

AFRICAN GREAT LAKES PEACE TRUST ANNUAL REPORT SEP 2019 - SEP 2020

A TOUGH YEAR FOR EVERYONE

Covid 19 has wrought havoc across the globe but we have, thanks to the wonders of Zoom, continued to meet, receive reports and proposals and send money where we could.

In April, our Friend Antoine Samvura of Friends Peace House in Kigali, wrote about the suffering of families unable to access work or food due to the very strict lockdown in Rwanda. Although we do not usually give this kind of relief, the situation was exceptional and we sent £1000. This was spent on helping 32 families in Gicumbi District in the north of Rwanda for 2 months. Some of the money was used for a hand-washing station at Friends Peace Church in Kigali allowing Friends to continue to meet.



KAKUMA REFUGEE CAMP NORTH EAST KENYA

In 2019 we gave £1,000 to Transforming Communities for Social Change (TCSC) to enable a 3 day Healing and Rebuilding Our Communities (HROC) workshop, followed by a 3 day Alternatives to Violence (AVP) workshop. These helped refugee women in the camp to deal with their own trauma and form a committed group who then took part in micro entrepreneurship training. 24 women went on to start a sewing project. Despite Covid delays, 10 sewing machines were delivered to the camp in August 2020.



FRIENDS PEACE HOUSE KIGALI, RWANDA

In 2020, we sent £1,500 to the Friends Peace House. Antoine Samvura tells us that they have bought toolkits for their mechanics and hairdressers who graduated from their school, Mwananshuti Vocational Training Centre. The graduates have been grouped into cooperatives to share the toolkits. Each group has a mentor to help in planning work. The cooperatives are working well even though the situation of Covid-19 is tough.



BUDUDA
Learning Center

Contraception education

We have funded a contraception nurse to run sessions helping women and girls to access safe contraception in this remote and very poor corner of northern Uganda.

From Grace Namayeka:

“Of the £1200 you sent we spent £480 on March 4th 2020 and we have many of the supplies left over as well as the weight scales and other equipment.

So now we have £720 left to host another session next week for secondary school students in the Bududa area, Hopefully we will have enough host a third session for follow up and further education.

With great gratitude to you for initiating this much needed education.”

Barbara Wybar adds: “I talked a little about birth rates in Africa and asked some questions. I really was overwhelmed by the responses from these 40 girls. They were so open, so grateful to learn, discuss and then be able to get free contraception. It amazed me that they got so little instruction from their parents or teachers. I knew about sex for food but I was so glad they put it put in the open. Equally traditional dances and blue movies – everyone could listen and digest it. After that day, I felt that this kind of exercise is the most important way we can help this community.”

We have also sent £550 as part of our ongoing contribution to the running costs at Bududa.

ACCOUNTS

In this accounting year, we started the year with assets of £1832 and have received a total of £4,808 and await Gift Aid payments of approximately £1,000. We have made grants of £5,300 and our only other expense has been £100 bank charges.

DONATIONS AND FUNDRAISING

We have been very grateful for generous donations this year which have allowed us to continue to support peace-building work, especially in Rwanda, Kenya and Uganda. The musician Tom Robinson has kindly promised us a benefit concert in St Austell. Covid has caused long delays but we hope this will go ahead in Feb 2022. See www.crbo.co.uk for details.

Donations can be made through our website www.africangreatlakespeacetrust.org.uk or by cheque payable to African Great Lakes Peace Trust and sent to:
17 Front Street
Wearhead
Durham
DL 13 1B

If you would like to know more about African Great Lakes Peace Trust and the work we support, look at our website www.africangreatlakespeacetrust.org.uk

If you would like us to talk about it, perhaps we could arrange a Zoom meeting for you to share stories, pictures, news and background. Contact Dorothy on lonelyelephant@gmail.com

Trustees: Margot Lunnon, Andrew Rendle, Elizabeth Cave, Dorothy Nelson and Philip Hellen