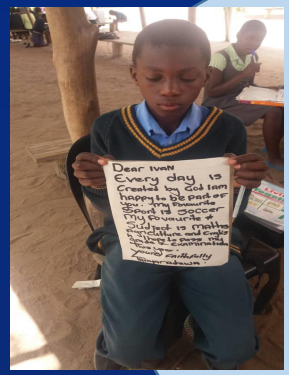
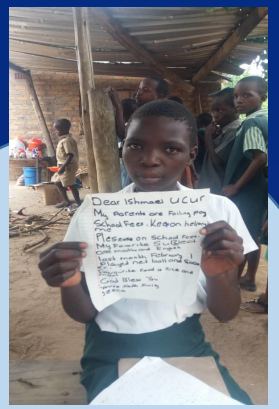
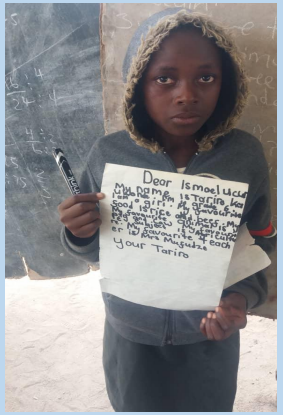
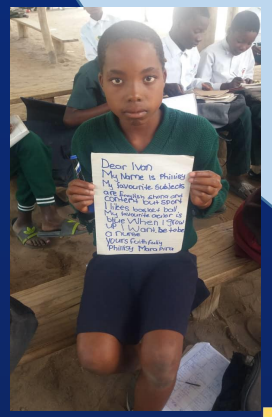
BARK Newsletter

Summer 2020









Thank you

for helping children in Zimbabwe

Fundraising *Page 3*

Put to the Test *Page 5*

Term reports *Page 7*

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Working together

Thank you for your support at this crucial time

Billy Katiyo
Founder, BARK

Welcome to the latest issue of the BARK newsletter.

Firstly, I hope you are all well at this troubling time.

The world is a very different place than it was six months ago and yet many issues still remain. The education of our children is not a subject that can be suspended as we all enter lockdown. And it is thanks to your support we have been able to continue to maintain school lessons in spite of the Coronavirus pandemic. You can read more about how our organisation is dealing with the virus on page 8.

So at this most testing of times we are reliant more than ever on the generosity of our sponsors and supporters. In this issue you can read about the enrichment projects that continue to provide quality experiences to many of our children.

You can also find out about the novel ways of raising funds that have had to be employed in the current climate. Our members are nothing if not innovative !

Nevertheless, we are all aware of the risks that the virus has bought into our lives and awareness programs around the disease have assumed a priority within our organisation.

We are also stepping up our minibus appeal as we seek to transport a donated van to Zimbabwe. A project such as this is costly but the benefits are substantial and if you would to support it you can read more about this on page 11.

I hope you enjoy reading about the work that is being provided through your support. As always, we would like to thank you for your continued assistance.

Billy

BARK Fundraising

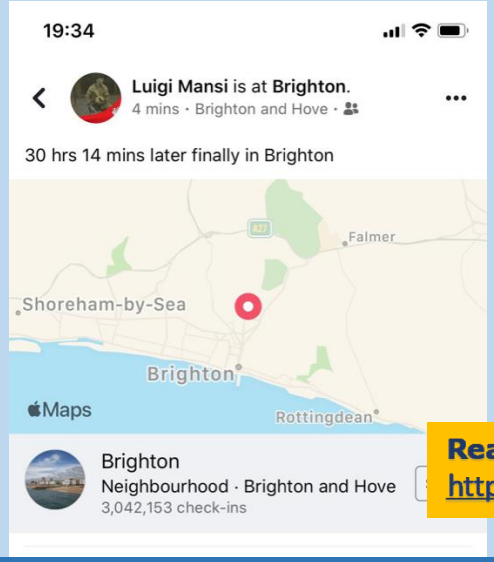
Luigi's walk for BARK

The last day of December is usually one associated with parties, drinks and food, and Auld Lang Syne as people cheer in the New Year. It is categorically not identified with hiking long distances in the cold of winter along dark and wet roads and through the night.

Yet that is what BARK trustee Luigi Mansi undertook in order to fulfil a personal challenge and to raise funds for BARK. His personal odyssey took fully 30 hours and 15 minutes as he covered the 100 kms between London and Brighton.

The walk was not without incident : at 55kms and traipsing across a field in the darkness Luigi managed to tread in a puddle deep enough to reach up to his knee. It meant that he had to complete the remainder of the trek with one leg soaking wet. At 90 kms his phone ran out of data leaving him reliant on instinct and luck to continue his onward journey.

Despite covering a longer distance than necessary he finally made his destination the year after the one he had set off in. A fine and worthy achievement despite his obvious weariness.



Read more at:
https://barkcharity.org/luigis-walk-for-bark/

BARK Fundraising

Lockdown quiz night

The global lockdown has seen a necessary rise in interactive socialising as individuals strive to stay in contact. In many ways we are extremely lucky to have such a number of new ways of keeping company in this new normal.

One of the more popular ways of engaging and maintaining connection within groups of friends is to hold communal quiz evenings.

The BARK community were treated to two such events in short order in mid-May : an attempt to engage those who may have been struggling with the new social distancing measures, at the same time as raising funds towards the charity.

Hosted by the chairman with his usual aplomb they proved very enjoyable events, with much fun and laughter although hopefully it will not be too long before this type of meeting can be hosted less artificially.

Tadenda Taibu

The youngest cricket Test captain in history continues to provide leadership

Sport is often seen as a somewhat frivolous activity, yet it is actually underpinned by themes basic to the human condition: heroism, drama, competition, hierarchy, morality and perhaps most important of all, the quest for greatness. Most of these are difficult to absorb for even the meanest and most committed competitor. Imagine then, being thrust into the crucible of world-class sport at the age of only 20 as well as having to cope with the additional aspect of captaining your country - one operating within the most precarious of political frameworks.

For Tadenda Taibu, the call-up to international level in 2001 was the culmination of the Zimbabwe Cricket Union's development program to grow the game in that country - an equal opportunities exercise that sought to prove that it was possible to come from an impoverished background and reach the heights of Test cricket.

It was a hand-up that anyone with a talent for cricket but not the means to pursue it meaningfully would have reached for. Growing up in a township Taibu knew that opportunities where limited and was ambitious enough to seize the opportunities on offer whilst being mindful - even at such a young age - of the world of inequality and white privilege that he was entering.

Sport and Politics

Although long-standing ethnic divides that permeated the national team were being weeded out it remained a side that resisted the notion to prove sport as the great unifier. For Taibu it would not simply be a case of scoring runs with a shared cricket bat (starkly illustrating Zimbabwe's poor facilities and lack of finance) but also navigating the undulating and harsh political landscape that the team existed within. In time his initial belief that sports and politics should not mix was quickly disabused, and his experiences at the 2003 World Cup - when black and white factions united in protesting their anger at the Mugabe government - were the final grim realisation that they can never be separated.

The aftermath of that tournament had seen captain Andy Flower and star bowler Henry Olongo forced to flee the country after they wore black armbands during matches to highlight the death of democracy under president Robert Mugabe. It was into this turmoil that Taibu stepped - a captaincy vacuum that he filled whilst barely out of his teens. Two years later he launched his own protest: refusing to play for the national team until the cricketing authorities offered their players better financial support. It was less of a political action but his stand against inequality and the corruption of administrators was a more lonely one - lacking the oxygen of international media coverage - and was met with equal resistance.

Taibu and his wife had already been threatened by activists from Mugabe's ruling Zanu-PF party so when he was summoned in 2005 by a government minister to be simply shown a selection of photos of corpses (presumably the result of state action) it was a message that was not difficult to understand. Or understate. It was the culmination of a concerted effort by the ruling party to limit the power that Taibu did not realise he had as a black captain of a national sport. Eventually the constant intimidation forced the 24 year old to flee the country and suspend his Test career.

He returned 2 years later to a slightly more relaxed environment although political influence was so entrenched that combined with poor results and financial woes, the country did not compete within the Test arena from 2005 to 2011. It meant Taibu's prime years were spent in sporting wilderness despite being a brave and skilful wicket-keeper batsman of enough promise to prompt arguments about his place amongst the world's elite. Even so, in 28 Tests spread over 11 years he averaged a credible 30.31 in a perennially struggling team.

Today, his Test career over and settled in Crosby on Merseyside with his wife and two children, he maintains ties to his home country - overseeing an academy to help Zimbabweans develop as cricketers. He also assisted in the country's failed attempt to qualify for the 2019 World Cup - one factor being antipathy and demotivation that were the result of unpaid wages. Old issues had still not been resolved but Taibu was sanguine enough to realise that it might have been a blessing in disguise; that the country was still not politically mature enough to support a successful cricket team: "maybe it will make people on the outside look at our situation more closely" he explained with the maturity of wisdom that has always characterised him.

Term report 2020

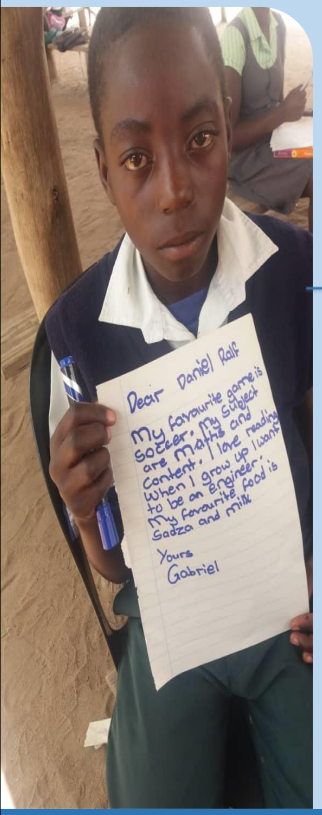
Spring Term

The month was a busy one despite intermittent bad weather and learning sessions progressed well. Most children have shown good progress in their school work although a few continue to struggle.

On 7th February some were privileged to partake in Inter House competitions held at Churchill Boys High. New experiences and skills were gained and new interactions made through playing different sports and the participation left many with a zeal for hard work and a desire to maximise opportunities.

Major challenges remain relating to the purchase of stationery and revision textbooks. For those sitting grade 7 examinations this year the application of registration fees ($44 bond per child per term) and centre fees ($200 bond per child) continue to prove challenging. Nevertheless, many thanks are due to BARK UK and BAK Zimbabwe for paying school fees, educational trips and empowerment programmes that you are offering to us.

We wish to thank the BARK Director for pledging his Chadcombe house so that it can to be used for Bark Fridays. Your support is much appreciated.



Summer Term

The term started well with enrolment of 236 children.

Despite disturbances because of the rains lessons progressed well although the poor state of the shades resulted in rainwater ingress and temporary structures will be needed to resolve this.

However, teachers continued to work whole-heartedly and lessons continued to be delivered. In addition feeding schemes were initiated in mid-term with the children fed rice and soya.

Unfortunately the Coronavirus outbreak necessitated closure of the school and as result end of term examinations were not held. An awareness campaign of the disease was run and as of today all children are safe.

Scarcity of stationery and textbooks remains problematic but new challenges faced include inadequate school toilets which are now in very poor condition. At one point the toilet pit even collapsed although it was quickly renovated. Even so, this puts the health of the children at risk.In addition, a spate of vandalism left writing boards, toilets and shades damaged or stolen. This was due to a missing durawall and is therefore a priority to fix.

Nevertheless, we were still able to use some monies to pay centre fees for grade 7 pupils as well as registering 11 pupils (out of 19) to write grade 7 examinations this year.

Thank you Bark for paying school fees and sponsoring 23 children : a positive end to a wonderful term.

Coronavirus Update

BAK Zimbabwe had the opportunity to attend a one-day training workshop on Covid-19 in Milton Park, Harare - a government certified programme which laid out World Health Orgnisation guidelines for all frontline personnel in fighting the pandemic. This multi-sectoral approach included social change agents and at BAK Zimbabwe we have been at the forefront working in marginalised communities disseminating information as to how the spread of the disease can be be controlled.

Although rates of infection in Zimbabwe remain relatively low there is still a lack of equipment and supplies within the country. Unfortunately communities remain in need of basics such as soap, hand sanitizers and pamphlets to promote hygiene and awareness respectively.

The world is a very different place than it was six months ago and yet many issues still remain. The education of our children is not a subject that can be suspended as we all enter lockdown. And it is thanks to your support we have been able to continue to maintain school lessons in spite of the Coronavirus pandemic.

The Term in pictures

BARK Appeal

Minibus transportation

In September 2018 a minibus belonging to Hinchley Boy Scouts was donated to BARK - a wonderful gesture on their part. The van itself is in good working order albeit it is inevitably showing some signs of wear having been used extensively by a youth organisation.

Nevertheless, the hope now is to transport the van to Zimbabwe in order that it can be used in the enrichment projects run by the charity, particularly in transporting children to various activities.

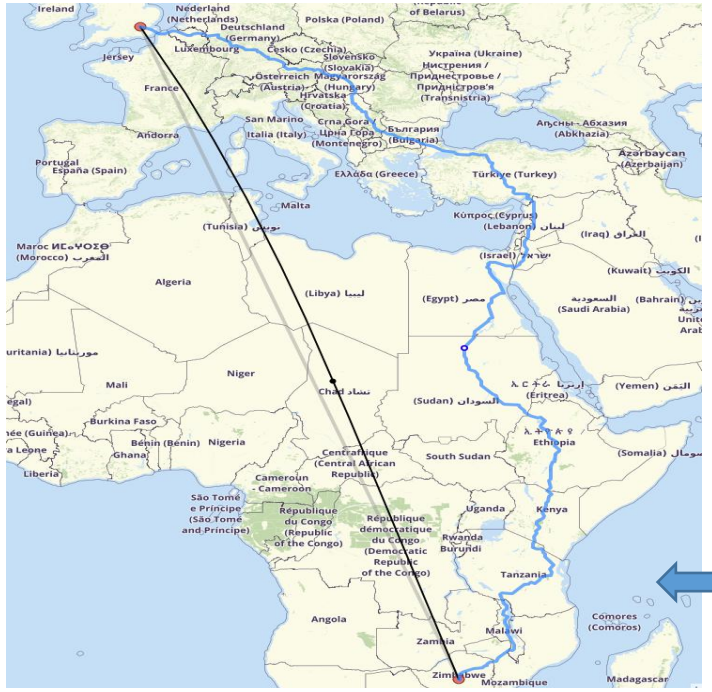
Transporting the van half way across the world is no mean feat. It would be over 8,000 miles to actually drive across 3 continents and deliver the minibus by hand .... and that is probably not realistic ! It is also the case that we would wish to load the van with various goods donated by Surrey Sports, Reeds School and other well-wishers that can be used by the charity in Zimbabwe.

Learn more about the minibus appeal at:
https://barkcharity.org/our-projects/

Therefore, the most appropriate way to transport the vehicle would seem to be via shipping container - the advantage being that there would be more space in order to send any other donated items that are required to be transferred.

However, the costs of this would be extremely expensive. Indeed,we estimate these costs at approximately £5,000 - a substantial sum.

As such BARK is launching an appeal to try and raise funds in order to hire a transportation container that can be shipped across the globe.



Of course, a project such as this will only run in parallel with existing programs and will not seek to distract from them. Given the sums involved it will be a wonderful effort to achieve this but as usual we are reliant on fundraising to achieve this target.

If you wish to help then please go to the BARK website for more information, or to donate.

As the blue line illustrates, it is only a 13,530 kms route to drive from London to Harare through up to 20 countries .....

BARK scholarships

Education in Zimbabwe

Zimbabwe's education system was once the most developed on the African continent. However, the economic mismanagement and consequent hyperinflation in the last 2 decades has seen a resultant decline in public funding. Social expenditures on education decreased by more than half in the first decade of the 21st Century and by the end of 2008, most schools were shut down due to thousands of teachers leaving the profession.

This lack of trained teachers in secondary schools led UNICEF to assert that 94% of rural schools, serving the majority of the population, had closed in 2009. Attendance rates plummeted from over 80% to 20%.

Not only are teachers under-trained and under-compensated, but teaching materials are also allocated less than one percent of the federal budget for education.

What is the Scholarship Fund?

The BARK Scholarship Fund has been set up to help children attend school and undertake an appropriate education. Education in Africa is still the best pathway to a better life in Zimbabwe but many children do not attend school because their parents cannot afford to pay the necessary fees due to unemployment or other reasons. In many cases children are orphaned leaving them little or no support.

Your support can change the life of a child

When you sponsor a child in Zimbabwe, you are helping to ensure they can have access to an education that is currently denied them. Too many children are not getting the opportunities or experiences to allow them to reach their full potential. As a sponsor, you can help change that.

Our fundraising also supports the purchase of equipment and transport to help those most in need take part. Sports festivals are organised for young people to engage in and are planned to take place every four months.

BARK scholarships

Learn how sponsorship works

Your sponsorship will help to support a girl or boy as they grow and learn. Your monthly support will allow for a direct impact upon the life of that child and we will send you a welcome kit including photos that provide an intimate portrait into the life of your child. As you watch your ongoing support work transform the life of your child, you'll continue to get updates on how your sponsorship is making an incredible difference as well as ways that you can get more engaged in the BARK community.

How can I help ?

Just £15 can make all the difference and help a child attend school for one term. Currently 34 children are benefiting from the scholarship fund.

What your receive through your sponsorship

- A welcome kit, including a photograph as well as information about your child.
- The opportunity to write and receive letters with your child (most children in our schemes have never received a piece of mail in their lives!)
- Annual updates and ongoing print communications highlighting the impact of your sponsorship on your child and in the community.
- The joy of knowing you're truly making a difference!

On behalf of the children, teachers and parents, we are very grateful for those who have impacted lives positively through our scholarship programme.

Learn more about the sponsorship at:
https://barkcharity.org/scholarships/

BARK CHARITY UNITED KINGDOM

[A Charity Organisation]

Financial Statements

Year Ended 31st December 2020

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CHARITY REFERENCE AND ADMINSTRATIVE DETAILS

Charity Registration Number 1185317

Trustees Richard Foster

Luigi Mansi

Cathrine Harrison

Kathy Ann Stewart

Contact Person : Billy Katiyo

Registered Office and Principle +447929513022
www.barkcharity.org

BARK CHARITY UK

(A REGISTERED CHARITY)

The trustees present their report and financial statements for the Charity the year ended 31 December 2020.The trustees have adopted the provisions of the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) "Accounting and Reporting by Charities" (FRS 102) in preparing the annual report and financial statement of the charity.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in notes to the accounts and comply with the charity's governing document, the Charities Act 2011 and Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities

preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland published on 16 July 2014(as amended by Update Bulletin 1 published on February 2016).

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

The Trustees

The UK Board of Bark Charity who are trustees for the purposes of charity law, and who served during the year were:

Richard Foster

Kathy Ann Stewart

Luigi Mansi

Cathrine Harrison

BAKZIM Charity

To provide local support for the team in Zimbabwe BAK was established with the following team:

Jacqueline Katiyo	Chairperson
Blessing Kusangaya	Information and Technology Director
Webster Mucheuki	Administrator
Blessing Beta	Programmes Manager
Catherine Magoge	Legal
John Muringani	Sports Director
Fidelis Magama	Field Coordinator
Simon Rudenya	Photography and Publicity Director

Bark Charity Fundraising Coordinator

Trustees control the fundraising with other volunteers in United Kingdom.

Bark Charity UK support

Luigi Mansi and Richard Forster deals with the day to day finance matters.

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

In the year ending 31 December 2020 Bark Charity has:

25 children were on the sponsorship program.

On the 7th of February 2020 zim children were privileged to partake in Inter House competitions held at Churchill Boys High where new experiences and skills were gained and new interactions.

A fundraising event was held on the 15th and 20th of May to help in the marginalised community of Zimbabwe such as paying school fees and shipping the container with donated essentials to help with the impact of Covid19.

One of the trustees Luigi Mansi undertook a walk in order to fulfil personal challenge and raise funds for BARK between London and Brighton.

PROGRESS WITH OUR OBJECTIVES

There are 3 objectives that have been identified for the purpose of the Charity

Basic Human Needs

Help ensure food stuffs and other basic needs such as leisure and re-creational opportunities are afforded.

BAK Zimbabwe had the opportunity to attend a one-day training workshop on Covid19 in Milton Park – Harare Zimbabwe – a government certified programme which laid out World Health Organisation guidelines for all frontline personnel in fighting the pandemic. This multi-sectoral

approach included social change agents and at BAK Zimbabwe has been at the forefront working in marginalised communities disseminating information as to how the spread of the disease can be controlled. In August 2020 there was the Covid19 outbreak where the Charity gave out hygiene packs to 45 people which included children and the elderly in Epworth to ensure that they are safe.Food hampers were handed out on Christmas to 20 families in Epworth.

Education

We continued with paying school fees to the marginalised community

Stationery was not restricted to children on the programme only but also to some children at a school in Epworth called OTF where textbooks of grades 1 – 7 were handed over.

Sports Careers and Talent Development

2 Soccer tournaments were held during the year.

Tag rugby to small towns like Norton and Chegutu was introduced. Approximately 120 children were trained in the sporting discipline. The organisation also in conjunction with TAG Rugby Zimbabwe, trained coaches to oversee the progress of the sport at local school.

BAK Friday is an on-going programme that is done every Friday throughout the year at the Centre where children are taught academics, games, swimming, sewing, cooking and personal development.

THANKS GIVING

The trustees would like to thank all of our supporters for their on- going regular donations and support.

Ware very grateful to all our individual donors who have extended their hand to this cause in monetary terms, time and support.

On behalf of the UK BARK CHARITY trustees:

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Statement of Financial Activities (Including Income and Expenditure Account)

Year Ended 31 December 2020

		2020	
		Unrestricted Funds	Total
	Note	£	£
Income and endowment from:			
Donations and legacies	2	9116	9116
Investments			

Total Income and endowments 9116 9116

Expenditure on:

Raising funds

Charitable activities 3 8905 8905

Total expenditure 8905 8905

Net income/expenditure 211 211

Transfer s between funds

Net movement in funds 4 211 211

Reconciliation of funds

Total funds brought forward 4 211 211

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised during the year.

BARK CHARITY

Year Ended 31 December 2020

Balance Sheet

		2020	Total
	Note	**£**	**£**

Current Assets			
Debtors			
Cash at bank and in hand		**211**	**211**
Creditors: amounts falling due within a year			
Net Current Assets		211	211
Total assets		**211**	**211**
Charity Funds			
Unrestricted funds	4	211	211
Restricted funds			
Total Charity Funds	4	**211**	**211**

These Financials were approved and issued by the board of trustees on the 12th January 2022.

Signed on behalf of the board of trustees

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Notes to the Financial Statement Year Ended 31 December 2020

1 Summary of significant accounting policies

a) General information and basis of preparation

Bark Charity is a Charity organisation based in England. The nature of the charity's operation and principal activities include supporting the self-sufficiency, education and relief of poverty in communities in Zimbabwe .The charity constitutes a public benefit entity as defined by FRS102, the financial statements have been prepared in

accordance with the reporting procedures by charities. The finances of the Charities are below the stipulated figure which needs public examination and audit for the year under review, therefore there is no public examiners report attached. The statements are prepared on an on-going concern basis under the historical cost convention. The Pound £ is the functional currency of the charity and rounded to the nearest pound.

b) Funds

They were no restricted funds for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the general objectives.

c) All incoming resources are included in the statement of financial activities

For donations to be recognised the charity would have been notified of the amounts and settlements. No amount is included in the financial statement for volunteer's time in line with SORP (FRS102)

d) Expenditure recognition

All expenditure is accounted for, on an accrual basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate

2 Income from donations and legacies 2020

Gifts - unrestricted	£9116

All gifts received in 2020 were unrestricted

3 Analysis of expenditure on charitable activities

Supporting Zimbabwe Projects	£8905

Charitable expenditure in 2020 (8905) were all unrestricted funds. The unrestricted funds are given unconditionally and used for ongoing activities of the charity.

Funds Reconciliation Unrestricted funds

BARK CHARITY UNITED KINGDOM
[A Charity Organisation]
Financial Statements
Year Ended 31st December 2020

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BARK CHARITY UNITED KINGDOM
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Financial Statements
Year Ended 31st December 2020

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