



The Kisoro Trust

Newsletter December 2022

Dear Supporter

In last year's newsletter, we reported that schools in Uganda were set to reopen on 3rd January 2022 following the disruption to schooling caused by the Covid-19 pandemic. We are delighted to report that schools did reopen as planned and that normal teaching and extra-curricular activities have now resumed at Kisoro Demonstration School with a revised curriculum to cater for what was missed while in lockdown, while the teachers received extra training in order to adapt to the changes. The following objectives have therefore been achieved this year as a result of the funds provided to KDAD by the Kisoro Trust:

- Access to education and communication by the Deaf children, through separate classes where the medium of instruction is Sign Language.
- Improved access to a variety of nutritious foods by the children with hearing impairment throughout the year, through provision of food supplements and a balanced diet. The children are also learning the skills of agriculture alongside a farm manager and have crops growing on the school verandas and gardens.



- Adequate payments of salaries to the support staff. This includes matrons and night watchmen who take care of the Deaf children by maintaining their health and hygiene in and around the dormitories, preparing food and providing school security.
- The children are undertaking computer lessons, something that is not even happening in the mainstream school.
- Payment of school utilities such as water, electricity and television.

All of this will enable the Deaf children to acquire relevant education and develop skills that will equip them to earn a living in future, as well as contributing to them becoming increasingly accepted as valuable members of their society.



National Athletics Competition

The pupils from Kisoro Demonstration School had an opportunity to compete in National Athletics Competitions and five of the deaf children were included, competing in running, shot put and javelin. The competition venue was in Mbale district which is more than 700km from Kisoro, with the photo below showing a teacher interpreting the rules and procedures of the athletics competitions for the Deaf children present.



Thank You!

We are very grateful to all of our donors who make all this possible. We are also extremely grateful to others who contribute behind the scenes and we would like to say a massive 'thank you' to Alasdair McLeod who has helped us with our finances on a voluntary basis for the last 20 years! As he approached his 80th birthday, Alasdair decided to step down from his role with the Kisoro Trust. However he will not be idling his time away as he plans to resume travelling and to continue to help at the local cricket ground in a supervisory and advisory capacity.

And Welcome!

In Alasdair's place we would like to extend a very warm welcome to Wren Hoskyns-Abrahall, who has already hit the ground running by preparing our annual accounts for this financial year. Wren is has had a very varied career and is more than qualified to help us in this capacity.



Wren spent 11 years as a Naval Officer, culminating as Flag Lieutenant to Flag Officer Scotland and Northern Ireland, in Rosyth. On taking early retirement, he was a Director of Portsmouth and Sunderland Newspapers, Chairman of their news agency business and a director of three commercial radio stations. He then worked for a national department store group, before running his own franchised quick-print business. He has also completed an international business course in Switzerland and a Sloan Fellowship Programme at the London Business School.

In 2001, Wren spent three years as Stewardship Director for the Scottish Episcopal Church (SEC). Previously, while living in southwest London, he became over-involved in Church and Diocesan administration, focusing on finance and financial stewardship. For a short time, prior to

moving back to Scotland, he served on the General Synod of the Church of England.

After three years living in the wing of a large country house overlooking Yetholm Loch, his work as Stewardship Director meant moving to Edinburgh. Together with his wife, Phyll, they have lived in the Grange ever since. After 16 moves during their marriage they have no intention of adding any more!

After working for the SEC, Wren ran a domestic cleaning business for a few years – cleanliness, after all, is next to godliness! He continues to be involved with the money at St John's, Princes Street and with their trading activities.

Although never an academically qualified accountant, most of Wren's working and volunteering life has been to do with finance. As he says: "he may have worked for the Church, but he has always been motivated by the Kingdom!"

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To make a donation to support the work of the Kisoro Trust, please go to www.kisoro.org. Thank you!