

Action in Africa Annual Report 2014-15



Our Mission Statement.

The objectives of Action in Africa are to provide relief from poverty and sickness and to provide funding for the advancement of education, in two particular areas of Tanzania – Nyaishozi and Mtandika. The beneficiaries are all the people of the area, irrespective of race, religion or gender. We work through local committees representing all races and religions, men and women; helping them develop a better future for themselves and for others.

The Chairman's Report

It gives me great pleasure to present Action in Africa's Annual Report, which sets out for our supporters and the general public what we have achieved in the past twelve months and our future plans.

This year has been a year of change for us. Chairman and founder of the charity, Peter Exworthy retired. I was elected as Chairman and would like to thank Peter for all the years' service he has given, his dedication and his unfaltering commitment to the charity. We also accepted new trustee Tina Rayburn onto the board and Carolyn Higgs, who took over from Ray Quinlan, our former Treasurer. In Nyaishozi, Father Vitalis took over chairmanship of the local committee and Katusime Nimrod became the new treasurer there.

Nyaishozi

One of the problems highlighted this year is that students walk many miles to reach their schools and some students take lodgings to avoid these long treks. Female students, in particular, are at risk from attack on unlit roads, or abuse at the places where they stay near the school. We would like to thank the Erach Roshan Sadri Foundation, who awarded Action in Africa £10,000, which was used to fund the building of a dormitory (pictured below) for girls at Ruhinda Secondary School. The local funding element was affected by the Tanzanian government issuing a directive in September stating that it was mandatory for all secondary schools to have a science block. Unfortunately, this meant that the local contribution to the dormitory was diverted to the building of the science block. However, the dormitory construction is already well underway and will be completed as soon as possible.



St Andrews Secondary School, Leatherhead has long been a champion of the charity and this year has been no different. Action in Africa was lucky enough to secure a place at the Virgin London Marathon, which was taken by St Andrew's six former, Nicky Archer. She more than lived up to the challenge, in spite of a sprained knee and raised a magnificent £3,000 for the charity. We thank her for her determination and grit.

Action in Africa held its sixteenth annual golf day in June which was very well attended. Caroline Balko, Francis Kinal and headmaster Alan Mitchell (pictured below with Peter Exworthy) were there to represent St Andrews as well as Darius Sarosh (pictured below) whose family runs the Erach Roshan Sadri Foundation. Action in Africa welcomed the opportunity to thank them personally for all their support. The weather was kind to those on the green, with Tyrrells Wood providing refreshments throughout the day. This culminated in a slap up supper, raffle and silent auction. I acted as MC for the proceedings. The event surpassed all expectations, raising over £8,000.



The charity held its first annual Quiz Night at St Michael's church hall. It was a great night, thanks to organiser Carolyn Higgs, compere Andy Dutton, and scorekeeper Ray Quinlan, not forgetting the supporters of Action in Africa, who made it such a success. It raised a staggering £1,800.

Another event which was added to the charity's fundraising calendar is the Burns Night which was held at Tyrrells Wood Golf Club in January to celebrate poet Robbie Burns. Bill Moonie, a staunch supporter of the charity guided the non-Scottish trustees through the traditional proceedings and a rip roaring time was had by all. A remarkable £2,300 was raised.

The charity was fortunate enough to be able to send trustee Tina Rayburn to Tanzania with cameraman Timothy Forder. They were guests of Father Vitalis who ensured the trip was a success, by chauffeuring them everywhere they needed to film. They visited schools, dispensaries and homes of the students sponsored by Action in Africa. The information Tina was able to collect has been invaluable. During her stay, Tina was introduced to many children including Bibiana Patilisi (pictured below) – a fifteen year old girl whose family was living in desperate circumstances (pictured below). Bibiana was walking three hours to school every day. As education is the main focus of the charity, Action in Africa was keen to sponsor Bibiana, who is now a student at Nyzaishozi Secondary Boarding School (pictured below).



The three films resulting from the trip have been edited and are available on Youtube, (links can be found on the Action in Africa Facebook page). The educational programme *Action in Africa, Nyaishozi* has won a gold award at the Jakarta World Humanitarian Film Festival. The *Action in Africa Montage* short film won a laurel at the Nottingham International Micro Film Festival. The third film - *Action in Africa Banana Wilt* has also been submitted to various environmental and social film festivals due to be held next year. Action in Africa would like to thank Timothy Forder for all his work on the films.

Besides one off building projects and sponsoring children who otherwise would not be able to access the educational system, Action in Africa strives to help the Nyaishozi community in other ways. Every Christmas £1,000 is sent to provide emergency food for those who cannot afford to feed themselves. People needing aid are not just the poor but the disabled, orphans, those suffering from HIV, the old and widows. The money this year was used to buy rice, sugar, cooking oil, tea, soap, milk, sardines and meat.

Action in Africa subsidises the local kindergarten (pictured below) which teaches up to 40 children at any one time. It also helps towards the running costs of the dispensary.



Looking ahead to next year we hope to raise enough funds to build an ablution block to service the completed dormitory at Ruhinda Secondary School and plans are already being drawn up.

As several of our sponsored students have now completed their education, we are considering initiating a new education programme whereby we sponsor a block of the neediest students attending Nyaishozi Primary School, the headmaster of which is a trustee on the Action in Africa Nyaishozi committee. That way we can provide stable and continuous education for students whose families struggle to finance constant schooling for their children.

We are keen to carry on with our fundraising activities and source funds outside our immediate support circle, looking at approaching charitable trusts which may find our projects appealing and want to help. If successful then we would like to explore more one off projects and expand our education programme. If this year is anything to go by, the future looks very exciting

Mtandika

When Mary and Michael Agius visited Mtandika in 2014 the building of a new accommodation block for the teachers at the Trade School [shown below] and a new ablution block for the girls were nearing completion. These have now been finished and are in use.



New teachers house

Whilst staying with Sister she was sending the girls some distance into one of the nearby villages to get maize she had grown, ground into flour. This was not only costly but potentially dangerous for the girls. So we agreed that she should buy a mill and construct a building to house it. The building [shown below] also provides premises for a small shop and accommodation for the askari [guard].



Maize mill building

Other infrastructural work included the sinking of a borehole on the flood plain above but close to the river, so that there will always be water at a shallow depth but the pump will be away from strong flood flows in the river. The photo below shows the borehole before being capped and the installation of a solar pump and solar panels.



Borehole before capping off water

During the year the electrical system at the Trade School was upgraded. This is now part solar and part from the rural grid which has eventually reached the village. The photos below show some of the new equipment we purchased and had installed.



New electrical equipment



New electrical switch gear

The Trade School course now has to cover many more subjects to comply with National Exam standards and during the year we sent money for Sister to purchase more computers [as shown below] and sewing machines. All graduates now take the national VETA exams.



New computers

With your kind donations the education of some forty children continues to be sponsored. Eleven of these are orphan girls studying at the Trade School, seven at Mtandika Primary School, eighteen at Mtandika Secondary School and other boarding schools away from the village and four at various Colleges studying practical subjects. The photo on the left below shows this year's graduates from the Trade School in clothes that they have sewn themselves. The photo on the right shows some of the younger orphans living at the Trade School who attend Mtandika Primary School. They are looked after wonderfully by the older girls in a lovely family atmosphere.



2015 Trade School graduates



Orphans living at the Trade School

As Chairman, I would like to thank trustees who sat on the Action in Africa board this year: Michael Agius, Michael Andrews, Andy Dutton, Carolyn Higgs (Treasurer), Tina Rayburn (Vice Chairwoman).

John Earl, Chairman



Action in Africa is a registered charity No 1072661 and is constituted under Articles of Association

ACTION IN AFRICA (Charity No. 1072661)

Receipts and Payments Account for the year to 5 April 2015

Receipts

Fundraising (see note)	£21,567
Donations received	£29,104
Gift Aid receipt	£2,891
Total	£53,562

Costs

Administration (Tanzania)	£924
Administration (UK)	£110
Trustee visit to Tanzania	£3,563
Cash transfer costs	£75
Total	£4,672

Net Income

£48,890

Payments to beneficiaries

Education	£23,119
Development	£29,109
Health	£6,704
Total	<u>£58,932</u>

Funds at 6 April 2014

£23,959

Excess of receipts over payments for the year

(£10,042)

Funds at 5 April 2015

£13,917

Note to the accounts:

Fundraising

Golf	£6,174
Burns' Night	£2,362
Quizzes	£4,024
Marathon	£962
Concert	£3,730
CD sales	£3,234
Produce sale	£1,362
2013/14 late fundraising expenses	(£281)
Total	<u>£21,567</u>

Amberley
12 Highfields
Ashtead
Surrey
KT21 2NL
12th January 2016

The Trustees
Action in Africa

Dear Trustees


Action in Africa (Charity Number 1072661)

Accounts for the year ended 5 April 2015

I have examined the cash books and bank statements of the charity for the year ended 5 April 2015, which are totally consistent, both as regards the individual transactions and both the opening and closing balances.

I have also carried out sample checks on the income and expenditure in the accounts, and am satisfied from these checks that the accounts as presented are in agreement with the books of accounts.

Yours sincerely



Mary-Anne Catto BA CA