



Trustees' Annual Report for the period

From	Period start date			To	Period end date		
	Day 1	Month Sept	Year 2020		Day 31	Month August	Year 2021

Section A Reference and administration details

Charity name	Opportunity Through Education
Other names charity is known by	
Registered charity number (if any)	1179046
Charity's principal address	The Long House, Hurtmore Road, Godalming, Surrey.
Postcode	GU7 2RB

Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity

	Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year	Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee (if any)
1	Alan Lion	Trustee		
2	Nicola Lion	Trustee		
3				
4				
5				
6				
7				
8				
9				
10				
11				
12				
13				
14				
15				
16				
17				
18				
19				
20				

Names of the trustees for the charity, if any, (for example, any custodian trustees)

Name	Dates acted if not for whole year
None	

Names and addresses of advisers (Optional information)

Type of adviser	Name	Address
Independent Examiner	Charles Hume	

Name of chief executive or names of senior staff members (Optional information)

--

Section B Structure, governance and management

Description of the charity's trusts

Type of governing document
(eg. trust deed, constitution)

CIO - FOUNDATION REGISTERED 03 JUL 2018

How the charity is constituted
(eg. trust, association, company)

CIO

Trustee selection methods
(eg. appointed by, elected by)

Apart from the first charity trustees, every trustee must be appointed for a term of 3 years by a resolution passed at a properly convened meeting of the charity trustees.

Additional governance issues (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include additional information, where relevant, about:

- policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees;
- the charity's organisational structure and any wider network with which the charity works;
- relationship with any related parties;
- trustees' consideration of major risks and the system and procedures to manage them.

OTE was set up to support the work of Nicki and Alan Lion ("the trustees"), plus the work of two partners, Elizabeth Hodgkin ("Liz") and Rebecca Mallinson ("Rebecca"). Liz and Rebecca jointly approach the trustees and asked for assistance. Rebecca had previously been supported by another UK registered charity, but, due to the burden of administration involved, that charity had asked Rebecca to try to find another UK registered charity able to support her.

After discussion, the trustees agreed to provide support. The basis upon which OTE supports Liz and Rebecca is contained in a separate document titled:

"Basis Of Working Together OTE and Partner 20180728.docx"

Section C Objectives and activities

Summary of the objects of the charity set out in its governing document

The objectives of the charity are:

"The relief of poverty with particular emphasis on education for the young and disadvantaged anywhere in the world."

The trustees believe that the provision of education is one very practical way to help people out of poverty and into a worthwhile and sustainable life.

Summary of the main activities undertaken for the public benefit in relation to these objects (include within this section the statutory declaration that trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit)

The review of activities and highlights below sets out how the work of OTE provides significant benefit to the public.

In terms of finances, OTE suffered from a reduction in income as a result of the COVID pandemic. There were a number of very good reasons for this reduction including:

- (a) Travel and fundraising opportunities for OTE's volunteers and trustees have been limited
- (b) Third party organisations which have, in the past, previously supported OTE have been similarly effected by COVID

Not only did the pandemic reduce the amount of income, it also curtailed the education opportunities available to those whom OTE supports. Schools and universities in various parts of Africa were closed for part of the year because of COVID. This meant that there was also a reduction in the demand for funds during the year. As a result, the trustees are very pleased to report that OTE was able to continue to support, in an appropriate fashion, those students and schools that it has helped in previous years.

In overall terms, income this year was £32,487 (2019: £38,393) and payments to beneficiaries amounted to £32,909 (2019: £37,416).

In its decision making the trustees of OTE are aware of and have complied with their duty to have due regard to The Charity Commission's public benefit guidance when they have exercised any powers and duties to which the guidance is relevant.

Additional details of objectives and activities (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include further statements, where relevant, about:

- policy on grantmaking;
- policy programme related investment;
- contribution made by volunteers.

The trustees wish to thank the following organisations and institutions for their support in the past year:

The Erica Leonard Fund
The T W Roberts Trust
Moor House School

In addition, the trustees wish to thank the many individuals who have so generously supported the work of OTE in the past year. Without such support, the wonderful transformation of some many young people's lives that has been achieved would never have happened.

Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year

The following represent just some of the people and projects that have been supported by the charity in the period covered by this review:

OTE - Individual Sponsorship For Students

Every student sponsored by OTE is either known to or vetted by the trustees. We seek to help young people who cannot help themselves. We focus on students who are orphans or who have fallen on hard times part way through their education and where it is perceived that there will be considerable benefits if that person is given the opportunity to complete his or her education.

In the period covered by this report, OTE gave assistance to many students including:

Margret Michael was completing her Diploma in Medicine. Margret is very bright and works hard; she needed help with fees and some basic requirements such as a bed and table in her hostel room. Her family are extremely poor subsistence farmers and without help from OTE she would have no hope of completing this education.

Rose is an orphan who was abused by her 'uncle' who took her in. OTE has supported Rose in a boarding school far from this abuser and in an environment where they will give her pastoral help as well as an education.

Paulo & Carina are a young married couple, both orphans, who have now taken in 3 young orphans themselves in Mozambique. This is in spite of the fact that Paulo is himself still completing his studies to be an English teacher and they have difficulty supporting this increased number in the family. OTE has helped with school fees, uniforms, basic needs and also repairs to their roof which was destroyed in a cyclone in January 2021.

OTE – Grants

OTE did not make any grants to other charities this year.

Work In South Sudan

Both Liz and Rebecca are committed to helping to support and provide education to disadvantaged children in South Sudan. Since December 2012 an estimated 50,000 South Sudanese have died and hundreds of thousands have been displaced. South Sudan ranks among the worst in the world in terms of literacy, education and deprivation.

Elizabeth Hodgkin Projects

One of the main focuses of Liz's work is the support of teachers and students at St Augustine's Secondary School, Isohe, Eastern Equatoria. The co-educational school is open to all children, irrespective of faith. The school has grown from 120 students in 2013 to over 300 students (185 boys and 115 girls). In terms of performance, it is now among the top 10 schools nationally. During 2021 Liz provided support for 75 students (47 boys and 28 girls). With continuing high inflation and ongoing conflict, the teachers' income from the government has dropped to below subsistence level. Fortunately, through the generosity of OTE supporters, Liz has been able to provide some financial assistance each term to each of the 18 teachers at the school. This year the charity has supported 10 former students in further education; including one woman

studying medicine, six former students studying to be clinicians, nurses, midwives or pharmacists, two studying agriculture and environmental development, and one taking computer studies. Other former students are now working in rural areas around the country as midwives, nurses or clinical medical staff.

Liz has also continued to support a deaf student from the area, who is attending a specialised school in Uganda.

Rebecca Mallinson Projects

The main focus of Rebecca's work is Cece Primary School. It is no exaggeration to state that Rebecca has, with the help of her supporters, built this school up from nothing. Rebecca lives there, works there and fights for every child in the school. If you want to read about her inspirational work please visit her blog site:

<https://living-in-nimule.blogspot.com/>

Financial Report 2020-2021

1. Cece Primary School

Cece Primary School is a community school registered with the South Sudan Ministry of General Education in Nimule, a small town near the South Sudanese border with Uganda. The school started in 2015 with 60 pupils and has now expanded to a school roll of 210. The school is supported through a partnership between Rebecca Mallinson (a British lay missionary), HUMAES (a South Sudanese NGO) and Cece Support Group for People Living with HIV/AIDS, a local community organization. The school is intended for the most marginalized people in the town of Nimule. The admission criteria is for families living with HIV/AIDS, disabilities and orphans. These are the poorest section of the local community, who would otherwise be unable to send their children to school, as all other schools charge school fees. The school population is diverse, with pupils from 15 different tribal groups. This is a great benefit in helping the next generation to learn to live peacefully with other tribes. The majority of running costs are generated through Rebecca Mallinson's fundraising, via Opportunity through Education. We are extremely thankful to all our donors for their continuing support even during the period of the Covid pandemic.

Covid shutdown September 2020 to April 2021

The school was closed down completely for the first eight months of this financial period up to April 2021 due to Covid.

Salaries: During the time of the school closure monthly salaries continued to be paid to all teachers and cooks. This has allowed them to remain loyal to the school, so that reopening in May 2021 was possible. Ours was the only school in Nimule to be able to do this, through the continued generosity of our donors.

Office costs: Office costs continued as usual (£96 per month). Office costs continued so that fundraising could continue online. Costs of internet use in South Sudan are high compared to most countries, but essential for fundraising purposes. The office is rented by HUMAES, our partner organization. As their income fluctuates depending on short-term projects, it is necessary for the school to do their part in return for their support. HUMAES are very generous with their assistance, but are not

paid for their help.

Repairs: There was gang activity on the school site during the closure including a break-in in which a door and two windows were broken. It was necessary to repair the damage. Additionally, the roof of the boys' latrines was blown off during heavy winds. This was replaced and secured prior to reopening.

Construction: Doors and windows for three classrooms were made and fitted, so that all classrooms are now secure.

Also in preparation for reopening, new stoves were constructed in the kitchen. This was the last phase following the building of the permanent kitchen the previous year.

Covid reopening preparation: 125 single seater desks were manufactured and delivered. These have been distributed between all classrooms so that all children are now properly seated during lessons. Previously many sat crowded together on mats on the floor. The desks enable children to socially distance. The school has divided into two sessions, morning and afternoon, for social distancing purposes. The number of desks is therefore adequate for the whole school.

School reopening May 2021 – August 2021

Feeding of the children: The World Food Program were late starting to supply maize, sorghum, beans and oil to the schools which they support. As a result for the first few weeks it was necessary to buy food in order to start feeding the children. The WFP do not pay the cooks, or provide firewood, salt and cleaning materials. These are therefore regular school costs.

During the Covid break mentioned above, thieves had stolen all the cooking equipment, so that these had to be replaced before cooking could take place. This theft was not noticed immediately because the thieves accessed the food store using a skeleton key and there was no outside evidence of a break-in. Feeding the children is crucial because our children come from desperately poor families where some only have one meal a day.

2. Report on the Deaf Children

Rebecca Mallinson takes a group of deaf children to special schools in Uganda because there is no provision in South Sudan for special needs children. She became aware in 2017 of the needs of deaf children in the local community who were completely unable to access education and were socially isolated and unable to communicate at all. There is great discrimination against disability in South Sudanese traditional society, so this project is a means both of helping individual children, and also of highlighting the fact that disability can be overcome. Eventually Rebecca hopes that Cece Primary School will be able to establish a hearing impairment unit at the school, which will enable support to be provided to more children at less cost.

Costs for the deaf children are provided through sponsorship of individual children. We are extremely grateful to our donors for making it possible for these children to attend school. Without their help, the children would have no chance in life at all due to social attitudes, lack of communication and lack of education.

There was no schooling in Uganda from the beginning of the reporting period up to February 2021 due to Covid and therefore no costs apart from the cost of a professional sign language interpreter for one of the deaf girls who was raped during the lockdown. The cost of the interpreter

was exactly £100. Without the interpreter, it would have been impossible to document the rape victim's side of the story ready for the court case or to provide counselling.

Ugandan schools restarted in March 2021 only to close down again in June 2021. This amounted to only one term's schooling in the reporting period. The costs of schooling were therefore much reduced. The money used included one term's costs and the transport home when the schools re-closed. The youngest two deaf children were unable to return to school at all as the Ugandan Government had originally intended Primary 1 to start in June 2021, at the exact time that they closed the schools down.

3. Conclusion

In spite of Covid, fundraising went well during this period and a lot of work was able to take place at the school in preparation for reopening. The problem of stealing has since been addressed by the employment of two guards, not captured in the report because this took place in the following financial year.

One of the social problems created by Covid was school dropouts. Some of our pupils left school and are now working, even quite young children, especially boys. This is due to the destitute state of their families. Some older girls became pregnant and left school, in spite of assurances that they were welcome to continue.

The town received large numbers of internally displaced families from areas of the country where there has been severe flooding. Our school has received a good number of children from these families.

We are all delighted to be back to teaching the children of the school.

The deaf children suffered worst because of poor communication and social exclusion. Their time without school was also a lot longer than for our pupils in Cece Primary School. They have since then gone back to school.

AND A BIG THANK YOU

None of the above work would be possible without the extremely generous financial support that OTE receives from its many supporters.

"Kindness is like snow. It beautifies everything it covers."

Section E Financial review

Brief statement of the charity's policy on reserves

The charity holds limited reserves. It has little or no ongoing expenditure commitments as all the administration is done by volunteers and all administrative costs are currently covered by the trustees. Where OTE is expecting to sponsor a student for a number of years, the trustees may hold a suitable amount in reserve to cover future years' costs. However, the amounts so retained are relatively small.

As at 31/08/2021 the charity had a total of £4,297 in its bank account.

Details of any funds materially in deficit

Not applicable.

Further financial review details (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include additional information, where relevant about:

- the charity's principal sources of funds (including any fundraising);
- how expenditure has supported the key objectives of the charity;
- investment policy and objectives including any ethical investment policy adopted.

The charity's accounts have been produced on a receipts and payments basis. At the year-end, the charity was due Gift Aid from HMRC for the period from 02/08/2021 to 31/08/2021. This amount (around £100) was claimed and received after the end of the period covered by this report. As such it is not included in this year's accounts.

The charity had no accrued liabilities at the end of this period.

Section F Other optional information

None.

Section G Declaration

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

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)	Signed Electronically	
Full name(s)	Alan Keith Lion	
Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)	Chair	
Date	17 th March 2022	



CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Charity Name
Opportunity Through Education

No (if any)
1179046

Receipts and payments accounts

For the period from	Period start date	To	Period end date
	9/1/2020		8/31/2021

Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds to the nearest £	Restricted funds REB to the nearest £	Restricted funds LIZ to the nearest £	Total funds to the nearest £
A1 Receipts				
Direct Donations	4,570	12,208	7,480	24,258
Virgin Money Donations	100	160	2,190	2,450
Give As You Live	60			60
Income Tax Refund	994	3,897	828	5,719
				-
	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-
Sub total (Gross income for AR)	5,724	16,265	10,498	32,487
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).				
	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	5,724	16,265	10,498	32,487
A3 Payments				
Payments To Beneficiaries	6,384	14,300	12,200	32,884
Travel Costs				-
Bank Fees	25			25
				-
	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-
Sub total	6,409	14,300	12,200	32,909
A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)				
	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-
Total payments	6,409	14,300	12,200	32,909
Net of receipts/(payments)	- 685	1,965	- 1,702	- 422
A5 Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	2,613	95	2,011	4,719
Cash funds this year end	1,928	2,060	309	4,297

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

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds REB to nearest £
B1 Cash funds	Santander Bank Account	1,928	2,060
		-	-
		-	-
	Total cash funds	1,928	2,060
	(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))	OK	OK
B2 Other monetary assets	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
B3 Investment assets	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)
			-
			-
			-
			-
B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)
			-
			-
			-
			-
			-
			-
			-
			-
B5 Liabilities	Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)
			-
			-
			-
			-
Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees			
Signature		Print Name	
Signed Electronically		Alan Keith LION	

CC16a



Last year

to the nearest £

29,448
4,011
65
4,869

-
-
-
38,393

-
-
-

38,393

37,416
-
50
-
-
-
-
-
-
37,466

-
-
-

37,466

927
-
3,792
4,719



**Restricted
funds LIZ
to nearest £**

309
-
-
309

OK

**Endowment
funds
to nearest £**

-
-
-
-
-
-

**Current value
(optional)**

-
-
-
-
-

**Current value
(optional)**

-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-

**When due
(optional)**

**Date of
approval**



Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees/
members of

Charity Name
Opportunity Through Education

On accounts for the year
ended

31st August 2021

Charity no
(if any)

1179046

Set out on pages

1-2

(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 31st August 2021

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:

16 March 2022

Name:

Charles Hume, FCA

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

n/a

Address:

Pitfold

Hurtmore Road, Godalming

GU7 2RB

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.