



2020 AUTUMN NEWSLETTER

NEWS FROM ROSE BAYLIS, CHAIR OF TRUSTEES

Dear friends of Changarawe,

Karibu! to our latest newsletter. 2020 is a symbolic year for the Changarawe Project, marking 21 years since we opened the first classroom of the Zawadi School. So much has been achieved over the last two decades, more than any of us could ever have imagined. As you will read below in 'A visit from Agostino', the project has transformed the life chances of some young Tanzanians. None of this would have been possible without our many generous supporters, so allow me to begin by expressing once again our deepest thanks to you all.

The Trustees have spent the last year thinking in detail about the future. It has always been our long-term goal that the initiatives we support in Changarawe – which are managed by Felistas Kalomo and her team through a locally registered NGO, Childhood Development Organisation (CDO) - would become independent of support from London and established on a self-sufficient basis. There are also significant financial challenges that

have made it impracticable to continue as we are, which are set out in greater detail in the 'Money Matters' section later in this newsletter.

Now in its 21st year, we feel that the project has truly 'come of age' and we can begin the process of transition to the next chapter.

From the end of this year, we will begin to scale back our financial support for administration and non-critical programmes. Our resources will then become entirely focused on the Nigel Lloyd Fund, through which we will continue to support the individual educational journeys of the 126 children who are current beneficiaries of the Fund.

These are significant changes which we have discussed at length with the staff and Board in Changarawe. We plan to do them gradually, so that we can honour our commitment to the existing cohort of children who depend on us for so many of their needs. We would also like to ensure that CDO has the best possible chance to transition successfully to self-sufficiency

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Caro with Zawadi School children

Further details of our plans can be found below, as well as latest news from Changarawe and a report on the Trustee visit last November.

We were planning to hold a Grand Bazaar in late October. Very sadly, this plan has been scuppered by Covid-19 but we do still hope to arrange one as early as possible in 2021. We are also hoping to hold a last major event at some point in the next 18 months, in part designed as an opportunity to involve as many of you as possible and to thank you for your support.

We hope you enjoy reading this newsletter and thank you once again for your interest and support.

THE VIEW FROM CHANGARAWE

Like everywhere else, Tanzania has been seriously affected by Covid-19 and was forced into a nationwide lockdown in March.

In Changarawe, the Senior Management Team and staff moved swiftly to ensure that everyone was safe. The Zawadi School and Study Centre were temporarily closed, and children and their families were provided with information on Covid-19 prevention. Home visits and group meetings were not allowed, which naturally made

it difficult to keep a close eye on the most needy children and their grandparents.

As Felistas writes, these have been difficult times: *"We are not sick but we are not that healthy. Thanks God we have lost no one. But the condition is poor, especially food, finance and social interactions. Staying indoors with limited movement is unusual to our lifestyle. You can imagine!"*

Thankfully, following direction from the government, operations were able to resume in June.

Lucien Chamkulu and Jonas Mbwila

We recently bid goodbye to Lucien, who has been with the project – in charge of orphan welfare – since the beginning. Lucien has always been a caring and compassionate member of the team, and he will be much missed by his colleagues.

We also said goodbye to Jonas, who looked after Bibi Babu Welfare Programme and the peer educators, including helping them to write and perform their witty performances.

We would like to thank them both for their hard work and commitment over the years, and we wish them all the best.

TRUSTEE VISIT, NOVEMBER 2019

Last November, Caro and Rob had a productive and rewarding visit to Changarawe. Over five days, they undertook a comprehensive review of all the programmes we support, and held a series of meetings with the Senior Management Team and the CDO Board to discuss the future, including the phasing out of financial support from the UK.

Zawadi Pre-Primary School

A few weeks before our arrival there had been a minor earthquake, which caused significant damage to the school. Fortunately, nobody was hurt. However, the buildings, some of which were twenty years old, were deemed dangerous and had to be demolished.

Although this was obviously quite a traumatic episode, it did help to accelerate CDO's plan to establish Zawadi as a self-sustaining project independent of support from the UK. With funding from several other organisations in Tanzania, the

school has now been rebuilt as a significantly larger and higher quality building. By the beginning of 2021 all children will pay fees, which will cover the running costs and generate some surplus income for CDO. The Changarawe Project will continue to fund any remaining supported children still in the school at that time.

Nigel Lloyd Fund

The Nigel Lloyd Fund was established in 2004 to support needy children, the majority of whom are orphans, to continue their education after they leave Zawadi – first through seven years of primary school and then, if they qualify, four years of secondary school.

Over the years, thanks to the generous support of many donors, we have been supporting the educational needs of a rolling 150 children (now reduced to 126 as a result of not replacing last year's leavers). These needs range from the basic necessities of mattresses and bed sheets, through to school books, bags and uniforms.



Caro and Rob with the CDO team in November 2019

Included in their support is a monthly contribution of food, soap and sanitary products.

We intend to support all current Nigel Lloyd Fund students through to the end of their educational journey, which we hope for most will be at least secondary level. We have prepared some detailed modelling of what this will require, and ensuring that we have sufficient funds to do this is a major priority for the Trustees. Since January 2020, we have taken no new children into the Fund.

Each year, between 10% and 20% of the students we support succeed in completing secondary school and go on to A-Level or vocational college courses. We support these students through tailored sponsorship packages matching individual sponsors to students. We hope that some more of you will consider becoming sponsors in the future, as this is a very cost effective way of helping the most gifted students to achieve their potential. For further details, please see Money Matters.

A VISIT FROM AGOSTINO

During their visit, Caro and Rob were thrilled to have an unexpected meeting with a cheerful and confident young man, who rushed over to say hello. He turned out to be Agostino Evarest, whom we have supported from his time as a

small boy at Zawadi School. He is now finishing university in Dar es Salaam, where he is president of the student union. His words to us were, "I don't know what would have happened to me without you". This was a joyous and very moving moment, which illustrated the genuinely life-changing impact of our hard work, and your generosity, over the last two decades.

Bibi Babu Welfare Programme

Over the years, we have supported the bibis (grandmothers) and babus (grandfathers) of Nigel Lloyd Fund children, who look after their grandchildren in place of deceased parents. In addition to supporting them with basic provisions, including mosquito nets and a monthly food package, the initiative also provides a social function through a monthly lunch club. It is a very popular and unusual programme, which has been recognised and praised by the regional authorities.

Caro and Rob were pleased to share an afternoon with some of the bibis and babus, who danced and sang a special song. It was a heartwarming experience. We will continue to support the programme, which currently has 64 beneficiaries and will naturally wind down as Nigel Lloyd Fund children leave our care.



Felistas, Agostino and Caro



Bibis dancing and drumming

Credit Scheme

Although temporarily suspended due to the Covid-19 pandemic, the credit scheme continues to operate successfully, making a profit of 9.8% in the most recently completed round of loans. Around £3,000 of capital is distributed each round, supporting over 40 local people to start and run small businesses, for example, selling sugar cane juice, buying wholesale chickens for local sale, and tailoring. Caro and Rob met several beneficiaries of the scheme who, through their successful businesses, have been able to buy land and build homes. The credit scheme will continue to be run on a self-sufficient basis by CDO once Covid-19 restrictions permit.

REDINA MTEI

From a small beginning, using the credit scheme to buy a sewing machine, Redina Mtei has evolved into an excellent tailor. Over many years, Caro and Redina have worked together to design the various textile products that we sell. One of the highlights of Caro's visits is a 'raid on Morogoro market', where they haggle with traders and argue with each other on the suitability of design and colour for the various items. They remain the best of friends.

The regular employment that we have provided to Redina over many years has enabled her to install electricity in her house and buy land for agriculture.

Redina is currently finishing a large order using the fabrics chosen with Caro last November and intended for the 2020 Grand Bazaar. Please see below for further details of how to buy these products in the run up to Christmas.

Board Meeting with CDO Board

During the November visit, Caro and Rob held an all-day meeting with three (of the six) members of the local Board - Grace Mwalemba, Victoria Mavura and Felistas Kavana.

We are very fortunate to have the support of these three talented women, who have diverse professional backgrounds and offer wise counsel to CDO.

We held a constructive discussion about the future, with the Board expressing its gratitude that we are winding down our support gradually over a number of years.

HELENA NICOLAUS

As many of you know, Helena, our wonderful headteacher who had been with the Project for many years, tragically died last year. Caro and Felistas went to visit her husband and two of her children in November. Her three children have been taken under the umbrella of the Nigel Lloyd Fund and we will continue to support their educational needs.



Redina and Caro

MONEY MATTERS

As mentioned by the Chair, the Trustees have faced a steadily increasing financial challenge in covering a more or less open ended need to fund the various programmes out of a flow of donations that remains remarkably stable but is not growing. The result has been that our spending has exceeded our revenue by a significant amount in each of the past two years. It was clear that something had to give, hence the decision to stop accepting new children into the Nigel Lloyd Fund.

In turn, this led logically to a reduced need to fund local administrative costs out of the General Fund and should result in that fund's outgoings falling to a level that can be supported out of its regular donations for the next few years, without the need for top ups through fund raising events, gift aid reclaims etc as at present.

As it happened, we were very fortunate to have received a large and unexpected one off donation earlier this year, explicitly intended to cover the funding shortfall of the past two years. This donation restored equilibrium to our funding and has enabled us to plan the gradual run down in spending commitments from a position of strength.

The need for spending on the Zawadi School should terminate towards the end of 2021, as the last of our supported children come to the end of their three years there. From that point, we will focus all our remaining funds, including one off donations, gift aid reclaims etc, on supporting the remaining Nigel Lloyd students through to the end of their secondary schooling. Although this process will stretch out to 2029, the financial commitment should fall steadily as between 10 and 15 students are expected to complete their studies every year. With no further students joining the programme, we anticipate having accumulated sufficient funds to cover our costs for the final phase by 2023

without undertaking further formal fund raising or reliance on standing orders.

We have written in more detail to those of you (currently numbering just over 60) who kindly support us with standing orders, in order to seek your ongoing support until then and the response we have had to the letter has been tremendously encouraging. It is certainly not too late for more of you to join that generous group of donors! Even small regular sums mount up surprisingly quickly and are enormously appreciated by the Trustees.

The one loose end that this timetable leaves to be addressed is the funding of courses for the limited number of students who pass their O-Level exams with grades that are high enough to enable them to progress to A-Level courses or some form of vocational training.

For the past several years, we have approached this need by matching students to individual sponsors. Typically, an A-Level course involves costs of £500. Vocational courses vary considerably in cost terms, but average £1,500.

We cannot predict the numbers requiring sponsorship going forward, but it would help tremendously to be able to develop a list of supporters interested and who we are able to approach as the need arises. There is no question of asking for irrevocable commitments at this stage – rather a question of knowing who might be able and willing to offer support.

Over the past few years, no fewer than 18 supporters have provided sponsorship for 31 students on courses ranging from A levels to Montessori teacher training

If the idea appeals, please let Rob Watkinson know (robert.watkinson@gmail.com)



FUNDRAISING

As mentioned, we were planning to hold a Grand Bazaar in late October. Very sadly this plan has been scuppered by Covid-19 but we are hoping that it will be possibly to organise one in the run-up up to Easter. We will update you all as soon as possible

Meanwhile, we are awaiting delivery of the beautiful new products ordered last November. We are exploring creative ways of selling some of these and would like to know if any of you would be willing to help us by taking some of our products on a sale or return basis. In the past, we've seen great success with friends of the Project organising mini-bazaars for friends and work colleagues.

Would you consider doing this in the run-up to Christmas?

**If so, Caro would be delighted to hear from you
(carowalford2012@gmail.com)**





Registered Charity: 1098215
50 Cheisham Road
London SW4 6NP

GENERAL ACCOUNT STANDING ORDER REQUEST FORM

To my Bank

Address

.....

Account Name

Sort Code

Account Number

Please make a monthly/quarterly/annual payment
of £

Commencing

To the following account:

The Changararwe Project General Fund

Bank: CAF Bank

Sort Code: 40-52-40

Number: 00014157

Signature



Registered Charity: 1098215
50 Cheisham Road
London SW4 6NP

GIFT AID FORM

Title Surname

Foranames

Address

.....

Telephone

Email

I would like the Inland Revenue to treat all
donations I make or have made since 1 June

2003 and until further notice as made under the
Gift Aid Scheme.

Date

Signed

Notes

- 1) You must pay an amount of income tax and/or capital gains tax at least equal to the tax the charity reclaims on your donations in the tax year (currently 28p for every £1 donated). You can cancel this declaration any time by notifying the Charity Commission.
- 2) If in the future your circumstances change and you no longer pay tax equal to the tax the charity reclaims (see note 1), you can cancel your declaration.
- 3) If you pay tax at the higher rate, you can claim further tax relief in your self-assessment tax return. If you are unsure whether your donations qualify for Gift Aid tax relief ask the Charity Commission or ask your tax office for leaflet IR65.
- 4) Please notify the charity if you change your name and address.
- 5)



Registered Charity: 1098215
50 Cheisham Road
London SW4 6NP

NIGEL LLOYD FUND STANDING ORDER REQUEST FORM

To my Bank

Address

.....

Account Name

Sort Code

Account Number

Please make a monthly/quarterly/annual payment
of £

Commencing

To the following account:

The Changararwe Project Nigel Lloyd Fund

Bank: CAF Bank

Sort Code: 40-52-40

Number: 00014158

Signature