176
Fundraiser	-	3,279	3,279	-	6,240	6,240
Total	30,034	32,093	62,127	25,284	21,759	47,042

Summary of restricted funds

	Brought forward £	Income £	Allocated expenditure £	Carried forward £
Covid-19 appeal	-	15,304	(15,304)	-
Education (general)	-	540	(540)	-
Education (school farms)	-	5,720	(5,720)	-
Education (RUMPs)	3,608	5,802	(4,678)	4,733
Health (general)	-	210	(210)	-
Vulnerable Households (general)	-	1,762	(1,762)	-
Vulnerable Households (OVCs)	-	600	(600)	-
Fundraiser	7,579	-	(3,279)	4,300
Total	11,188	29,938	(32,093)	9,033

Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

	2020 £	2019 £
Cash funds		
Reserves	4,000	4,000
Restricted funds	9,033	11,188
General funds	4,647	3,450
Total	17,680	18,638
Other monetary assets:		
Gift aid: unclaimed	856	497
Total	856	497
Liabilities:		
Fee due for Independent examination	(540)	(540)
Fee due for fundraising support in December 2019	-	(720)
Total	(540)	(1,260)

Notes to the accounts:

1. Basis of preparation of accounts

The accounts have been prepared under the receipts and payments method as permitted by s.133 Charities Act 2011 and in accordance with guidance from the Charity Commission.

2. Restricted funds

Expenditure incurred by a little bit of HOPE (Uganda) from grants received in the year has been allocated to restricted funds using an average exchange rate of 1 GBP: 4,576 UGX.

3. Trustees' remuneration

No payments were made to trustees or persons related to them, except for reimbursement of expenses paid out on behalf of the charity.

4. Guarantees and debts outstanding

The charity has not given any guarantees and has not provided its assets as security for any liabilities.