

Date: April 2022

Project Information Sheet

Project Name: Donated Instruments

Location: SA Bands all over Kenya

Project Start Date: 2001

Project Completion: Ongoing

Project Cost: £2,500 per shipment approx.



Musical instruments in Kenya are extremely expensive and are out of reach of most musicians. Over 3,000 instruments have been donated, inspected, repaired and sent to Kenya since the beginnings of The Kenya Trust.



Some of the 104 instruments being made ready for shipment in February 2022



104 instruments were shipped in February 2022 and are shown being unloaded from the truck at The Salvation Army Territorial Headquarters in Karen, Nairobi.



Instruments are delivered to both The Salvation Army's Kenya West Headquarters in Kakamega and Kenya East Headquarters in Nairobi.

These instruments are then distributed to various Salvation Army churches to enhance their existing brass bands and to start new bands in other towns and villages.

The Project:

Donated Instruments:

New and used brass, woodwind, keyboards, guitars are donated by the general public and Salvation Army bands in the UK to The Kenya Trust. The instruments are accepted in any condition.

In addition to instruments; music, instrument cases, lyres, mouth pieces, instrument teaching manuals, rudiments of theory and theory teaching books and music stands are very much in demand and are also gratefully accepted. In recent years donations of a number of clarinets and violins have been accepted and sold to provide funds for the transportation of the shipments the trust has made. The Kenya Trust can arrange collection of instruments from anywhere in the UK.

Repair and make playable:

Once collected, the instruments are taken to a central location where they are inspected, tested, maintained or fully reconditioned to make them playable. If any instruments are unrepairable they are stripped for any useable spares and the metal sold for scrap and the funds used to help off-set the cost of shipment of other playable instruments to Kenya. An instrument repair shop has now been created by The Salvation Army in Nairobi where repairs and maintenance can now be completed locally by UK trained technicians.



The picture above shows instruments outside the repair shop in Nairobi and from left to right: Major Odanga Property Sec. Kenya West; Lt. Col. Opuka Programme Sec. Kenya West; Lt. Col. Mbakaya Programme Sec. Kenya East; Colonel Kiama Territorial Commander Kenya East; Mr. Sammy Odiara Instrument Repair Shop Technician.

Shipment:

Once the instruments, hopefully provided with a functional case, have been inspected and where appropriate restored and tested they are packed along with other musical donations and prepared for shipment to Kenya. Recent shipments have included music and accessories such as mouth pieces, lyres and music stands. Shipping is quite costly involving not only the transportation costs but also customs duty and taxes that are levied by the Kenya Government. On average it costs approximately £45 to ship an instrument to Kenya, obviously cornets a bit less and tubas a lot more. Any donations to help off-set these costs would be gratefully accepted.

Distribution:

The distribution of the instruments and music is decided by the Music Departments within The Salvation Army headquarters in Kenya. The main aim is to equip rural corps (churches) with instruments and music leaders to teach and train up new bandsmen and bandswomen.

Part of the shipment of instruments sent to Kenya in 2021 and played by the new owners.



For more information on current projects please email us at info@thekenyatrust.org.uk .

You can also visit our website www.thekenyatrust.org.uk or our Facebook page.

Thank you.