

Friends of Cape Child (1173004)

Trustees Annual Report 01/01/2024 - 31/12/2024

This report for the calendar year 2024 covers fundraising and activity by the UK charity Friends of Cape Child (reg'd 1173004).

Once again an annual Charity Fundraising Sale Day at Botany House in September was the main source of funds for the charity with supporters both selling their products and donating a percentage of sales and making donations to attend the sale and supporting these vendors. Core donations included £440 from two monthly personal donors, Charity Sale £5137, one family donations £2400, one corporate donation of £2500.00 and additional Gift Aid contribution reclaimed of £1064. Total revenue of £11,541.00.

Outgoings this year were higher than both usual and expected with regular donations made to the Zeerust Boys Home, in NW Province, 4 boys and one little girl who have been placed in the care of a house mother to remove them from dangerous and abusive home environments, we granted £545.00 to this small NPO.

The main beneficiary was Hazel's Centre of Hope once again. Hazel saw the departure of three children who after a number of nurturing years in her care were deemed able to return to their birth family where the environment was now considered safe, however she immediately took in three small children aged between 1 and 5 from another family into her care.

Of her older children Sisikelelwe is thriving at Stellenbosch University having just completed his second year in Accounting and Finance with good end of year results which means his continued eligibility for the Brinley Trust scholarship which we secured at the start of 2023. His continued sponsorship is dependent on his academic achievements and he is doing well.

The other adult child at the home, Sisipho, age 22 has been with Hazel for many years and completed a Business Administration degree in Bloemfontein and we were able to fund her graduation and also a trip for Hazel to be present using some flight vouchers held by the Butler family. They had a wonderful experience and Sisipho is now looking for employment and is still resident at the centre.

These older children are actively tutoring Maths and English in the broader community where Hazel is based in Mitchell's Plain and wanted to create a fundraising website to service their own efforts to help fund Hazel's endeavours. I am not optimistic about their success in this endeavour but while a somewhat naïve endeavour I am equally keen that they attempt to sustain themselves and to this end we funded an AI driven website at a cost of £343.00. Despite my reservations I wish them all luck to succeed.

This year presented some medical challenges including a Cholecystectomy operation for Hazel herself which accounts for most of the Butler family donation although contribution was made from FoCC funds. Broadly 'no Hazel, no charity' and the condition was considered life threatening after investigation. Hazel made an good recovery and is now in excellent health.

Looking forward to 2025 one of Hazel's boys, Jerusalem, aged 16 has managed to achieve academic results which will see him go to a government boarding school in the Eastern Cape. The township school which he has been in presents at best a challenging learning environment and Hazel has done well to secure the option for him at this school and he has done his part to achieve the required results for admission. Tuition is free at the school but board, food, books and transport are payable. While not as academically gifted as Sisikelelwe looking forward It would be my hope that he may gain a good enough Matric result at the end of 2026 that we may seek another Brinley Trust scholarship to see him study at Stellenbosch University using the established contacts we have made. That is too far ahead to know as yet but that is our hope for him.

Total Income in 2025 £11,011 and expenditure £11,541.

A welcome corporate donation just before Christmas of £2500 sees a balance at our charity HSBC bank account at year end of £6134.00 so we are well placed to cover all projected expenses for the coming six months.

Trustees remain unchanged,

James Brounger

Victoria Butler

Sarah Rock

Chair of Trustees Report

Victoria Butler

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