



Malaika Kids UK

Annual Report & Accounts 2020



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Introduction

Structural Changes

While this year has been dominated by Covid, 2019 and 2020 have also been years of structural change for Malaika Kids.

New legislation in Tanzania through *The Written (Miscellaneous Amendment) Act, NO 3 of 2019* amended various laws including the Trustees Act and the Non-Governmental Organisations Act of 2002. The said Act specifically required all organisations dealing with charitable activities to be registered with the NGO Act and not any other Act. Hence Malaika Orphanage Foundation shifted from the registry of Trust to the registry of NGOs in Tanzania. For Malaika Kids Tanzania (MKTZ) this resulted in a new constitution effective in 2020. This puts all the legal power for running Malaika Kids Tanzania explicitly into Tanzanian hands.

Malaika Kids UK nevertheless retains significant influence over its funding support. We talk with MKTZ once a week by Skype and we share the same focus on the welfare of the children that the local management has. We did visit in January 2020, and we look forward to visiting again as soon as it is safe to do so.

We are party to the annual budget and, along with MKNL, contract to fund that and any other unforeseen amount that everyone agrees to (other than around 10 percent that is raised inside Tanzania). We transfer money monthly on an as-needed basis, and we have full visibility of the Tanzanian accounts via QuickBooks accounting software for transparency and to make sure the funds are well spent.

The monthly funds transfer request is prepared in Tanzania. It is scrutinised by Maarten Steemers, the Netherlands treasurer, on behalf of both MKNL and MKUK, before going to the Chairs of MKUK and MKNL for approval. The transfer is then managed by each party on a more or less rotating basis. It is assumed that MKUK will provide 60% and MKNL 40% of the balance required (though contractually, MKUK guarantees the MKNL payment in case of default, and vice versa). MKUS is not contractually obligated to MKTZ but does co-ordinate closely with MKUK.

With the new constitution under the NGO Act, Malaika Kids Tanzania (Malaika Orphanage Foundation) is also subject to a number of new regulations. Compliance with such regulations has been a major administrative challenge in 2020.

So far, the change in legal structure has proceeded smoothly. MKUK and MKNL meet jointly once a month by Zoom. We fundraise independently but share information on developments in Tanzania.

The next part of this report describes what has been happening inside Tanzania, followed by the formal MKUK Annual Report and Accounts.

Activities in Tanzania

Reception Home

Our Reception Home in Kinondoni (situated in a central and poor part of Dar es Salaam) is where Malaika Kids began.

When Welfare needs a safe haven for a child being abused, and perhaps a parent is taken to court, we may be asked to take care of the child for a period of time. Sometimes, it is safe to return the child to another family member; sometimes we need to offer on-going care.



Najma and Shezan typically spend several weeks checking out the options for a child who is brought to us. We often use a local tv station as an aid. If no family-based solution is available, we then seek to transfer the child to our Children's Village in Mkuranga.

There are movements from the Reception Home to the Children's Village but also vice versa from CV to RH -- especially when an older child needs to return to Dar es Salaam in order to do training courses that are more readily available there. As of year-end, in the Reception Home, we had four "Welfare kids" under assessment (this figure fluctuates through the year) and nine older children doing training courses.

The Reception Home is also valuable as the site from which we operate the Relatives Support Programme. This is where the children attend to collect basic food parcels, which include soap, every two weeks.

Summary of the number of children at Malaika Kids Tanzania

	Reception Home	Relatives Support Programme	Children's Village	Total
Children at beginning of year	19	81	67	167
Incoming - external	22	15	1	38
Moved from CV	1		1	0
Placed with family	13		5	18
Moved to CV	11		11	0
Left Malaika Kids	5	7	1	13
Total at end of year	13	89	72	174



Children and staff at the Reception Home during lockdown

Relatives Support Programme

Malaika Kids currently supports 89 children through our Relatives Support Programme. The following seven joined us in 2020.



This little boy is eight. His parents are dead, and he lives with his grandmother, who is blind.



This boy also lives with his grandmother. She breaks stones for building sites or sells cassava to bring in some money to buy food and pay the rent on this one room home.



This little girl lives with her mother, a young widow. The mother sells chapattis at the side of the road in order to help support them both.



Two brothers and their cousin (ages 13, 11 and 6) live with their single mothers and grandmother in a one-room house. Usually, they play outside and only go into the house to sleep so the rainy season is hard for them. One of the mothers is deaf; the other helps out in other homes minding the young children while the parents work in the fields.



The grandmother (centre) is shown here with two Malaika Kids members of staff, Mama Amina (left) and Mama K (right). They are checking on the health of the children and examining the school reports to make sure they are all attending school.



An older girl lives with her single mother. She has cerebral palsy and particularly needs help to pay for medicine. Our CEO, Najma Manji (on the right), recently visited her at the request of hospital social workers. We agreed to pay for health insurance for this girl so she is now entitled to free medicine.

Every two weeks all these children, and another 82 like them, receive a food package from Malaika Kids. We also provide medical insurance, without which it would be almost impossible to see a doctor and receive prescribed medicines. In addition, we make sure that children have school supplies and school uniforms. Without a school uniform, no child may attend school.

Children's Village in Lockdown

In March, all the schools in Tanzania were closed due to the Coronavirus. Najma moved every child that she could to our Village in Mkuranga, including 13 children from the Reception Home in Dar es Salaam - mainly teenagers who were doing an apprenticeship and other courses that were temporarily closed down. All 75 children in the Village responded positively to the challenges facing them. Older children helped younger children with their homework...



And the computer room was used intensively under the expert guidance of Mama Haruma.

One of our younger girls had a nasty fall, resulting in a deep cut that needed 6 stitches. In the past, we would have taken her to the local hospital, where a competent job would have been done after a wait of several hours. We were loath to do this during lockdown as we feared the virus was already present in Mkuranga town, so our own Mama Martha, a trained nurse, was able to undertake the procedure herself.

Home-schooling was the rule in the morning, while teenagers were then available to help with various jobs around the village during the rest of the day. As well as taking turns as guards, the older boys also helped out with odd jobs and by painting the inside of some of our buildings.

The library was open during the day and is full of both English and Kiswahili books, many donated by International Book Aid. We also recently received a gift of uniforms which the younger children are proud to wear for in-house schooling each morning.

We minimised traffic into and out of the Village. During the daytime, we no longer used guards from outside. Instead, the older boys were on a rota to keep visitors out. Our two field workers were not allowed inside the gates. Staff had to live inside the Village or take extended leave.

Some of the older children sent messages to us.

"I hope you are fine, Corona virus appeared in Tanzania in Arusha after one woman came with the virus from another country. This corona it affects a big number of people in the world. I am now learning many things. I help with the baby class and help some of the younger children with their homework."

Many of the children were concerned about us and anxious to tell us, in case we did not know, about the symptoms of coronavirus. We need to watch out for a cough and a fever.

"Please stay at home and wash your hands with clean water. It is a very serious disease. Look after your families and protect yourselves."

Others had serious questions for which they needed answers...

- How many people have died in your country?
- Is the condition very bad in your country?
- Who was the first person who discovered this disease?
- How do you feel during this period?
- Is it true this year you may not come to Tanzania to see us?

We replied to each of the children's emails individually.

Education

The schools returned in the second half of the year and national exams took place as usual. Four older children took the equivalent of O levels. Two will now go on to do A levels; one will look to do a business course and one will train as a teacher.

Meanwhile, three children leaving primary school (grade 7) all received A grade passes; a further six younger kids in grade 4 all got As or Bs.

Qualifications are important for our kids as the job market is very tough. Some recent 'Malaika Kids graduates' have found work in a pipe factory, a restaurant and a food shop; some are still job hunting. Two of our boys are training as carpenters.

Pre-school

Madam Tumaini (the Kiswahili word for 'hope') lives in Mkuranga town and walks to our Village every weekday to teach our pre-primary children. She also runs some remedial classes for our primary age children. She returned after lockdown and said:

"I am so very happy to be back. It was good to have more time with my own children, (Hatiba, Lulu and Lukman), but I missed my children in the village."

We were very fortunate that in Tumaini's absence one of our older Malaika kids, recently qualified as an early years' Montessori teacher, was able to step in temporarily to teach our children.

Madam Tumaini began working for us part-time in 2012 and moved to a full-time post the following year. She trained as a teacher in Zanzibar and taught there for 5 years before moving to Mkuranga.

She has a well-equipped classroom with lots of bright pictures and educational aids on the walls. During our last visit, she asked for better toilet facilities for her younger children – we have been able to make some inexpensive alterations that the children are very happy with, especially with the emphasis now on washing hands frequently because of the virus.

It is always great fun to accompany Tumaini on the weekly walk she undertakes with the children. They explore our farm and the bush surrounding it. There is always a new plant to see or a new animal to investigate.

Tumaini arrives at our village at 7:45 in the morning. She leaves us around 4 pm on Tuesdays and Thursdays, after the children have had a 45-minute sleep and she has cleaned the classroom and prepared the materials for the next day. Three days a week she leaves at 5 pm as she teaches an hour-long remedial class for some of our less academic primary school children. Our children are generally doing very well at primary school in large part due to Tumaini's expertise. She says...

“My heart is happy for the Standard 4 kids who did so well at the end of last year in the national exams. Teaching is my hobby. I love my job.”



Tumaini has a valuable temporary assistant until she starts college later this year

Farm and Maintenance Work

Julius, our farm and maintenance manager, is out of his house by 7 am and takes 20 minutes to walk to the Children's Village. He will have a working breakfast with James, the Village Manager, and Emanuel, our Child Support Manager. There is time for a quick chat beforehand with Baraka and Saidi, who work full time on the farm.



Left to right: Julius, James and Emanuel ready to attend a ceremony at Mkuranga primary school

Depending on the time of year, Julius's 12-hour day is spent either on the farm or on the maintenance of the village. The climate is very unforgiving and almost every year we have a weather-induced emergency! In 2020 it was unusually heavy rains from February to May. Our land was flooded and many crops were waterlogged. In addition, we had to cope with a sharp rise in the water basin which left half our toilets and showers unusable for weeks. It was Julius's remit to sort out all of this.

Julius is very well qualified for the job he is doing for us. He has a Diploma in Water Supply and Sanitation Engineering and a Degree in Civil Irrigation and Engineering. Before joining Malaika Kids he worked for 2 years on dam construction for the Ministry of Water in northern Tanzania. It was there that he met his partner.

Julius joined us on 1 December 2016 and it is no exaggeration to say that he has revolutionised both our farm and our maintenance programmes.

Before he joined us the farm was struggling badly. Failed initiatives with goats and chickens and biogas generation had cost us considerable money and time. His approach has been incremental; to find out what we are good at and then do more of it. So he has concentrated on crops that suit our extraordinarily sandy soil - cassava, pineapples, bananas and cashew nuts. The latter crop is particularly valuable to us as there is a guaranteed market for it from the government.



Teaching our children about the crops

As far as maintenance is concerned Julius has involved the older children in helping out, particularly in the school holidays. When we last visited, the boys were helping install new mosquito nets and they have also painted classrooms and watched and learned as Julius fixed damaged water pumps. Julius can turn his hand to anything practical, making new washbasin stands for the younger kids and installing new netball posts so that the girls and mamas can further improve their already impressive shooting abilities.



Fixing the water pump

Every evening at 5 pm, all the village kids have an hour of exercise before getting ready for supper. Julius is the key supervisor as kids play football, volleyball or netball. Sometimes, he organises an athletics evening: this involves mixed ability relay races, long jumps and all sorts of made-up events to keep everyone happy and involved (and supervised and safe).



Julius fixes everything around the village, even beds!

When we asked him how long he would like to stay with us, he replied, ***"I am very happy here. I have no limit."***

And we are delighted to hear it!



MKUK Chair Report

Our loyal supporters have been magnificent during the current Covid pandemic. Thanks to a record-breaking response to our Christmas Appeal, we were able to finish the year having raised a significant £140,000. Not surprisingly, this was down on the prior year of £180,000.

We were unable to benefit from a golf tournament, or our usual participation in the Royal Parks Half Marathon. We did, however, have one supporter (Jane Moon) who ran 5k every day for 26 days in May, raising an amazing £2,298 for Malaika Kids in the process (thank you and well done!).

We have a group of supporters who donate every month (we are very grateful - this is our favourite method). However, there is also a growing pattern for supporters to give what they can when the Christmas appeal comes around - this is becoming like a regular donation.

Enormous thanks go to our stalwart band of trustees for their time, expertise and commitment. A special thank you to John Whitworth for taking on the accounting role vacated by Renata Simon, who has served us well for 16 months. We welcome and thank Cyril Barratt as our independent external examiner.

In addition, we thank our website editor Rob Heap, and Kevin Cusack, who edits and produces the monthly newsletter, the annual report and he is working on our new website.

Meetings in 2020 have been largely conducted by Zoom; thanks to Emile (sometimes to Martin) for setting these up. Despite the number of participants, trustees have been patient in muting until they needed to speak, so that we managed to get through our agendas in an efficient manner. (All the same, I am very keen to get back to face-to-face meetings!).

Francesca and I did manage to visit Tanzania in January 2020, just before the Covid lockdown (which then prevented any further visits from us in Europe). The highlight for us was being able to participate in the opening of the new classroom block. As a result of a special MKUK and MKNL appeal in 2019, MK donated lots of desks and chairs, and also a toilet block to the local Mkuranga Primary School. Francesca's speech, read fluently in Swahili from a prepared script, caused quite a stir!

So far, our organisation in Tanzania has not been directly hit by Covid. Nor have we yet seen a wave of kids newly made orphans by the deaths of elderly carers. We shall see what 2021 brings – we are in good shape to be there for new children, while continuing to look after and educate the kids we already have.

With best wishes



Alan Edwards
UK Chair

Malaika Kids UK Trustees

	Trustee	Last elected
Chair	Alan Edwards	2019
Treasurer	Emile Farhi	2019
Secretary	Phil Cooke	2019
Honorary President	Nigel Fawkes	2020
	Claire Carter	2020
	Francesca Edwards	2020
	Helen Marriage	2020
	Sophie Florentin-Siu	2020
	Chris Tomlinson	2018
	Martin Stoll	2018
	Alison Clewlow	2019
	John Whitworth	2019
	Dr Simon Cooper	2020 Co-opted

Malaika Kids UK has 50 members who are either trustees (13) or who have been long-standing supporters of Malaika Kids. It is the members who elect the trustees to run the charity on their behalf. The elections take place at the Annual General Meeting - typically in May. Trustees are elected for three-year terms and can be re-elected. We try to ensure that around one third of the trustees are re-elected every year so as to maximise continuity.

There is a permanent invitation to the Chair of MKNL (Ton Willemsen) and Treasurer of MKNL (Maarten Steemers) to attend the monthly MKUK trustee meetings in order to decide matters of mutual interest.

Our Quest for Financial Stability

There is no governmental support for Malaika Kids in Tanzania or elsewhere. No major institution gives us multi-year support. We are reliant on our loyal supporters and donations from trust funds every year in order to continue our work. So far, our donors have done us proud, and we have some reserves. But what we would really like to have is a regular monthly income that we can plan around. 97% of donations we receive go directly to help the children we support in Tanzania to give them a stable, cared for upbringing.

You might want to consider helping us with a monthly standing order via CAF Bank; to the account of Malaika Kids UK, account number 00093337, sort code 40-52-40. You may also like to remember Malaika Kids UK if you are updating your will.

MKUK Accounts

Income and Expenditure Account

Year ended 31 December 2020

		2020	2019
	Notes	£	£
	1		
Income			
Donations		132,723	165,796
Gift aid	2	6,564	11,395
Bank interest		4,681	3,381
Trading income			51
Total income		143,968	180,623
Expenditure			
Funds transferred to Tanzania		106,903	114,948
Event costs			1,329
UK Fundraising costs		374	498
Registration and legal fees		1,479	1,466
Bank charges		765	1255
Insurance (Public and volunteer liability)		529	523
Educational materials			89
Web development		554	
Total Expenditure		110,604	120,108
Net income for the year		33,364	60,515

MKUK Accounts

Balance Sheet

Year ended 31 December 2020

		2020	2019
	Notes	£	£
Current Assets			
Cash at bank		550,690	518,803
Prepaid event costs		2,159	2,159
Total current assets		552,849	520,962
Current liabilities			
Registration and legal fees			1,477
Net assets		552,849	519,485
Funds	3		
Balance at start of year		519,485	458,970
Surplus in the year		33,364	60,515
Funds at end of year	4	552,849	519,485

Notes to the accounts

		2020	2019
		£	£
Note 1	Accounting basis These accounts have been prepared on a cash basis.		
Note 2	Gift aid receipts These relate to donations received in the year.		
Note 3	Charity's funds Restricted funds, acquired from and restricted by the donors. (As of 31 December 2020 and 2019 these donations had been received and not yet spent for the earmarked purposes). Reserves restricted by the trustees Continuity Reserve, determined by the trustees. This will be reviewed and adjusted annually. (It does not represent a contractual obligation and the trustees may lift the restriction at any time). Unrestricted funds	53,030 450,000 49,819	57,315 400,000 62,170
	Total	552,849	519,485
Note 4	Reserves in Tanzania (excluding land and buildings), the Netherlands, the USA and the UK together amount to a total of £929,000. Since the budget of MKTZ for 2021 is £261,000, this amount represents 3.6 years of forward cover. Given our long-term commitment to all the children in our care, uncertain fundraising in the future, and covid dangers in Tanzania, the financial situation is delicately balanced.		

Malaika Kids UK



Registered Office

Malaika Kids UK
6 Lauderdale Mansions
London
W9 1NE

Website: malaika-kids.org/uk
Email: info-uk@malaika-kids.org

Registered Charity No. 1118149



twitter.com/malaikakidsUK

Bank Details

Bank: CAF Bank
Name: Malaika Kids UK
Account: 00093337
Sort Code: 40-52-40



facebook.com/MalaikaKidsUK