

## Friends of Nyansakia News Update

(Newsletter—March 2023)



Registered charity number: 115349

### ***Dear Friends***

We thank you once again for your continued support. The year 2020 started well with a large donation from The Malcolm Whales Foundation. A huge thank you from FON for this. Even though recent months have been very challenging for us all, your monthly donations have enabled us to maintain our commitment to supporting four members of staff and funding a feeding programme in Kenya that has gone from strength to strength.

The easing of lockdown gave us the opportunity for fundraising events again and we are very pleased to report:

- ◆ **£497** was raised at a coffee morning/bring and buy sale at Bourne Catholic Church. We thank everyone who helped us to make that possible.
- ◆ **£1015** was raised by our treasurer, Terry Westwood, who completed a sponsored bike ride from Bourne to Sleaford and back. Well done, Terry!
- ◆ **£1305** was raised by having a non-uniform day and fun activities devised by the children at both Bourne Abbey and Elsea Park primary schools. They held a Nyansakia Day in July and special thanks go to Maxine Anderson and Stephanie Davey for organising this and connecting with FON again. Bourne Abbey School played an important role in the formation of the Charity twelve years ago. Julie and Alan attended African assemblies at both schools, and we sincerely thank Maxine, Stephanie and the children for this magnificent achievement.

Enthused after their visit to Nyansakia in October Martin and Alan appealed to friends and relations for extra funding and we are pleased to report that over £200 was donated and a total of £70 pledged in monthly commitments. These are tough times, but if you can increase your giving or know of someone who would like to start contributing, we would be truly grateful. A small amount of our money goes a long way in Kenya! As we are a small charity every penny raised goes to support the community of Nyansakia School.

Our details for giving are:

**Friends of Nyansakia Barclays Bank, Account No 33935558**

**Sort code 20-80-78**

**For further details please contact our treasurer: Terry Westwood 01778 425996/07912624313**

After a seven-hour drive from Nairobi, Martin and Alan received a typical African welcome on their arrival in Nyansakia. The local chiefs, the Board of Management, the staff and the children all gathered around our Landcruiser. What an amazing sight it was! The buildings were much the same as before but, thanks to the support we give with school lunches, there are in excess of 900 pupils now. For many children, this is their only meal of the day. We spent three hectic days viewing the school, the land we hire and planning for the future. Martin also had the honour of naming the school's new addition - a cow! Genesis's milk will be used in the kitchen after she has had her first calf.

There is a new Headteacher at the Special Needs Department within Nyansakia School. Mdm. Priscah has really established this section of the school and we have asked her to put out tenders for new beds, mattress covers and blankets for the dormitories and to create a more-private area for the housemother to sleep in.

We have also requested she purchase suitable learning equipment and outdoor 'toys' for the special needs children and some of the money raised by our Bourne schools will be used for this.

The leases ended on the land we hired so three new plots have been secured. We hope that the children and the community will help with the farming of these. If the yield is good, it will provide much of what is needed to feed the children.

Plans have been drawn up for a new additional, smaller kitchen to support the one used at present.

With extra monthly pledges, we will try to provide an additional member of staff to a position he or she is most needed. However, this will depend on the increase we need to pay the present four teachers that we support.

Yes, there is so much we would like to achieve!

We are fortunate that the ladies of Bourne's Inner Wheel (thanks to Ann Colyer) have adopted us as their overseas charity for this year and we will be doing a presentation for them in May.

We hope to continue our connection with the Bourne Schools and perhaps others as the year goes on....

We are only four trustees, so if you have time and the inclination to join us we would welcome you with open arms. Please contact our Chairperson: [juliefryttf@gmail.com](mailto:juliefryttf@gmail.com). 07751 105 128.

Martin is updating our website so please browse: [www.fonkenya.org](http://www.fonkenya.org)

Many, many thanks to you our friends of Nyansakia.

Best wishes to you all.

Alan Peach, Julie Fry, Terry Westwood and Martin McKenna

