

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES AND FINANCIAL
STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR END 31ST MAR 2021



SOS AFRICA

Registered Charity No: 1188705

Summary of the Purposes of the Charity



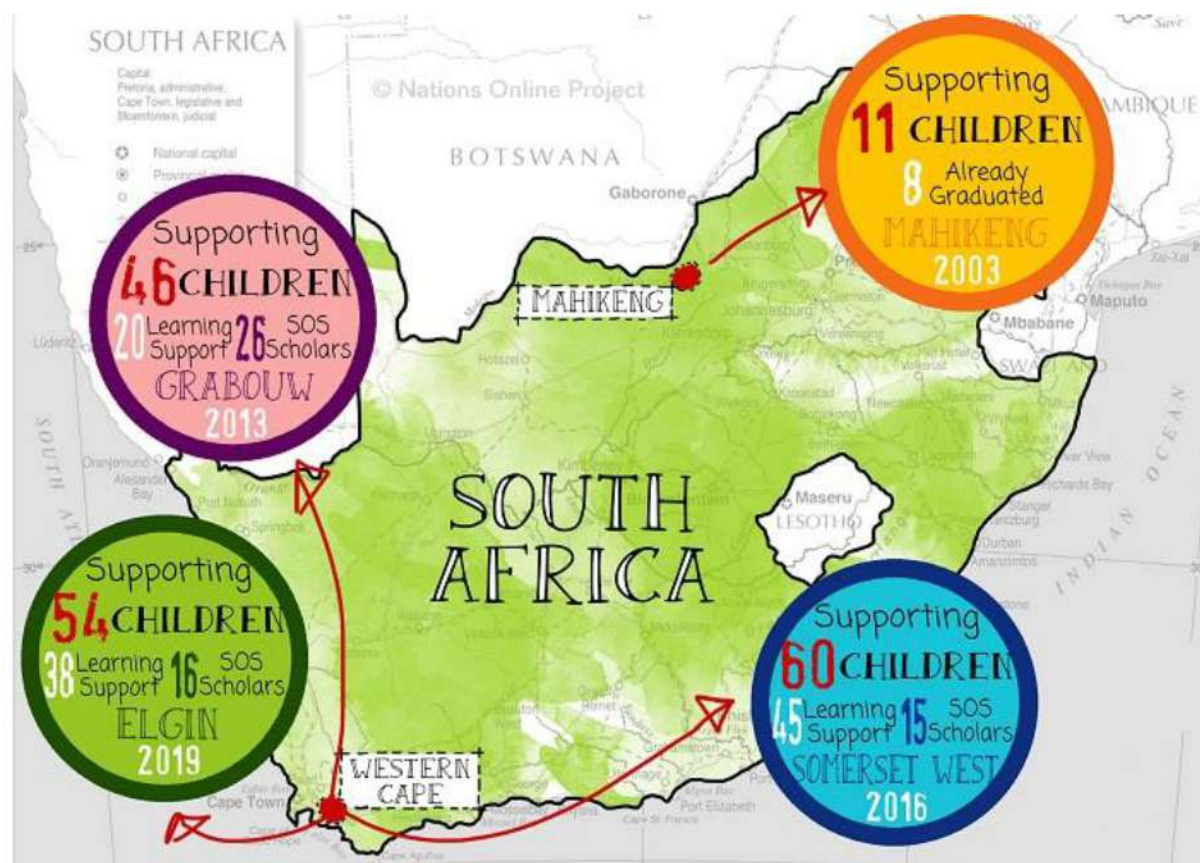
SOS Africa Grabouw's New Grade 1 Children

SOS Africa is a small UK based grassroots child sponsorship organisation which funds the education and care of underprivileged South African children from the poorest regions of South Africa. Since 2003 the charity has provided disadvantaged children, from grades 1 to 12, with a personal education programme or learning support scheme tailored specifically to their needs. This holistic approach enables children to break the cycle of poverty and reach their full potential.

The SOS Africa Children's Charity provides:

- **A Personal Approach** – Originally founded by a family from Somerset in the UK, SOS Africa provides a personal approach to charitable giving. Now in its 17th year of operation, the charity is still managed by its original founders under the direction of an experienced panel of passionate trustees.
- **A Holistic Education Programme** – SOS Africa provides each of the children in its care with school tuition, after-school care, learning support, holiday workshops, mentoring, counselling, transport, clothing and stationery. SOS Africa's Education Programmes are tailored to the needs of the children in the charity's care.
- **Regular Progress Reports** – SOS Africa maintains strong lines of communication between child, organisation and sponsor by providing regular updates including school reports, photo albums, updates via the SOS Africa Children's Blog and correspondence via email. Sponsors also have the option of visiting sponsored children throughout the process.
- **Minimal Charity Expenses** – Prioritising transparency, SOS Africa guarantees that 100% of donations are invested in the education & care of its children; all UK expenses are covered by Gift Aid. This is possible because the charity only employs one full-time staff member in the UK and invests all resources into its education programmes in South Africa.

Summary of the Charity's Main Activities



SOS Africa currently operates in two of the poorest regions of South Africa; Mahikeng (North-West Province) and Western Cape. The charity provides underprivileged children from these areas with the following support:

- A high standard of education and care within Preparatory, Primary and High Schools with a good reputation throughout local communities.
- Safe transportation to and from school.
- School uniform and stationery to eliminate potential inequalities and barriers to learning.
- After-school care at SOS Africa Aftercare Centres where the children receive lunch, homework assistance, tutoring and extra lessons. SOS Africa also provides each child with a mentor, with whom they can consult about any day-to-day problems which they may encounter.
- SOS Africa's Western Cape Education Centres also provide learning support for students with learning difficulties. This is essential in combating illiteracy among Primary School children (currently 78% of South African Primary School Children between grades 1-4 are unable to read).
- Extra-curricular activities including swimming lessons, kung fu and yoga, and holiday workshops to supplement their education and keep the children safe outside of school hours.

All activities carried out by the SOS Africa Charity fulfil the Charity Commission's public benefit requirements. The SOS Africa Trustees confirm that all the charity's operations benefit and empower South African township children through the provision of a high standard of education and care enabling them to break the poverty cycle.

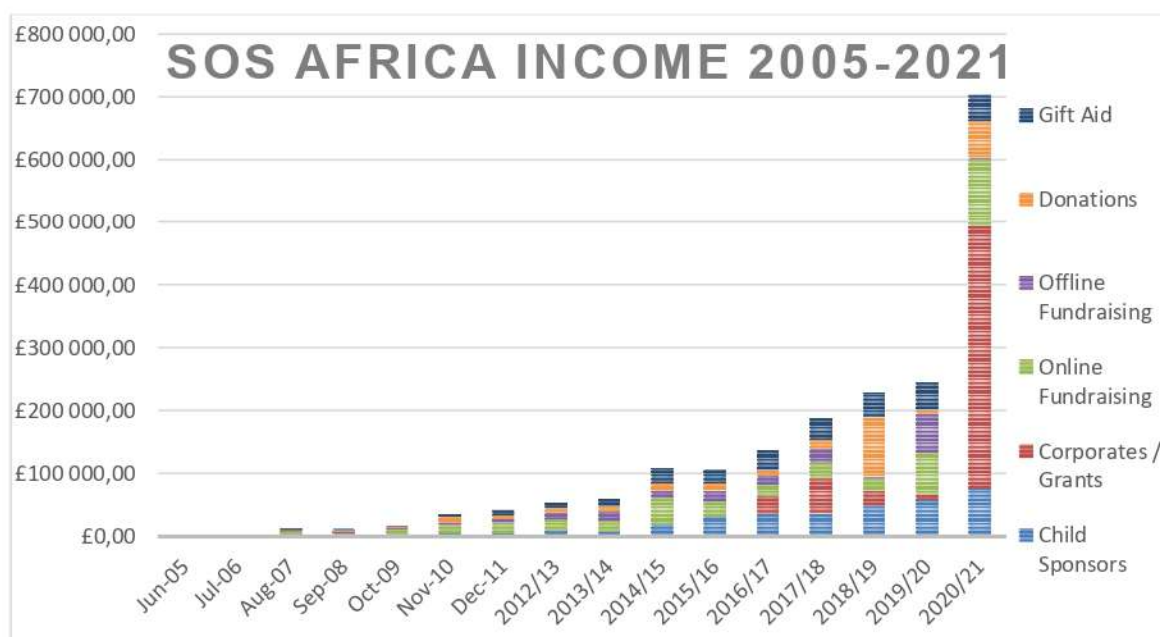
Summary of the Charity's Main Achievements

2020/21 Fundraising Achievements

"We raised 1.7 million Rand tonight. I cannot thank you enough on behalf of my own country and fellow South Africans... South Africa gave me everything... I hope this is something I can give back to the beautiful country that made me the person I am today." Rendog North, Minecraft Livestream Fundraising Event Organiser.

"We hope that, with the help of the extremely dedicated SOS Africa team, our sponsored child will be aware of the possibilities for her future and be equipped to follow her dreams. SOS Africa provides a very personal sponsorship experience, and it is a pleasure to receive regular pictures and reports on our sponsored child's progress." Anne Nesbit, Child Sponsor.

"Having been involved with SOS Africa as a supporter for many years, it was a great honour to be asked to become a trustee. SOS Africa does such incredible work for the children and the communities in which they live. Seeing the careful consideration put into every decision, I know they will be a force for good for many years to come."
Alex Dyer, SOS Africa Trustee.



- During the 2019/20 financial year SOS Africa achieved an unprecedented period of growth increasing the charity's overall annual income from £273,000 to £713,000. This represents the charity's highest annual income to date.
- During this period, only 6% of SOS Africa's income funded the charity's UK running costs, all of which was covered by Gift Aid and the SOS Africa Charity Shop.
- In April 2020, the UK and many nations across the world entered a long period of lockdown due to the rapid spread of the COVID-19 virus. Consequently, SOS Africa's UK fundraising events were cancelled. After initial concern that this would have an adverse effect on the organisation's fundraising capabilities, instead, the severe impact of the virus on the poorest communities in Africa raised the profile of SOS Africa's grassroots community-based projects. Almost from the outset, international philanthropists sought to come to the aid of those most effected by the pandemic.



- On 26th March 2020, President Cyril Ramaphosa announced that South Africa would enter a period of lockdown to slow the spread of the virus. The impact on the poorer communities, including the SOS Africa children and their families was immediate; unemployment surged as lower income jobs were lost and the restriction of movement made food and supplies scarce and often unobtainable. In response, the trustees decided to expand the scope of SOS Africa's fundraising remit to include the introduction of an Emergency Food Relief Fund. Within hours of establishing this appeal, SOS Africa received an influx of support from loyal sponsors, raising enough to fund basic food parcels for the families of our children to help provide them with basic food and supplies during the first few months of the pandemic.

£10
Feeds 1 child's family for ONE week

£20
Feeds 1 child's family for TWO weeks

£40
Feeds 1 child's family for ONE MONTH

£60
Feeds 280 people / day at the school soup kitchen

EMERGENCY FOOD RELIEF

FOOD

- As news of the charity's Emergency Food Relief Fund spread, more and more sponsors began contributing, enabling us to expand the reach of our support. To boost the fantastic amount of funds already raised by the appeal, SOS Africa child sponsor Rendog teamed up with fellow streamer Grian, a hugely popular British YouTube streamer with 5.26m subscribers, to host the charity's first ever livestream fundraising event. What resulted was the most successful fundraising initiative in the charity's 17-year history, raising £75,000 over the course of the 3-hour online broadcast.

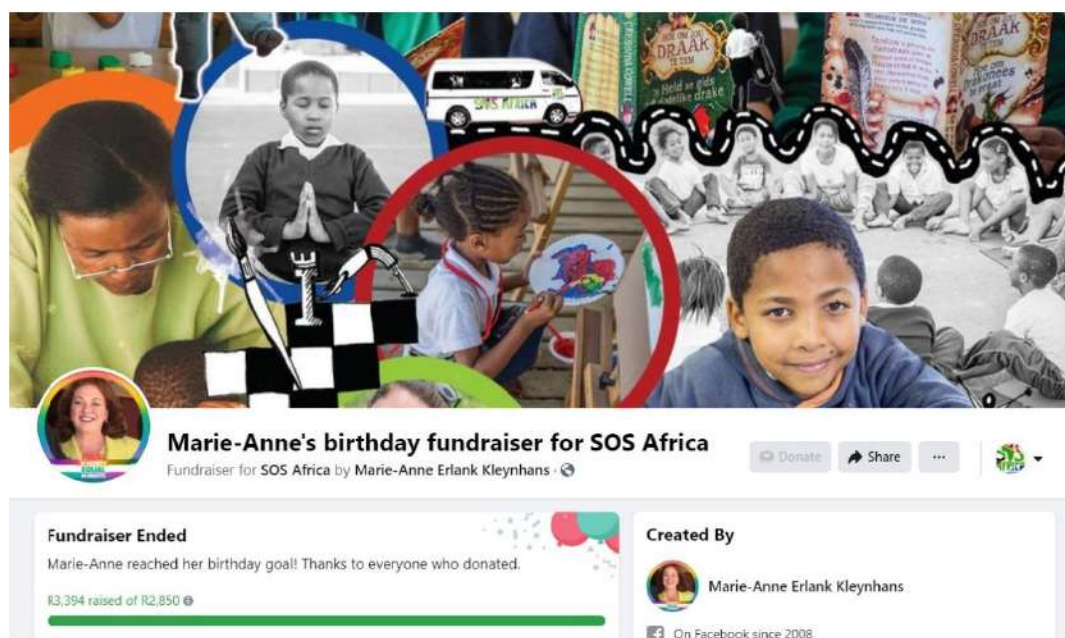


- The successes of the Emergency Food Appeal did not end there. In July SOS Africa was contacted by a London-based company who agreed to donate a percentage of their profits towards the initiative. The unprecedented £122,000 donation increased the total amount raised by our fund to an astonishing £207,000, enabling us to fund soup kitchens and feeding schemes throughout the Western Cape and Gauteng.



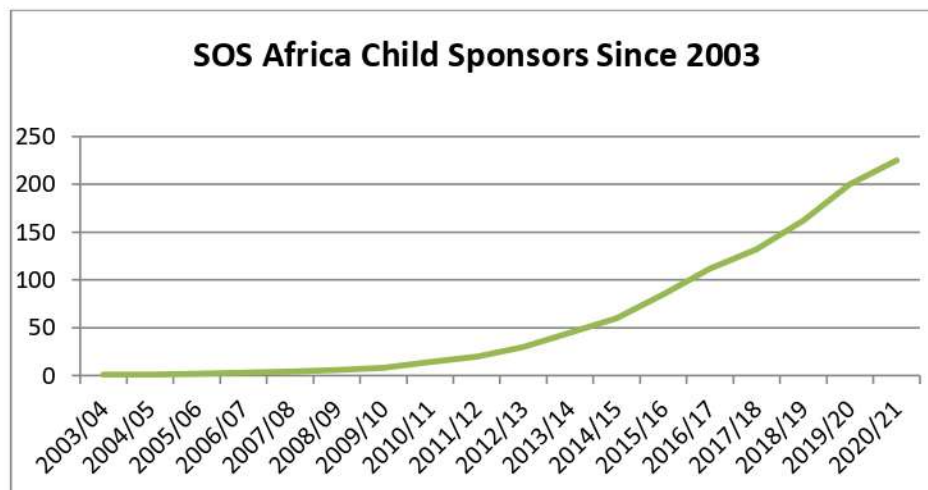


- Alongside the influx of support received by the new appeal, SOS Africa also experienced an increase in independent fundraising support. The dawn of a new “virtual fundraising” era encouraged philanthropists, young and old, to think up original fundraising events which they could host from their own houses and gardens. By completing hundreds of laps of her garden, 14-year-old Chloe raised £200 for SOS Africa. When lockdown measures were eased, these initiatives spread throughout the country. Keen to take advantage of their newfound freedom, Lailah and Sophie walked over 100km and raised over £500 for our education programmes. The SOS Africa Trustees would like to thank Chloe, Lailah, Sophie and all our independent fundraisers for their invaluable support during this time.



- Throughout this period, SOS Africa also experienced a surge in support from online fundraising via JustGiving, CAF and Facebook. Literally hundreds of members of the Facebook Community alone set up birthday fundraising pages, raising thousands of pounds for our education projects in South Africa.

- During the 2020/21 financial year, SOS Africa experienced a surge in the recruitment of child sponsors from across the globe. By the end of March SOS Africa's 225 long-term sponsors generated an annual income of approximately £100,000 for our organisation. This sustainable sponsorship enables SOS Africa to safeguard the long-term education and care of the SOS Africa children.



- Over the past 12 months, SOS Africa also received an unprecedented amount of support from corporate sponsors, foundations and community groups. In November 2020, we received the largest corporate donation in our history. The incredible £297,000 donation made by an international bank was met with huge excitement by the charity's trustees, staff and volunteers and will enable SOS Africa to significantly increase the growth of its education programmes over the coming years.

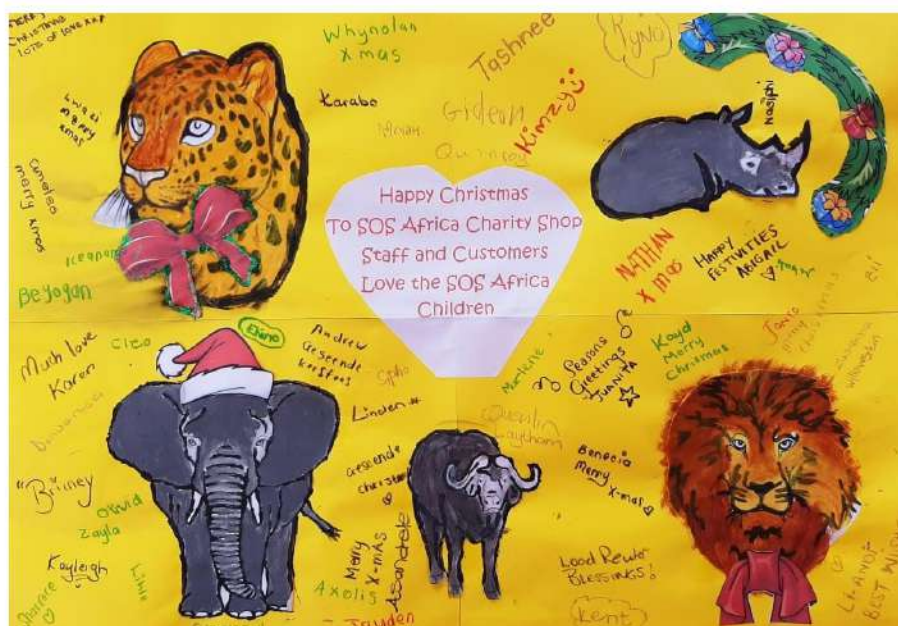


The SOS Africa Trustees would also like to thank the outgoing trustees of the recently closed Norton Down Africa Fund, for donating their remaining funds to our organisation. They would like to congratulate them on their achievements and the educational support they have provided to the poorest communities of Uganda.

SOS Africa also received a £27,000 donation from the Mordaunt Foundation after appealing to them for funding to build new toilet blocks and classrooms at partnering school, St Michael's Primary School in Elgin. The trustees would like to thank Sharon and her team for this generous donation for the continued sponsorship they have provided the SOS Africa children in recent years.



- The 2020/21 financial year was a difficult time for SOS Africa's Shepton Mallet Charity Shop. Over the course of the 12 months, the restrictions imposed by the 3 national lockdowns forced the shop to close for most of the year. Fortunately, the financial support provided by the local authority ensured that the shop's bills were paid, and staff supported throughout this difficult time. The trustees would like to thank Shop Manager Lin and her newly appointed Assistant Karen for restocking and re-opening the charity shop when possible, over this challenging time.





- The trustees would also like to give special mention to SOS Africa's Glastonbury Festival Litter Picking Team. After the cancellation of the 2020 Festival, the 120 group of volunteers each donated £50 to the charity, enabling us to purchase vital PPE for our staff and equipment for our centres in South Africa.
- Lastly, following on from the fundraising successes of the 2018/19 financial year and the unprecedented amount of funds raised online throughout the current financial year, the SOS Africa Trustees were able to claim **Gift Aid** equating to £39,234. This income is vital as it covers UK expenses and guarantees that 100% of all initial funds raised/donated are invested in the charity's education projects in South Africa.

On behalf of the SOS Africa Staff and Children, the CEO and Trustees would like to say a big thank you to all SOS Africa Sponsors, fundraisers and donors for your incredible support and generosity over the past 12 months:

"This year most of us have faced challenges and hardships far beyond our expectations. Yet during this difficult time the unlimited generosity of our supporters has enabled us to provide vital support to our children and their families in their hour of need. For this altruism and considerable kindness, we are sincerely grateful."

(Matt Crowcombe, CEO SOS Africa)

2020/21 Achievements in South Africa

Children supported by SOS Africa Education Programmes throughout 2020/21:

	Scholarship Scheme	Learning Support	Graduated
Mahikeng	11	N/A	8
Grabouw	26	20	
Somerset West	15	45	
Elgin	16	38	
TOTAL	68	103	8

SOS Africa Education Programme Formats:

SOS Africa Scholarship Schemes

The SOS Africa Charity Scholarship Scheme funds the holistic education and care of underprivileged children from the townships of South Africa, providing each child with the following support:

- **School tuition** at a school partnered with SOS Africa.
- **Transport** to and from school each day.
- **School clothing, stationery and equipment.**
- Attendance at an SOS Africa Education Centre (1.30pm – 4pm each afternoon).

The **SOS Africa Aftercare Programme** Provides each child with the following:

- **Nutrition** – home cooked food funded by SOS provided and cooked by team members. This ensures that the children are receiving a healthy balanced meal every day.
- **Homework support** – including the introduction of reading and maths apps to further support the children who continue to struggle.
- **Student mentoring** – one-on-one support.

- Access to an **SOS Africa Library** and other learning resources.
- **Life skills tools and education** – Brain Gym / Yoga sessions / Mindfully me (meditation tools) / Occupational Therapy / workshops led by our Educational Psychologist on matters such as ‘personal safety’, bullying etc.
- **Individual support / therapy** given to children in the club who we consider to be ‘at risk’ or not coping in school or at home.
- **Guest speakers** – Police / Heroes in the community.
- **Holiday programmes** - aimed at bringing everyone together (team and children) having some creative fun time outside school. This year we visited the Two Oceans Aquarium in Cape Town.
- **Provision of a safe space for parents and teachers** to meet and discuss progress or intervention plans for children at risk. We have had to facilitate meetings with the school and parents where plans need to be put into place to best support the children.

SOS Africa Learning Support Scheme (8.30am – 12.30pm each day):

Impact of SOS Africa Education Programmes:



Over the last four years SOS Africa has developed the Learning Support Programme offered to the Foundation Phase (grades 1-3) children of our partnering schools. Our staff received excellent basic training and assessment tools through the WORDWORKS “Ready, Steady Read Write” Programme which has been adapted to ensure we meet the needs of each partnering school.

For the most part, each of our tutors work with 2 or 3 children per 40-minute session. These children attend Learning Support four days a week. Every week we follow the same programme of activities but with a new story.

After our 5-minute warm up of Brain Gym; a series of exercises designed to engage learning through movement; the children are relaxed and ready to absorb new lessons.



With each new story the lessons then follow these four predetermined steps:

- Reading the new story.
- Having discussions about the story highlighting new sounds and words.
- Writing or drawing something based on the story.
- Playing letter and sound games.

These include playdough (and other tangible materials) to physically shape letters. We also have “Letter Boxes” filled with a random assortment of items; the aim is for the child to pick out the item that begins with the letter on the box. These and many other games are developed to help the child learn through a process of playing and therefore greater understanding.



At the start and end of each term we test the children to assess their progress. Each child needs to progress through three levels of reading proficiency and comprehension before leaving our programme and returning to their classroom having caught up to the level of their fellow classmates. Our staff provide regular progress updates to the teachers and we all work together for the betterment of each child's development.

Ultimately, the aim is not only to teach the children to simply read or write but also to comprehend, to question the story and form their own opinions. In grades 1-3 you learn to read but from grades 4 onwards you have to read in order to learn. If children are not properly prepared in the foundation of their education, with these fundamental yet basic skills, then the rest of the educational development is thwarted.

SOS Africa Western Cape Scholarship Schemes



SOS Africa Grabouw



SOS Africa Somerset West



SOS Africa St Michael's Elgin

"It has been an extremely challenging 12 months during which we have all faced difficult and unexpected circumstances which have tested our resolve. During these times I believe that we must all come together and support those among us who are struggling the most. I could not be prouder of everyone involved in SOS Africa for the way in which they have responded to the COVID-19 Pandemic. Not only have we ensured that the children in our care continue to receive the best possible education and support, but we have also broadened our remit to assist the most disadvantaged and vulnerable from the Western Cape's township communities. On behalf of the many thousands of beneficiaries I would like to thank the SOS Africa supporters, sponsors, trustees, staff and volunteers for empowering us with the tools, training and resources required to assist those most in need of our support!"

Karen Damon (Operations Manager, SOS Africa Western Cape)

Here are some of the highlights of the last year:

Record Numbers of Children Supported by Western Cape Education Programmes

As a result of the unprecedented financial support received from the charity's sponsors across the globe, throughout the 2020/21 financial year SOS Africa has been able to support record numbers of children in the Western Cape.



In SOS Africa Grabouw, our team walked eight new scholarship scheme children through the Grabouw Primary School gates for the first time. They are proud to welcome Edgar, Melito, Pascal, Quinton, Shekina, Sibahle, Charisna and Tatum-Rose to the SOS Africa family. This increases the number of children supported by the Grabouw Education Programme to 26.





Meanwhile, SOS Africa's Nasiphi, Melray, Lwazi, Zusakhe, Asandele and Linden started Grabouw High School. Seeing them dressed in their smart new school shirts and ties for the very first time was truly a proud moment for their families.



Further afield, our oldest Western Cape child Andrew began his final year at West Cliff School of Skills, one step closer to fulfilling his ambition of becoming a deep-sea welder.



Meanwhile, SOS Africa's Elvino proudly began the next chapter of his school life at Drostdy Technical School, after being awarded a sports scholarship late last year.



A shining example to the rest of the SOS Africa children, Elvino has shown that any dream is achievable with the correct amount of hard work and dedication. The trustees follow his progress with great anticipation and excitement.

In Somerset West, SOS Africa's Ryno, Gideon, Quinroy, Sipho, Marlene and Meyah all began their final year at Primary School, soon to follow in the footsteps of Kim, Laytham and Quentin who were promoted to Grade 9 at Hottentots Holland High School.



Meanwhile at the charity's newest Education Programme in Elgin, 14 of SOS Africa's scholarship scheme children began new grades and more children than ever before joined the charity's Learning Support Programmes.



COVID-19 Emergency Food Relief

SOS Africa's Emergency Food Relief Appeal was initially created to raise funds for the families of charity's scholarship scheme. Not long after the 1st national lockdown was initiated, many of the parents lost their jobs and with little or no state support, were unable to provide basic food and supplies for their families. On 5th May 2020, in partnership with Taste & See, SOS Africa distributed its first food parcels to the families of the SOS Africa children.



The SOS Africa team were immediately inundated with appreciative messages from relieved parents, many of them clearly distressed that they would otherwise have been unable to provide for their children.



Following the record-breaking livestream fundraising event and corporate sponsorship, the SOS Africa Trustees decided to expand this life-changing support to assist local community-based soup kitchens and feeding schemes throughout the Western Cape and Gauteng.

Over the course of the first few lockdowns, these initiatives were able to provide hundreds of thousands of hot meals and food parcels directly to those most effected by the pandemic.



"I cried all the way home, mainly out of happiness because in that moment of receiving their food, everything was okay; they have a meal and it is such a blessing to know that the children and families of that community will have full tummies today." (Helena Krige, SA Trustee)



The trustees would like to thank Operations Manager Karen Damon for spearheading this life-changing initiative; they are extremely proud that our organisation was able to provide a lifeline for these extremely vulnerable communities in their hour of need.

Safe Transport for the SOS Africa Children

Thanks to the generosity of the charity's corporate sponsors, in September 2020 SOS Africa purchased two 23-seater minibuses to expand its food relief efforts and provide transportation for the charity's Western Cape Education Programmes.



With escalating taxi prices and frequent regional social unrest, transporting food supplies and the SOS Africa children to and from school safely each day through volatile township communities has become increasingly challenging. The new buses have not only provided the Food Relief Appeal and the SOS Africa children with safe and reliable travel, but also saved the charity in the region of R250,000 each year in transport costs. They have also enabled the staff to arrange more frequent school outings and extracurricular activities.



New Staff Members

The SOS Africa Trustees would like to welcome new Western Cape staff members Anuska and Luzelle to the charity's Grabouw Education Programme. These energetic and motivated ladies have already settled in well and are very popular among both our staff and children.



The trustees would also like to welcome the charity's first Western Cape bus drivers, Lood (Somerset West) and Davedeen (Grabouw). Navigating dangerous townships roads safely and in good time during the early hours of the day is not an easy task and the children are lucky to have such experienced drivers to guarantee their safety and wellbeing.



Increased Academic Support

Always looking at ways in which they can support the educational development of the children in their care, during the 2020/21 financial year, the SOS Africa staff recruited tutors to provide extra maths and English lessons where required.



The trustees welcome Alastair and Jenna, varsity students from Stellenbosch University, who take time out of their busy schedules twice a week to provide this invaluable support.

Online Staff Training

During the national lockdown and consequent closure of South African public schools, the SOS Africa staff were enrolled onto online training courses to strengthen their IT, planning and management skillsets.



Upon completion of these courses, they were awarded certificates and asked to put together reports and presentations to demonstrate the impact of these training programmes.

Dental Care

As part of the charity's mission to eliminate barriers to learning impacting children from disadvantaged communities, the SOS Africa Trustees identified health and hygiene as a fundamental priority moving forward. Oral health care is essential in preventing infections and gum disease.



The trustees were therefore delighted to be approached by Swiss-based company RoseBlanc and offered sponsorship to cover ongoing dental treatment for the SOS Africa children. The first beneficiaries of this support, SOS Africa's Gideon and Karabo, attended their first ever dental appointment to receive a full check-up followed by a filling and a tooth extraction.



The relatively quick and painless procedures carried out by dental practitioner Dr Richard Young, have immediately eradicated discomfort felt by the children for some time.

Beach Clean Up

Unfortunately, protecting the environment often falls far down the priority lists of developing countries. Recognising the importance of raising awareness of the devastating effects of plastic waste ending up in South Africa's beautiful oceans, in November the SOS Africa staff organised a 'Beach Clean Up Day' at Strand Beach.



The trustees would like to thank the 80-strong team of SOS Africa staff, parents and children for a seriously effective clean up operation. By the end of the afternoon there was not a trace of litter to be seen on the entire beach. Most importantly, the legacy of this memorable trip lives on; the children are often seen collecting litter around school campuses during breaktime.

St Michael's School Building Projects

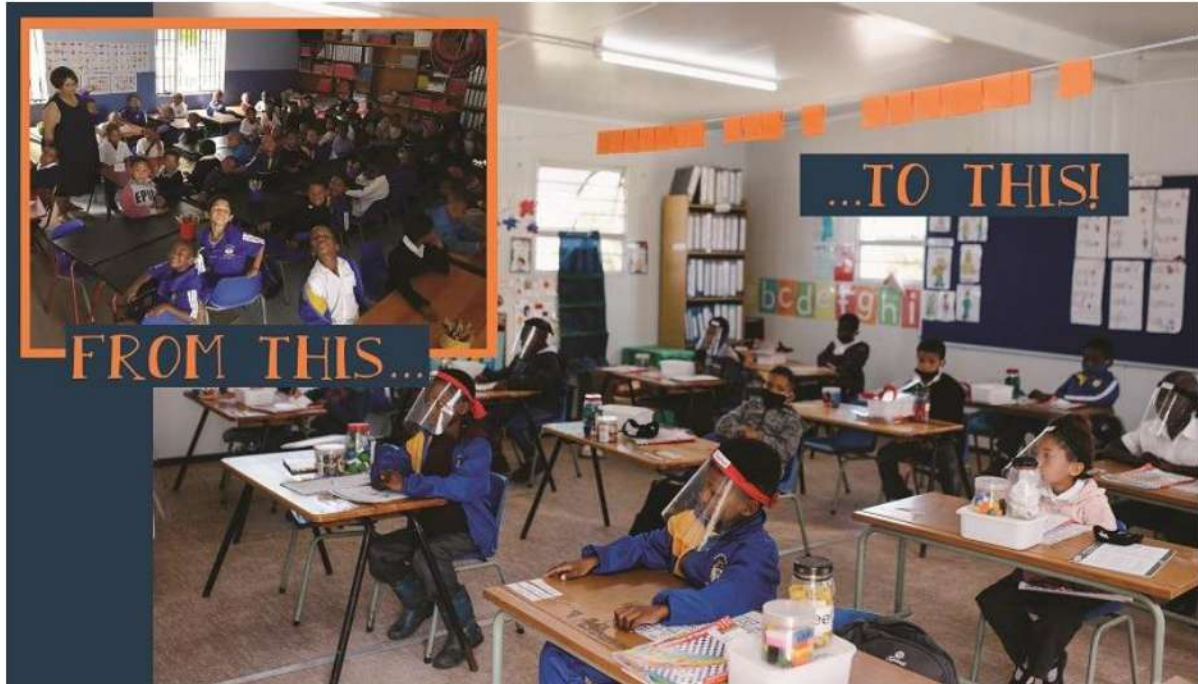
After securing the required funding from the Mordaunt Foundation, throughout the 2020/21 financial year, SOS Africa carried out a series of building projects at partnering school, St Michael's Elgin. With large class sizes and limited teaching spaces, for some time St Michael's School Principal Rehard Smith had been looking to expand the numbers of classrooms and renovate the school's ageing toilet blocks. As well as significantly improving the quality of education and care available to the students, these initiatives have also assisted hygiene and social distancing measures which are essential in response to the Coronavirus Pandemic.



With the school due to re-open after the easing of lockdown measures, the SOS Africa staff wasted no time in putting plans in place to completely renovate the existing sanitation facilities. With damaged asbestos roofing, broken toilets and leaking pipes, both toilet blocks would require complete renovation. Building work commenced on the 8th May 2020 and in less than a month, work on both blocks had been completed, just in time for the re-opening of the school.



In September 2020, SOS Africa purchased two new classrooms which enabled the school to reduce their Grade 1 class sizes from 78 to 39 children per class.



The immediate impact of these fantastic facilities has not only enabled the school to halve its Grade 1 and Grade 4 class sizes, but also provide a safe learning environment for these children during the Coronavirus Pandemic. Most importantly, the beneficiaries of the new classrooms have been inspired by the transformation and are now receiving a much higher standard of education at the school.

It was a proud moment for Principal Rehard Smith when his students cut the ribbon at the opening of the new facilities:

“It is hard to find the words to describe the difference the new toilets and classrooms will make to our school – the toilets provide clean, hygienic facilities to ensure handwashing and allow our learners and educators dignity which is important for their self-esteem and well-being. Without the new classrooms we cannot begin to provide learners and educators the space required for social distancing and an environment within which to learn, develop and grow.”

The SOS Africa Trustees are delighted that the charity has been able to provide this invaluable support to partnering schools to help them deal with the challenges of the pandemic. St Michael's School in particular, should be commended for being one of the only schools in the region to be able to accommodate nearly all its students during this time.

Christmas Party

As is tradition at the end of the academic year, in December the SOS Africa staff hosted an end of year party for the SOS Africa children. The children chose 'Superheroes' as the theme and it could not have been more apt as they really have been superheroes this year.



It had been an unpredictable and challenging year for everyone, especially children, who had their schooling and socialising altered and interrupted. Yet, through it all they maintained joyful spirits and showed kindness to one another - the true markings of a superhero!



At this point, the UK trustees would also like to bid farewell to outgoing Western Cape staff members Deseree Davids and Abigail Snyders and thank them for their many years of service.



They would like to congratulate SOS Africa's formidable team of Western Cape Staff and Trustees, not least SOS Africa Western Cape Operations Manager Karen Damon and Admin & Finance Manager Rae Morris. Their passion and dedication has guided our organisation through by far and away its most challenging year.



The trustees are particularly proud that, in the face of adversity, our Western Cape Operations have not just survived but thrived, broadening its original scope of support to reach remote and vulnerable communities with no one else to turn to.

Mahikeng Scholarship Scheme



SOS Africa's Mahikeng Education Programme was first established in January 2003. It began by providing education and care to one child and has grown to support 11 children with eight children having already graduated and now attending further education.

During a recent report from SOS Africa's Mahikeng Operations Manager Jenny Matthews, the trustees were informed that the children have adapted well to the challenges they have faced during the pandemic:

"This last year has been a challenging one for us all but despite this the children have adapted extremely well to the challenges they have faced adapting to the new norm. They have also had to cope with many disruptions to their schooling but have continued working hard and striving to do their best. I must also thank our past students Olebogeng, Obu and Othu who, whilst coping with adapting to online learning, have taken time to help our children with extra lessons. Even though their first year at university was challenging they coped well, and all passed with distinctions at the end of their first year. We are so proud of them and the example they have set for the younger children. I would like to thank all our sponsors who I know are also facing the challenges and hardships of the pandemic but have continued to support our children. We at SOS Mahikeng are most grateful for the support from the sponsors and trustees and especially to Matt who is always there willing to help us."

Jenny Matthews (Operations Manager, SOS Africa Mahikeng)

Some of the achievements included in Jenny's report are highlighted below:

SOS Africa Graduates Achieve Distinctions at University



Last year the trustees were pleased to share the exciting news that SOS Africa Mahikeng Graduates Obu, Othu and Olebogeng had been accepted by North-West and Pretoria Universities. This year they are delighted to share the news that Obu has now achieved distinctions in Biological and Agricultural Sciences at the University of Pretoria and his twin brother Othu and fellow SOS graduate Olebogeng have achieved distinctions in their Computer Science, Mathematics and Organisational Psychology courses at North-West University. These exemplary students continue to be excellent role models for the rest of the SOS Africa children.

Academic Achievements



The trustees are also delighted to announce that Mathapelo and Tlotlo both passed their matric exams and will soon begin IT and nursing college courses. They are extremely proud of their achievements and wish them well as they begin the next chapter of their lives.

Following closely in the footsteps of the graduates, this year SOS Africa Mahikeng's Girly, Ofentse and Thato attended their first days at Mahikeng High School.



Meanwhile, all the children supported by the charity in the region passed their end of year examinations and were promoted to new grades.



These commendable results are testament to the dedication of our Mahikeng staff who have continued to provide our children with a high standard of education and care throughout the pandemic.



In many cases, our Mahikeng children have received special commendations for their hard work and achievements over the past 12 months. The trustees also appreciate the hands-on approach of our partnering schools in tackling important issues which both directly and indirectly impact the lives of our children.



Student Mentoring

These successes can also be attributed to SOS Africa's personal and holistic approach to the education process; our dedicated staff provide mentoring for each of the children in our care. Facing more challenges and barriers to learning than ever before, they feel that it is vital that each child has someone who they respect, feel comfortable with and can turn to for guidance and support during these uncertain times.



The trustees would like to give special thanks to graduates Othu and Olebogeng who return to SOS Africa Education Centre each afternoon to provide additional tutoring and mentorship for the children.

End of Year Party

In celebration of the completion of SOS Africa Mahikeng's 17th year of operation, the staff and children were treated to an afternoon of go-karting followed by our traditional end of year party.



Many congratulations to Jenny, her dedicated staff and the SOS Africa children for their hard work throughout a very challenging year. The SOS Africa Trustees and sponsors are extremely proud all achievements over the past 12 months.

Concluding Thoughts

The past year has proven to be exceptionally challenging for everyone. In these difficult circumstances, the SOS Africa Trustees are extremely proud of the way the charity has reacted to ensure the safety and wellbeing of all the SOS Africa Family. A special note of thanks has to go to the staff and volunteers in South Africa, of whom we are extremely proud, who reacted to ensure that education and care of the children in Western Cape and Mahikeng could continue. The progress made by the charity despite the ongoing challenges is testament to the hard-work, determination, love and care of the team. The trustees would like to wholeheartedly thank our sponsors, fundraisers and donors all over the world who stepped up to the challenge in ensuring the SOS children and their families would not go hungry, and their education would not suffer, during this incredibly difficult time. This also gives us security moving into the future, continuing to grow and to ensure that children are afforded education and learning support to maximise their potential, and that the poorest in society are not left behind. We remain determined in our mission to transform the lives of disadvantaged children across South Africa for generations to come.

The past year has also offered hope. Despite challenges of traditional fundraising during the pandemic, SOS Africa has been able to offer more support and to more children than ever, with 68 currently on the scholarship scheme and a further 103 receiving learning support. Our food relief programme and safe transport programmes have meant that children do not go hungry and their education doesn't stop. Our new classrooms have helped schools react to the pandemic and teach in a safe environment with lower student numbers, helping ensure a high standard of education. We are also inspired by the success and progress of the SOS children who have continued to make the most of their education and support showing great resilience, determination and hard work to progress in their studies. We look forward to sharing success of the children we welcomed this year and reiterate our pride for those who have graduated, well done!

Lastly, the trustees would like to welcome Alex Dyer to the UK board of trustees and thank Amy Holloway for her service after stepping down from her role this year. We look forward to working with Alex, and all trustees, in ensuring that the charity continues its' success and growth in delivering holistic learning support to disadvantaged children across South Africa, providing empowerment through education to break the cycle of poverty.

Financial Review

Review of SOS Africa's Financial Position

At the close of the 2020/21 financial year, SOS Africa is in a strong financial position following its most successful year of fundraising to date. As previously demonstrated, this increased growth resulted from the successes of SOS Africa's Emergency Food Relief Appeal, significant increases in donations from corporate sponsors, foundations and community groups, increases in child sponsors, online and offline fundraising and consequent increases in Gift Aid claims.

Whilst investing this income in both new and existing SOS Africa Education Programmes, funding has also been kept in reserve to secure the long-term educational development of the children supported by the charity.

As previously mentioned, only 6% of SOS Africa's 2020/21 annual income was required to cover the charity's UK running costs. These expenses were easily covered by SOS Africa's Gift Aid claims and charity shop takings.

Policy for Holding Reserves

Each year SOS Africa holds reserves to ensure that the charity can guarantee the long-term education of all the children within its care, in line with the charity's policy never to remove a child from schooling for financial reasons.

Amount of Reserves Held

Following the close of the 2020/21 financial year, SOS Africa held £328,115 in reserve. This is enough funding to safeguard all SOS Africa's Education Programmes and Emergency Food Relief Projects for a further year. This is particularly important given that the COVID-19 Pandemic is likely to impact the health and wellbeing of the adults and children in our care and continue to disrupt SOS Africa's fundraising activities throughout the 2021/22 financial year.

Structure, Governance and Management

Description of charity's trusts:	
Type of governing document	Constitution
How is the charity constituted?	Charitable Incorporated Organisation
Trustee selection methods including details of any constitutional provisions	New SOS Africa trustees are appointed by resolution of the current trustees. For example, if one trustee resigns, the remaining trustees will appoint a replacement.

Reference and Administrative Details

Charity name	SOS Africa
Registered charity number	1188705
Charity's principal address	SOS Africa 21 High Street Shepton Mallet Somerset BA4 5AA

Names of Charity Trustees who Manage the Charity

Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted	Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee (if any)
Matthew Davies	Chair of Trustees	N/A	N/A
Richard Long	N/A	N/A	N/A
Kim Williams	N/A	N/A	N/A
Alex Dyer	N/A	N/A	N/A

Names of Chief Executive or Names of Senior Staff Members

SOS Africa CEO: Matthew Crowcombe

Declarations

The trustees declare that they have approved the Trustees' Report above.

Signed on behalf of the charity trustees:

Signature	<i>M L Davies</i>
Full Name	Dr Matthew Lloyd Davies
Position	Chair of Trustees, SOS Africa
Date	14 / 07 / 2021



CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

SOS Africa

1188705

Receipts and payments accounts

CC16a

For the period
from

1st April 2020

To

31st March 2021

Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds to the nearest £	Restricted funds to the nearest £	Endowment funds to the nearest £	Total funds to the nearest £	Last year to the nearest £
A1 Receipts					
Child Sponsorship	-	77 086	-	77 086	59 670
Offline Fundraising	-	2 136	-	2 136	28 072
Online Fundraising & Donations	-	107 162	-	107 162	68 319
Bank Interest	105	-	-	105	477
Donations	-	477 264	-	477 264	14 187
Gift Aid	39 234	-	-	39 234	42 309
Shop Sales	10 000	-	-	10 000	30 000
Glastonbury Litterpicking Deposits	-	-	-	-	31 200
Sub total (Gross income for AR)	49 339	663 648	-	712 987	274 233
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	49 339	663 648	-	712 987	274 233
A3 Payments					
Education Programme in South Africa	-	529 279	-	529 279	183 230
Website Fees	390	-	-	390	180
Bank Charges / Just Giving Fees	562	-	-	562	599
Tax / National Insurance Payments	9 334	-	-	9 334	9 015
Wages / Pension	34 684	-	-	34 684	31 499
Printing / Travel	3 197	-	-	3 197	3 297
Event Expenses	-	-	-	-	13 140
Funds Raised for Other Charities	-	-	-	-	9 667
Accounts / Prof Fees	235	-	-	235	187
Glastonbury Litterpicking Deposits	-	-	-	-	31 200
Sub total	48 401	529 279	-	577 680	282 015
A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total payments	48 401	529 279	-	577 680	282 015
Net of receipts/(payments)	938	134 369	-	135 308	- 7 782
A5 Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	-	193 745	-	193 745	201 527
Cash funds this year end	938	328 115	-	329 053	193 745

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

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B1 Cash funds	SOS Africa UK HSBC ACCOUNT	938	328 115	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
	Total cash funds	938	328 115	-
	(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))	OK	OK	OK
B2 Other monetary assets		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
B3 Investment assets			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
B5 Liabilities			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	
Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees	Signature	Print Name	Date of approval	
	M L Davies	MATTHEW LLOYD DAVIES	20/07/2021	



CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Independent examiner's report on the accounts

Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees/
members of

Charity Name

SOS AFRICA

On accounts for the year
ended

31 MARCH 2021

Charity no
(if any)

1188705

Set out on pages

1-2

(remember to include the page numbers of additional sheets)

Responsibilities and
basis of report

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 31/03/2021.

As the charity's trustees, 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 all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent
examiner's statement

[The charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 and I am qualified to undertake the examination by being a qualified member of ~~insert name of applicable listed body~~. Delete [] if not applicable. CIMA

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination (~~other than that disclosed below *~~) which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; or
- the accounts did not accord with the accounting records; or
- the accounts did not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report 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:

29-5-21

Name:

NATALIE FROUD

Relevant professional
qualification(s) or body

ACMA CGMA

(if any):

Address:

Section B

Disclosure

Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight material 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.

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