

Bi-annual Newsletter



Volume 20 | Issue 02 | The Kenya Trust Newsletter – Autumn / Winter 2020

Announcement

- 1- As part of the newly launched, updated website we have a dedicated section which provides detailed information on some of the projects The Kenya Trust have been involved with. This section is our Project Data Sheet page, check it out:
<https://www.thekenyatrust.org.uk/project-data-sheets/>
- 2- When restrictions are eased with regards to public meetings, the trustees would be more than happy to come to your church or organisation and give a presentation on the work of The Kenya Trust – all social distancing and safety measures will be taken into consideration. If this is something you would like us to do then please contact us via email at info@thekenyatrust.org.uk
- 3- The cover photo for this Newsletter has a special significance for Philip Northwood as it is the view he had from his boarding school every day for 5 years – spectacular isn't it!

Inside this Issue

Page 2

- The Chairman's commentary
- Trustee Profile - Wes Maughan, Chairman

Page 3

- Featured Report - Instrument shipments
- Fundraising Feedback – Braille Paper

Page 4

- Featured Project – Variety Village, Thika, Kenya.
- Donations
- Contact Information

The Chairman's Commentary

The coronavirus pandemic has adversely affected the lives of many people if not everyone and it has adversely affected the fund raising activity of The Kenya Trust as we have not been able to organise and hold our planned money raising events. This has reduced income considerably, however we continue to receive those regular standing order donations and we thank those supporters for their continued support.

Following the retirement, in February 2018, of the previous Trust Chairman Ken Clark along with his wife Wendy, 3 new Trustees were appointed to the Trustee team; Sue Brighton (Staines), Philip Northwood (Bedford) and Richard Whitmore (Potton). Through their skills and abilities all have made a great contribution to the work of the Trust and if you, the reader, feel you could offer something to this work please get in contact.

We continue to fund our existing projects but accept that with our drop in income care must be exercised in budgeting for new support until things return to some sort of normality. Meanwhile we trust in God's direction and guidance through this period.

At this time our thoughts are with the people of Kenya (and all similar countries) where the townships are overcrowded and so many live in poverty. The pandemic has had a disproportionate effect on those living in such difficult conditions.

As in previous newsletters the Trustees thank all of you who have contributed to our project work, appreciating that these days there are many calls on our spare cash and as I say, should you need further information please contact us.

Wes Maughan
Chairman of the Board of Trustees



The Kenya Trust pulling together.

The above image is the Kenya coat of arms.
Harambe is Swahili for Pull Together

Trustee Profile – Wes Maughan

The current Chairman of the Kenya Trust is Wes Maughan, a soldier at Staines Corps (Salvation Army church), and a life-long Salvationist. Following a trip to Kenya in 1997 Wes, on seeing the widespread poverty and health-care needs in the country, was drawn to assisting the efforts of the Salvation Army in tackling these needs, and he then helped set up the Kenya Trust.

On leaving school Wes studied accountancy and worked for a shipbuilding company on the Isle of Wight. However it was not long before his football ability attracted the attention of Southampton F.C. and he signed professional forms at the age of 18. Following 6 years with Southampton he had spells with Reading, Chelmsford City and Cambridge United before taking a job with an American company whilst still continuing with football on a part-time professional basis.

Wes adapted to business life well and was fortunate to have the opportunity of working in a number of European countries. On retirement his involvement with the Salvation Army and fund raising for the Kenya Trust (plus a season ticket at Southampton F.C.) filled much of his time and continues to do so.

He is married with three stepsons and 9 grandchildren so there is rarely a dull moment in his life.

Featured Report: Shared love of music making reverberates around the world

Music forms an integral part of Salvation Army worship and evangelism. Bands and Songster Brigades (Choirs) are an important part of church life and public events with the brass band as the most recognised feature of Salvation Army music.

Salvationist bandmen and songsters (choir members) across Territories continue to draw upon their own cultural background and create vibrant musical styles to accompany worship and attract new audiences.

The Kenya Trust aims to enhance the music making of Salvation Army churches in Kenya by providing pre-loved brass instruments free of cost to the Salvation Army in Kenya. We have in the past received donated instruments from individuals, UK Salvation Army churches, UK based brass bands and schools.

The cost of transporting instruments has increased and currently averages around £45 per instrument, money which we need to raise by donation before being able to send them. These post Covid costs for transport will be with us for some time until air travel returns to normal, so if you are able to help these instruments on their way with a cash donation please see our funding page: www.thekenyatrust.org.uk/donate

or write to us at The Kenya Trust, 'Fairhaven, Bevere, Worcester WR3 7RF, UK.

In March 2020 we were only days away from shipping over 30 instruments to Kenya West when Covid-19 restrictions forced airlines to suspend flights, and many of us here in the UK and in Kenya to stay home.

We're glad to report that on 18th of August, despite increased costs, two pallets flew to Nairobi for onward transportation to Kakamega, Territorial Headquarters of Kenya West. These instruments will be shared amongst the churches in the Territory to enhance music making in many towns and villages.

If you would like to grow and enhance the music ministry of The Salvation Army in Kenya and you are able to make a monetary donation specifically for sending donated instruments then please get in touch through our website or via post. Your support is very much appreciated.

Fundraising Feedback: Braille Paper fundraising project

Thanks to the success of our Braille Paper fundraising appeal we were able to send over £1,500 to Kenya to provide much needed Braille paper to two schools for the blind and visually impaired. Braille paper is vital to the students' ability to read and write exams and text books.

Both the school sites house a primary and a secondary school.

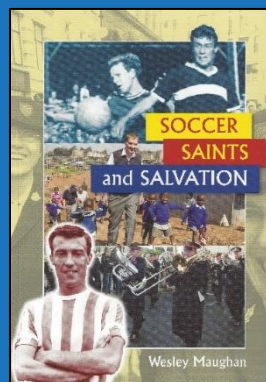


Picture shows Captain Francis Ndete, Chaplain of the Likoni School for the Blind and his wife handing over the Braille paper to the Head Teacher, Elizabeth Ngare.

For more information on this project please go to the project data sheet page of our website or follow this link:

<https://www.thekenyatrust.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2020/03/Project-Data-Sheet-Braille-Paper-V2.pdf>

Book Promotion:



You have read the Trustee Profile, now read the book! Wes is donating all the proceeds of the sale of his biography, made via this Newsletter and our Facebook page, to The Kenya Trust. If you would like a copy, the cost is £7 + £2p&p.

Please send your order, with cheque payable to 'The Kenya Trust' care of: Sue Brighton, The Salvation Army, Woodthorpe Road, Ashford, TW15 3JY, Middlesex.

Project News



Variety Village Training Centre for the Physically Challenged, is located in Thika, Kenya. It's about an hour's drive North of Nairobi, the

Nation's Capital. Its mission is "To Prepare persons with physical challenges, in an environment that will promote knowledge, attainment of skills and values for self-reliance, through the provision of quality training." It was founded by Dickie Henderson, O.B.E. of the Variety Club of Great Britain Golfing Society, on March 14, 1979.

Variety Village is a boarding school that serves up to 100 students. We offer two-year training programs which teach; sewing, leatherwork, cosmetology, metalwork, carpentry, knitting and optometry. During this time students take national standardized tests to determine and acknowledge proficiency in the chosen subject. So far, all students that have taken the exams have passed. Students then can use these national certificates to help them gain employment. But even with this, many choose to seek independent employment upon leaving and use their incomes to help support their families.

The Salvation Army here at Variety Village holds; morning devotions Monday through Friday, Wednesday night Bible studies and a Sunday morning chapel service. Individual Spiritual counselling is also held with each student at least once per term.

Thanks to our partners at The Kenya Trust we have been able to make significant improvements to the living and work environments of the children. In the past two years we have made much progress in the restoration of a facility that's been in decline for many years. This has included the addition and replacement of water tanks, the replacement of over 400 broken windows and a complete kitchen remodel which includes solar water heating. The leaking roof of the boy's dormitory has been replaced. In our classrooms we have procured pieces of new equipment for each classroom to enhance the learning experience. In some cases, it's as little as new industrial fabric shears for the sewing class replacing the worn and broken scissors. We were able to repair and recondition a manual knitting machine with which we are now producing sweaters, caps and scarves.

Earlier this year, The Rotary Club of Baldock, District 1260 of England, provided the funding for us to replace the broken and unsafe band saw in the carpentry workshop.



Project News – Cont.

With all the progress that has been made we are now facing many new and unanticipated challenges due to COVID-19. We have to limit our class sizes as well as provide many more hygiene stations. This also includes the purchasing and posting of social distancing instructions. We now find ourselves more in need than ever before. But we know that our God will continue to provide for us in ways that we cannot comprehend.

Anthony F. Markiewicz, Major
Variety Village, Administrator

Forthcoming Events:

Due to the current restrictions all of our 2020 fundraising events have had to be cancelled. We are working hard to start fundraising again in 2021 and rely very heavily on your personal donations to continue the valuable work we continue to do in Kenya.

Donations:

Thank you to every one of you who have donated to our work and especially for those who donate regularly via standing orders.

Financial donations can be made via our Facebook page and via our website. However cheques made payable to 'The Kenya Trust' can be sent to The Secretary, The Kenya Trust at the postal address below. If you would like to set up a recurring gift via a Standing Order then please contact us for bank details. If you are a UK tax payer, then a way to maximise your gift is to use Gift Aid and a Gift Aid Declaration can be sent to you if you get in touch (both are included with the Newsletter).

Contact Details:

<i>Contacting The Kenya Trust</i>	
	<u>Fairhaven, Bevere, Worcester, WR3 7RF</u>
	<u>Email: info@thekenyatrust.org.uk</u>
	<u>https://www.thekenyatrust.org.uk/</u>
	<u>https://www.facebook.com/kenyatrust</u>