

Kindfund



Registered with The Charity Commission for Northern Ireland NIC100121 and in Kenya Society No.26316
Jeremiah 9:24 I am the Lord who exercises kindness Ephesians 4:32 Be kind to one another
email: ken@kindfund.com Tel: +254(0)723944534 or +44(0)7802894380

Nineteenth Chairman's Report – Feb 22 to Jan 23

Bible verse:

Summary

In many ways the reporting period was a quiet and settled year that allowed a greater stability for the children and staff post pandemic. A return to something more normal. This stability was punctuated in February with the loss, in hospital of a child to illness. The untimely death of this newly arrived infant was a blow to the children, staff, and team alike. It was a challenging start to their visit for Pamela and Gillian.

As expected, the new competence-based education syllabus seems to be more useful to our children and they have progressed well throughout the year. We continue to see improving performance and behaviour both socially and educationally. Those completing their KCPE surpassed our expectations and their results are the strongest yet. For those with more technical and craft ability we continue to fund their studies at Technical College where we had seven young people during this period. Funding Secondary and Tertiary is an increasing challenge for us.

All UK team members were out twice in the period with Pamela and Gillian visiting February to April and July to September and Ken and Jonathan visiting in June and November. Lea also made a return visit in August with her sister Miriam and a friend Fiona.

We continue to work with the Kenyan Government across the breadth of the work. Gillian has worked tirelessly with the KRA (Kenyan Revenue Authority) to maintain our tax-free status. NHIF (National Hospital Insurance Fund) and NSSF (Staff pension) also continue to demand our time as we seek to maximise the benefit of belonging to these insurance schemes.

For the La Roche family, it has been another challenging year with drought and banditry greatly increasing the challenge of living in N Kenya as they care for Roba and Warre two severely physically and mentally challenged children.

Fred and Emily continue their remarkable work among the Sakuye near Moyale and are much encouraged. The year was a hard one for all the pastoralists communities in Northern Kenya and we were upset to see the carcasses of dead animals along roadsides during our visits at what turned out to be the worst drought in the Horn of Africa for 40 years. We sought to support some of the elderly in addition to the 65 children by providing a food package early in 2023 before the rains came.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who has supported Kindfund in prayer, financially and by their time over the last 12 months. I am also thankful for all on the committee and beyond who give freely of their time and resources.

Post year end we have faced a major challenge which involved the closure of our primary education at Wamba. The transfer of the 6 small classes to the local state primary classes of 70 to 95 children was painful but has been resolved for next school year by transfer to a smaller local village school.

Jonathan Dobbin
Chairman

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Treasurer's Report for Nineteenth year to 31st January 2023

During this past year, we yet again give thanks to God and marvel at His provision for the work. Particularly in the challenges facing the world currently. Our income has increased by a further 24% (17%).

We thank God for the generous hearts He has given and for the prompt settlement with the Bank of Ireland.

Summarising the figures. Opening balance £81,277, income for the year was £160,039 (£128,631) and the closing balance was £119,343. We transferred to Kenya £120,000 (£90,000)

Financial Highlights

Gifts totalled £113,747 (£112,382) and the Inland Revenue (Gift Aid) contributed £9,863 (£11,249). We are thankful for this to all those who have signed Gift Aid forms. The difference in Gift Aid is again due to differences in the period covered by the claims.

We continue to receive donations from several Charitable Trusts.

As noted last year in December 21 we were shocked to discover our bank had without warning closed our sterling accounts. They subsequently apologised and opened new sterling accounts later in December unfortunately the damage was done as the 177 Standing Orders could not be diverted to the new account number and we had to write to all our supporters asking them to renew their commitment by completing standing orders to our new account number. This exercise which was completed well before Christmas but the consequences of which stretched out over several months resulted in a loss of 20% of our Standing Order Commitments. Thankfully this was partially compensated for by increases from those who renewed their regular giving.

The bank totally accepted their mistake and the disruption it had caused. Following negotiation, a compensation package of £41,429 was agreed of which a balance of £36,429 was paid in the current 2022/2023 year.

All the funds transferred to Kenya continue to go to the account of Kind fund Society of Kenya. You will have noticed an additional £30k transferred to Kenya this year. This was partially a reflection of increased costs in Education arising from the success of our children post primary but also reflects the impact of inflation in Kenya which was hit earlier than the UK. Much of this has now been recovered by the improved exchange rate.

The Kenyan Shilling, was volatile throughout the year, starting c 150ksh to one GBP it fell back to 130 before recovering at year end to 153. Fortunately post year end the GBP had soared to above 180 by June and remains around there at the end of October 2023. Despite high inflation in Kenya this has been a great boost for our finance although not to be relied on.

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You will have noticed £1973 (£925) recorded as spent on administration. This is accounted for by two cheques issued locally but covered by specific gifts towards administration and therefore additionally securing gift aid.

All expenses for those travelling to Kenya continue to be met personally by the traveller.

The financial position has remained sound in the current year. Again, worth noting has been the continuing increase in contributions to our Euro account mainly from Austria now c.€1100 (€750) per month.

Thanks

I would like to again take this opportunity to again say thank you:

First, thank you to all of you who have responded to God's call on your resources to support the work. We very much appreciate both the financial support and the opportunity to tell others the good things God continues to do.

To the members of the Kindfund Committee who have been faithful in prayer and generous with their time giving us of their wisdom.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank Watson Black BSc Econ, LIB for his advice and support as Examiner and for his interest in the work in Kenya where he spent 4 weeks with Ken in early 2023.

I would also like to thank Gillian Stevenson our Treasurer for her support and to wish her well during her current sabbatical.

I will be happy to answer any questions.

Pamela Dobbin
Assistant Treasurer