



Newsletter Christmas 2021

And so, we reach the end of a second challenging year, as like so many charities, we have been limited in what we have been able to do in the way of fundraising due to Covid, and at the same time costs for all sorts of things such as transport to school, fees and food items in Kenya have increased.

The school year is not yet back to normal, so in 2021 and 2022 there are four terms instead of three with only a week's break between each. This is tough for both the students and their teachers. For us, the four terms require more funding than three as a school holiday break will occur between each term and students are obliged to return home at the end of each term resulting in additional transport costs. It is also challenging to obtain end of year reports for each child, as time at home is so short. We look forward to the situation improving.

Fundraising

We are so fortunate to have the most amazing group of sponsors and supporters and we were overwhelmed by the support for the Skydive in August, when we raised over £4,000 including reclaimed Gift Aid.

In September we had a 'Bottle Tombola' stall at the Hurstpierpoint Festival Super Sunday. The weather was good and the event well attended, resulting in our stall raising almost £500.

As this goes to press, with the Omicron variant threatening to scupper us, last Saturday we held our first face to face fundraiser in two years with a very successful quiz evening at St Andrews Church Hall in Burgess Hill where we raised just over £1,000.

With the virus still around in Kenya, the water stations and taps funded by the Trust and installed early this year have been a godsend for maintaining good hygiene and social distancing.

Sponsorship

We mentioned some success stories in our last newsletter and in September we had some new starters in higher education for engineering, journalism and secretarial studies. We look forward to following their progress.

For the next school year starting in April, **we urgently need a few sponsors** for children starting secondary school, so please do spread the word among family and friends, as we tend to find many of our sponsors through word of mouth. Anyone can email info@loiyangalanitrust.org.uk to enquire and find out more.

To conclude we thought you might like to see an interesting project that is taking place in the dry, volcanic environment in Loiyangalani where very little will grow. They have planted some green gram, a type of chickpea rich in nutrients, which helps to enrich the basic maize meals. Let's pray they have continuing success with this.



It just leaves me to thank you all for your wonderful support and to wish you and your loved ones a very happy Christmas. Stay safe and well.

Best wishes

Carolyn

Chair of the Trustees