

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

Twenty First Chairman's Report – Feb 24 to Jan 25

Bible verse: Romans 8:38-39.

Summary

We continued to play catch up post-pandemic and its after effects both at home and in Kenya. It will be 2025 before we fully gain the ground that has been lost. This situation was exacerbated by the delay in sale of Ken and Pamela's home in Fermanagh as they moved to Down to be closer to family. This, along with the loss of Gillian from the team who has been unable to assist through extended illness brought on from her last visit to Kenya. Although difficult at the time, this has brought a stronger focus on the longevity of the project and, whilst Ken and Pamela continue to lead, we have redistributed more of the workload, and the next team to run are getting to grips with the processes and workload.

Generally, the children were of good health apart from the usual ailments of coughs and colds. In Dec 24 we had a scare with what was thought to be Mumps though thankfully nothing came of it other than a few swollen faces. Later in December a young 7-year-old girl who had been unwell for some time was finally diagnosed with severe heart failure. We are thankful to Alfred our advocate, and our team for their kind care for her during her final months of life (unfortunately Therese died in hospital whilst undergoing treatment in Mar 25). Therese touched many in her last months as she demonstrated grace and peace to those around her. We continue to ask for God's comfort for her three siblings in our home.

The school system in Kenya has undergone some significant changes recently with the reorganising of the school structure. Primary now finishes at Year 6 (previously 8) and is followed by 3 years at the newly established Junior Secondary School (JSS) after which is 3 years at Senior Secondary or Polytechnic depending on ability.

Despite our best efforts, in 2023 we had to shut our own school and move our children to a large local primary school, CCM Primary. Whilst the school was very helpful, they were under-resourced to cope with the large number of additional children from Kindfund. Thankfully, in Jan 2024 we were able to move most of these children to a small local primary school, Millimani Primary. Those at Junior Secondary remained at CCM Primary. In January 2025 Millimani opened its own JSS so our class 6 at Millimani became class 7 at JSS Millimani. We continue to provide a teacher to Millimani Primary School.

Currently we are supporting 70 of our own children through primary, 21 through Junior Secondary and 12 through Senior Secondary. We also have the privilege of supporting 9 young adults into the full breadth of further education. We have several who are learning skills at the local Polytech and the remainder are at university studying a variety of subjects, such as Perioperative Theatre Nursing and Teaching.

Education continues to challenge us, especially with more making the step to Tertiary level where they need a different level of support as they are now separate from the home base support. In the remote village of Dabel, we continue to support 65 of the village's poorer children with a porridge breakfast and a full meal at lunch. There is much work that could be done in this village to support the poor and neglected and we are developing plans to increase our assistance to this community.

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Throughout the reporting period Pamela was the only member of the UK team to visit the projects. In Jan 24 she was in Kenya for ~5 weeks meeting briefly with Jonathan and Miriam from Austria at the end of their visit. She returned to Kenya at the end of the reporting period in Jan 25 for 4 weeks during which she was able to ensure the best of medical care for Therese.

We continue to cooperate with the Kenyan Government across the breadth of the work: KRA (Kenyan Revenue Authority) to maintain our tax-free status, NHIF (National Hospital Insurance Fund), now replaced by SHA (Social Health Authority) and NSSF (National Social Security Fund), a pension fund, as we seek to maximise the benefit of belonging to these insurance schemes.

In relation to their policy on the future of children's homes, we continue to plan for and implement the downsizing of our operations. (In May 25 we met with the Director of the National Council for Children Services who confirmed that we are still able to bring in new destitute children in conjunction with the local government. He also confirmed that the 2030 deadline for Charitable Children's Institute serving in their present role has been extended to 2032.)

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.

Jonathan Dobbin
Chairman

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Treasurer's Report for Twenty-first year to 31st January 2025

During this past year, we yet again give thanks to God and marvel at His provision for the work. The challenges facing the world do not lessen. Our income shows a drop of 10% on 2024. Donations and gifts are down by 19% partly compensated for by an increase of 7k in gift aid as a result of the proceeds of two claims being received within the year.

We thank God for the generous hearts and faithfulness of our core support in UK, Ireland and Austria.

Summarising the figures. Opening balance £129,934, income for the year was £116,324 (£120,739) and the closing balance was £155,697. An increase of £25,763. We transferred to Kenya £90,000 (£110,000).

You will notice for the first time we are showing 'Restricted Funds'. This identifies donations for the specific 'Education Fund' we launched during the year to help us finance third level education for our most able young people. We received £6,796 into this fund and disbursed £1,083 supporting 6 of our young people at Universities and Colleges.

Financial Highlights

Gifts totalled £99,202 (£110,839) and the Inland Revenue (Gift Aid) contributed £16,688 (£9,552). We are thankful for this to all those who have signed Gift Aid forms.

We continue to receive donations from several Charitable Trusts, and we give thanks to God for their faithfulness and generosity.

All the funds transferred to Kenya continue to go to the account of Kind fund Society of Kenya. The funds transferred to Kenya this year fell back £20,000 to £90,000 reflecting a levelling off between the two years and a further improvement in the exchange rate.

The Kenyan Shilling remained steady throughout the year with an exchange of c.170 In the current year we have been receiving 170+. This is very helpful for us as inflation stabilised in Kenya. In the year 2024/5 we granted staff a rise of 3.5%+ to account for inflation.

Nothing was spent on administration (£148). We continue to benefit from time given voluntarily.

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 although a slight trend in reducing income is noted as we lose some of our older supporters. The Board may wish to consider how to counter this movement.

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We need to support several ongoing projects in Kenya to maintain and upgrade infrastructure.

Thanks

I would like to 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 James Hume, Chartered Accountant, our new Examiner for volunteering to give his time and advise while meeting our statutory duty to independently examine our books of account. Thanks also to Watson Black our previous Examiner and now a trustee specifically for his help to prepare the statements for the Examiner. Lastly thanks again to Maurice Lee who has continued to support me by keeping the general ledger up to date.

It was good to see Gillian our Treasurer at our meeting in August. Please continue to remember her in prayer.

I will be happy to answer any questions.

Pamela Dobbin
Assistant Treasurer