

# Action in Africa Annual Report

2018-19



## 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 very eventful year for the charity. At Nyaishozi we have extended our programme for sponsorship of children's education and continued our funding of health and education projects. We were also very pleased to welcome our Tanzanian Chairman, Father Vitalis, for the first time to the UK to discuss his ambitions for his local community. At Mtandika the year was overshadowed by the tragic death of Sister Barberina Mhagala, Founder and Principal of the Mtandika Trade School. Despite this the school continues to flourish.

## Nyaishozi

We started the year with a visit by Father Vitalis to Ashted. It was the first time the chairman of the Action in Africa Nyaishozi committee had stepped on U.K. soil. He had a very warm welcome from the Ashted community, particularly the parishioners of St. Michael's. Below he is being welcomed to the parish by Canon Tony Churchill.



During his visit, his hostess was vice chair of the Ashted Action in Africa committee, Tina Rayburn. He walked every morning to St. Michael's to help Father Tony with mass and gave a pulpit address. He highlighted the plight of Kibogoizi – a remote community scattered over a wide area. The local dispensary had no form of transport to service their patients. The subsequent collection raised the majority of funds needed to by a Chinese produced motorbike. (Pictured below left is a nurse from Kibogoizi dispensary trying out the bike, just after it was delivered). His words must have made a huge impact on the congregation, because two further donations have been made for two further bikes. We would like to thank the worshippers of St. Michael's for their generosity.



During his stay, Father Vitalis was invited to celebrate Cranmore School's 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. As Richard Moth, Bishop of Arundel and Brighton, is a patron of the school, Father Vitalis was fortunate enough to meet him. (pictured above right). It was one of the highlights of his trip.



Father Vitalis was keen to visit St Andrew's Secondary School Leatherhead. The school has been a long term supporter over the years. As luck would have it, St Andrew's were hosting their Action in Africa Music Night – when youngsters from local junior schools and talented musicians and singers from St Andrew's showed off their amazing talents. Head teacher Alan Mitchell was pleased to welcome our Tanzanian guest. Father Vitalis was guest of honour, accompanied by vice chair Tina Rayburn. What an uplifting experience and what a collection of gifted students! A big thank you to the school for inviting us to such a special evening!

Action in Africa held a Quiz Night at St Michael's Church Hall in celebration of Father Vitalis' visit. As usual, the night was planned meticulously by our lovely treasurer, Carolyn Higgs and a great time was had by all, not least by Father Vitalis, (pictured below with his back to the camera) who had never attended anything quite like it before. Over £1,300 was raised in total. A big thank-you to all who attended.



Some of the funds raised at the quiz night were used to help former Action in Africa sponsored student Rebecca Didas. Now a qualified midwife practising Nyaishozi dispensary, Rebecca had returned to college to take a masters degree in Midwifery. She needed a little financial help to complete her studies. She has just graduated. She will now spend twelve months in the field before returning to Nyaishozi Dispensary full time. Congratulations Rebecca!





Father Vitalis left Ashtead laden to the gills with supplies for Nyaishozi. Days for Girls U.K. had worked around the clock to complete the feminine hygiene kits which were distributed to schools which had participated in the programme in 2015. As feminine hygiene products are hard to come by and are very expensive, it is important to the charity to support our school girls and local ladies in this way. Below are the girls at Ruhinda Secondary School with their kits. They are outside their dormitory, also constructed by Action in Africa. Thank you Jane and the DfG team who sent us 150 kits!



Abella Deusdedith (pictured below) is the latest addition to the Action in Africa family. She lives in a local village with her aunt, although her mother tries to help to pay for her, but with another six mouths to feed, life is tough for the family. Abella is a happy child and we wish her well in her studies.





Pictured above are students sitting where they normally queue for water. The village of Kibogoizi has severe water problems. Two engineers from the Christian Engineers Development Charity kindly visited the village in October. They advised the locals how to proceed and were very generous with their expertise. Father Vitalis will oversee the repairs needed to restore this water system for the local community. Action in Africa will contribute towards the cost. Thank you C.E.D.



Father Vitalis brought news of the huge success of our maize gruel lunches which we funded for 100 of the neediest pupils at Nyaishozi Primary School. During his visit we agreed to underwrite the cost of maize seeds, for the students to grow enough of the crop to feed the entire school for the year! Pictured above left are the pupils preparing the soil on a large piece of the waste ground belonging to the school.

Above right is the most recent update of how the crop has grown – it won't be long until harvest!

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Action in Africa is very proud of St Andrew's sponsored vocational students Efrat Shubira and Naiveth Almachius who both graduated late 2018. Efrat, pictured below left, graduated in Car Maintenance and Naiveth, pictured below right, graduated in Needlework & Tailoring. Both young adults attended their courses at the highly respected Kagera District Vocational District Training College. They are both already working as apprentices in their chosen subjects at local businesses. They have plans to branch out on their own as soon as they can. We would like to thank St Andrew's Secondary School for supporting this initiative, which is specifically aimed at uneducated young men and women.



We are pleased that St. Andrew's have sponsored two new students for the vocational programme. Antidius Syphorian, pictured below left, is eighteen and will study Domestic Wiring at the well-respected College. The two year course also includes computer studies and basic Maths and English. The second student is Maclina Silas (below right). She is living in extreme poverty and will study Needlework and Tailoring. The vocational courses are a huge lifeline to young men and women who have not been able to access the education system. Thank you St. Andrew's!



Every year Action in Africa holds a Christmas Appeal and sends the funds raised to Nyaishozi. The Christmas 2018 Appeal raised a whopping £706! These monies are used to buy emergency food and basic medical supplies, which are then handed out by trustees to the most needy and vulnerable in the community. (Pictured below). Thank you to everyone who donated.



Ruhinda Secondary School lies within the village boundaries of Nyaishozi. Over the years, we have tried to help the school, most recently by constructing a dormitory and shower block for female students who attend the school. We have recently funded solar paneling to be installed on the roof of two of the classrooms (pictured below). The solar power will be able to provide lighting for the students to continue their studies after dark.







Pictured above is one of the Kahanga Dispensary nurses trying out the second brand new motorcycle to be funded by Action in Africa. An Ashtead resident came forward to pay for this vital form of transport for clinic staff to visit sick patients living in remote areas. The arrival of the motor bike caused great excitement and we would like to thank the donor for his huge generosity.



Action in Africa also supports one off health projects and was pleased to be able to fund the purchase of a haemoglobin machine for Nyaishozi Dispensary. The medical team there (pictured above) were delighted with it. The machine is pictured in the hands of the lab technician, second right. Life threatening anaemia is a constant concern to Rebecca Didas, the resident midwife, (pictured above, second left), who oversees the maternity wing of the clinic. Pregnant women in the region are particularly susceptible to the condition and Rebecca is confident that the machine will save lives.



Looking forward, 2019 is a very exciting year for Action in Africa. In the spring Vice Chairwoman Tina Rayburn will be visiting Nyaishozi with cameraman Timothy Forder. They will be able to capture on film the impact the charity is having on the local community. The water problems at the village of Kibogoizi is an issue that will take our time and focus, as well as expanding our Days for Girls feminine hygiene programme. We are still looking at ways to update the maternity equipment at Nyaishozi dispensary and supply more transport to other, more remote dispensaries... there is a lot to do.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank the individuals and charities who have helped us during this past twelve months – we would especially like to mention Days for Girls feminine hygiene, Pens 4 Africa, Smalls for all and BOSS, a stationery company based in the south east. All these charities went beyond their normal remit to provide supplies for our Nyaishozi trip – helping the community we strive to support. We cannot forget our loyal supporters – thank you everyone!

### **Mtandika**

This year has been overshadowed by the tragic death of Sister Barberina Mhagala, Founder and Principal of the Mtandika Trade School, in a road accident in early February 2019. She was returning from a meeting of her Religious Order, the Teresina Sisters, in the Regional Capital, Iringa, when her driver went to overtake a slow moving heavy goods vehicle, only to be met by one coming in the opposite direction. Their vehicle overturned, ending up at the bottom of an embankment. Sister was killed almost instantaneously and her driver suffered very bad injuries to his back. May she rest in peace.



Sister Barberina was inspirational. She always had a passion for teaching and when she had to retire as Headmistress of a succession of very successful Primary Schools, she started building the Mtandika Trade School in 2005, primarily to give a vocational education to girls who could not go onto Secondary School for whatever reason and avoid them ending up on the streets. Not only did they learn how to tailor but acquired a lifestyle that would hold them in good stead once they left the school.

As reported last year, the school is now registered with the Government's Vocational and Educational Training Authority [VETA] as the St Agnes Vocational Training College. The college now takes boys, as well as girls, teaching electrical engineering as well as tailoring. Below are photos of Sister Barberina before her death with some of the girls and boys



Since Sister Barberina's death, the Teresina Sisters have taken over the running of the college, with Sister Damiana Kikoti as Principal, Sister Restituta Msemwa, as Accountant and Sister Desderia Kalinga as Matron. Action in Africa continues to be in daily contact with the new management. The teachers remain as before, with Shabani Bilaly as Vice Principal and teacher of Electrical Engineering and Engineering Science, Yohana Mtagawa as teacher of Computer Studies and Mathematics, Okoa Mheni as teacher of English and Communications, Technical Drawing and Life Skills and Sylvia Mfalamagoha as teacher of Tailoring, Business Studies and Entrepreneurship.



**Sisters Damiana [left] and Restituta**



**Sylvia, Shabani, Okoa and Yohana**

This year has continued to be a period of consolidation for the college. The tailoring and electrical courses are now well established, with 32 students in total spread over two years. The boys on the Electrical course are now fully integrated not only into life at the College but also in the life of the greater village, frequently playing soccer against the village and secondary school teams. The Hotel Management course has yet to start but the canteen is put to good use providing food for visitors and providing a small income for the college.



**Students taking their exams**

As reported in previous years, the Trade School continues to be fairly self-sufficient in terms of food, growing amongst other things their own maize, cassava, rice, beans, onions, tomatoes, bananas and papayas. Any surplus items, such as onions, are sold to provide a small income for the school. Chickens, ducks, pigs and rabbits continue to provide meat and eggs for the students. One of Sister Barberina's last projects was to build a large fish pond in which to breed fish for sale.





**Onion and bean fields**



**Onions, beans and bananas**



**Catching fish to sell**



**Fish in the net**

In addition a small income continues to be derived from providing maize milling and photocopying services to the villagers.



**Maize mill**

Some 10 of the 32 Trade School students who are orphans or from very poor families, are sponsored through the generous, regular donations from our long term sponsors. In addition to the older Trade School students, half a dozen orphans from about 15 years old down to 7 years, live at the Trade School and go to the village Secondary and Primary Schools.

As well as the activities at the Trade School, 19 students, who are either orphans or from very poor families, continue to be educated at Primary and Secondary School level through the generous, regular donations from our long term sponsors. Currently three girls, Maria Makongwa, Beatrice Mwinuka and Teresina Chavala are being sponsored through Teaching Degrees at university.



**Maria Makongwa**



**Beatrice Mwinuka**



**Teresia Chavala**

Fundraising is extremely important and two functions were again held this year, a garden party in July, enjoyed by 70 sponsors, which made £1750 and a quiz in November, attended by nearly 120 sponsors, which made £1900.

### **Accounts**

The Accounts for the year 2018/2019 are appended to this report.

### **Thanks**

As Chairman, I would like to thank the Trustees who sat on the Action in Africa board this year : Tina Rayburn (Vice Chairwoman), Carolyn Higgs (Treasurer), Michael Andrews and Andy Dutton, who retired during the year as a Trustee. Andy had been a Trustee of the Charity for thirteen years, in which time he visited Nyaishozi on our behalf. He has always been a staunch supporter of Action in Africa. He leaves us to spend more time with his young family. We would like to thank him for all his hard work over the years.

Michael Agius

Chairman



## **ACTION IN AFRICA (Charity No. 1072661)**

### **Receipts and Payments Account for the year to 5 April 2019**

#### **Receipts**

Fundraising	£7,542
Donations received	£18,428
Gift Aid receipt	£6,783
<b>Total</b>	<b>£32,753</b>

#### **Costs**

Administration (Tanzania)	£1,852
Administration (UK)	£52
Cash transfer costs	£80
Fundraising expenses	£621
Trustee Visit to Tanzania	£2,172
<b>Total</b>	<b>£4,777</b>

**Net Income** **£27,976**

#### **Payments to beneficiaries**

Education	£18,747
Development	£6,642
Health	£6,278
<b>Total</b>	<b><u>£31,667</u></b>

**Funds at 6 April 2018** **£15,661**

Excess of receipts over payments for the year (£3,961)

**Funds at 5 April 2019** **£11,970**

## **Statement of Assets and Liabilities at 5 April 2019**

<b>Assets</b>	<b>£11,970</b>
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<b>Liabilities</b>	<b>£0</b>
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### **Note to the accounts:**

#### **Net Fundraising proceeds**

Quizzes	£3,150
Marathon 2019	£159
Church Collections	£1,862
Garden Party	£1,750
<b>Total</b>	<b><u>£6,921</u></b>



#### **Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Action in Africa**

I report on the accounts of Action in Africa for the year ended 5<sup>th</sup> April 2019, which are set out in pages 13 to 14.

#### **Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner**

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- Examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act
- To follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act
- To state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

#### **Basis of independent examiner's report**

My examination was carried out in accordance with the general Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts provide a 'true and fair view' and the report is limited to those matters set out in the next statement.

#### **Independent examiner's statement**

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

1. Which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements
  - To keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act and
  - To prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Act

Have not been met or

2. To which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached



**Mary-Anne Catto BA CA**

Amberley, 12 Highfields, Ashted, Surrey, KT21 2NL

12<sup>th</sup> June 2019