

Kabuchai Special Primary School for the Deaf



Bi-annual

Newsletter



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Headlines

- 1- November 13th – 23rd Visit of 3 trustees to Kenya, our first visit since the autumn of 2019.
- 2- November 17th saw the opening of the girls' dormitory at the Kabuchai Special Primary School for the Deaf in Western Kenya.
- 3- In January 2025 we shipped 122 instruments to Kenya as our ongoing support for the development of the music ministry of The Salvation Army.
- 4- If you would like to host an event to raise awareness and funds for The Kenya Trust, then please contact the trust via the website or by email:
info@thekenyatrust.org.uk or
philipnorthwood1@btinternet.com

One of the trustees will be more than happy to speak at your event.

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Go on.... scan it and see where it takes you!

The Chairman's Commentary.

2025 has been a good but challenging year for The Kenya Trust.

Fundraising continues to be a challenge, particularly in this current financial climate that we are all facing.

We are very grateful to all of those faithful donors who make regular monthly donations to our work and who also supplement their donations through Gift Aid. Gift Aid continues to be a significant addition to our fundraising activities. If you are a UK taxpayer and would like us to reclaim the tax you have already paid on your donation then please get in touch and we can send you a gift aid form, alternatively you can download a form from our donate page on the website.

I and two other trustees visited Kenya from the 13th to the 23rd of November. The reason this newsletter is a little delayed is because I wanted to include firsthand accounts of the visit. We were privileged and honoured to visit a number of projects the trust has financed in recent years and also to see firsthand a project that we have been asked to fund in 2026 – more of this later in this newsletter.

The role of a trustee is completely voluntary; no costs or expenses are taken by the trustees so 100% of your donations are used directly to fund the projects undertaken by the trust.

Thank you to each and every one of you for making 2025 another great year for The Kenya Trust.

Philip Northwood

Chairman of the Board of Trustees

Kabuchai Dormitory Opening



It is very rare that a visit of trustees coincides so well with the completion of a project. In 2024 we agreed to fund the construction of a dormitory for 60 girls at the Kabuchai Special School for the Deaf and Hearing Impaired. Up until this project the girls had a dormitory but the 60 boys slept in the only classroom. With this new dormitory, the boys will move into the old girls' dormitory. The one classroom accommodated all 120 students by day and in the evening the classroom was converted into a dormitory for the boys. Now, with this dormitory built, the boys also have their own dormitory.

This new dormitory was formally dedicated and opened by the secretary of the trust, Patricia Owen. The building comprises the dormitory, a matron's room, bathing facilities and toilets for the 60 girls and is dedicated to the memory of Christine Bryant. Christine

was Patricia's sister and a founding member of The Kenya Trust and served as the treasurer for over 25 years. The cover picture shows Patricia cutting the ribbon during the opening ceremony and, below, receiving the keys from the contractor as he handed over the project to The Salvation Army via The Kenya Trust.



Inside the dormitory - it is planned that the bunk beds will be manufactured by The Salvation Army's Chombeli Workshops in time for the new school term. See below.

Kenya West Visit

Undoubtedly the highlight of the visit to the Kenya West Territory of The Salvation Army was the opening of the dormitory at Kabuchai, however the trustees were privileged to see a number of other projects recently completed.

Chombeli Workshops is a street family rehabilitation programme which aims, through providing a safe place



and skills training, to encourage street children to re-enter education and to gain valuable skills to enable them to find work or set up small scale craft businesses. So far 33 children have re-entered mainstream education with 3 currently at

University. Some of the skills learned are art, sandal making, rug making, bead work, signwriting and upholstery. For those children who do not re-enter mainstream education they have the opportunity to go to technical colleges to gain recognised certification in vocational skills. The trust funded equipment for the woodwork and metalwork shops and it is here that the bunk beds for the dormitory are planned to be made.

The trustees also visited the Makhwabuye Primary School where the 2020/2022 project was completed. This project was the largest single project the trust has funded so far in Kenya West. Funds secured the building of two 8-cubicle toilet blocks, a new classroom, the refurbishment of an existing classroom and a borehole with pump and water storage and a washing station for the 260 students.

It was very encouraging to see the projects being used and appreciated by the communities in which they were built. Just as these projects may be but a drop in the ocean of need in the country, there has been a ripple effect at both Makhwabuye and Kabuchai. At both schools the work that The Salvation Army has



accomplished with the financial help from the trust has motivated and encouraged the local education authority to contribute to the improvement of the infrastructure of the schools. In both cases a

new classroom has been built. At Kabuchai this new build takes the number of classrooms for 120 students to two.

Kenya East Visit

As with the visit to Kenya West there was a particular highlight of our visit to Kenya East. The trust funded some infrastructure improvements at the Muthanthara primary and secondary schools.



Muthanthara is in a very remote, semi-arid part of the country and a 5-hour drive from Nairobi. The trust financed the building and furnishing of the classroom at the secondary school and also funded the building of two 12-cubicle toilet blocks at the primary school. As with the two schools in the west, the local education authority was motivated to act at both of these schools. They funded the building of a laboratory at the secondary school and the resurfacing of the floors in the primary school classrooms. The visit was appreciated as not many visitors make the journey to the schools.

The majority of projects the trust has financed in the recent past have focused on improvements to the infrastructure of schools and vocational training centres around the country. The Salvation Army sponsor over 500 schools in Kenya. It is not surprising therefore to learn that the project that Kenya East would like the trust to finance is a secondary school in Mukuyuni, in central Kenya, about 3-hour drive from Nairobi. The main infrastructure of the school is quite good – the



school is only 8 years old. The school provides 2 free meals a day for its 141 students – all cooked in this 'kitchen'. The plan is to raise £9,900

to build a new kitchen with a food store and more up to date woodfired cooking stoves. See our Project Data Sheet attached for more information.

Instrument Report



In January 2025 the trust shipped 122 brass instruments and accessories to Kenya (picture shows 3 pallets destined for Nairobi). All donations of brass instruments (in any

condition), mouth pieces, lyres and music stands are valued and arrangements to collect from anywhere on mainland UK can be made. Donations of traditional pianos cannot be accepted but electric pianos can be considered.

Donated instruments that are or can be made playable are maintained and refurbished. Instruments deemed non-repairable are stripped of all useable parts to be sent to Kenya to be



used in the instrument repair facility located in Kakamega, Kenya West. The facility was visited by the three trustees during the

recent visit to Kenya. Any funds raised from scrapped instruments are set aside to help in the payment of shipping costs.

The cost of shipping instruments has escalated in recent years. The cost for shipping this consignment was over £4,500. If you would like to help in any way, please scan the QR code or go to our donate page on the website.



In a rare opportunity to see the direct impact that the instruments shipped to Kenya has on the music ministry of The Salvation Army, the trustees visited a newly formed band and conducted a rehearsal and tutorial. Most of the band members are under the age of 25.



2025 Project Update:

Our 2025 project is to provide a secure, clean water supply to The Salvation Army's Kabuchai complex. In addition to the school for the deaf, there is a girls' secondary school and a co-ed primary school as well as The Salvation Army church. At the beginning of every day the students walk 2kms to a stream to collect the water they will need for the day. This takes up the first 2 hours of every day. The need for a secure, clean water supply is a priority. This project will directly impact the 1,200 children and adults directly associated with the three schools but it will also have an impact on the wider community. It was announced at the opening of the dormitory at Kabuchai that The Kenya Trust has provided the funds for the drilling of a borehole, provision of pumping and piping and a 50,000-litre storage tank. This announcement was met with a huge celebration by those who came to witness the dedication and opening of the dormitory. The trust has sent £17,800 to fund this project.

Contact Details:

Contacting The Kenya Trust

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	Email: info@thekenyatrust.org.uk
	https://www.thekenyatrust.org.uk
	https://www.facebook.com/kenyatrust

Donations:



Scan the QR code on the left to go to the Donate Page of the website, alternatively cheques made payable to 'The Kenya Trust' and sent to The Secretary, The Kenya Trust at the postal address above. Gift Aid and Standing Order Mandates are available from our donate page on the website. Thank You.