



# **YEARLY REPORT 2022**

**GREEN KORDOFAN**



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## Report of the Trustees for the year ending 31 March 2022

To follow is the annual report and financial statements presented by the Trustees of Green Kordofan. The accounts have been prepared in accordance with the Charities Act, Accounting and Reporting by Charities – Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) and with the financial reporting standards applicable in the U.K. and Ireland.

In this report we will share the most hopeful moments, the challenging ones and what we were able to achieve – even in these difficult times we say, when people come together, good things happen!

### Reference and administrative details

Charity name:	Green Kordofan
Charity registration number:	1164386
Principal Address:	Flat 5, 57 Cheriton Road,
Folkestone, Kent	
CT20 1DF	

### Director, Patron and Board of Trustees

Director and founder:	Raga Gibreel
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Patron:	Olivia Warham, OBE
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Board of Trustees:	Omema Dain - Appointed 20/09/2018
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Peter Keenan - Appointed 06/02/2017

Tom Law - Appointed 12/08/2015

Nagwa Shagga - Appointed 12/08/2015

Jane Champion - Appointed 21/02/2020

Aida Silvestri Hahan- Appointed 21/02/2020

Abena Akuffo-Kelly – Appointed 21/02/2020

Sonja Miley (resigned June 2021)

Ambassador:	Steve Bishopp
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## Structure, governance & management

Green Kordofan is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) and is controlled by its governing document/constitution. Its only voting members are the Trustees.

### Recruitment, appointment, induction and training of Trustees

The existing Trustees are responsible for the recruitment and appointment of new Trustees. In selecting new Trustees our aim is to identify individuals who have knowledge of the situation in South Sudan and the region, who support our aims and objectives and who are willing to attend community/ fundraising events as well as attend Trustee meetings. In the first instance potential Trustees are invited to attend events and meetings as observers so existing Trustees can assess their suitability and commitment. New Trustees are given copies of the constitution and relevant charity commission publications and are instructed in the responsibilities of their position. They also attend a training session with Green Kordofan's Director and founder to ensure they have a full understanding of the work of the organisation.

### Risk Management

The Trustees have given consideration to the major risks to which the charity is exposed, the nature of those risks and the measures taken to manage them. These include governance risks, operational risks, financial risks, external risks and compliance with laws and regulations.



## Objectives

Green Kordofan – [www.greenkordofan.com](http://www.greenkordofan.com) - supports war displaced children (aged 5-18 years) from Sudan who currently live across the border in the recently independent country South Sudan, in the northernmost region of Unity State.

Yida Camp location: <https://goo.gl/maps/DdL1QWiWazM9tgwY7>

The camp itself pre-dates the establishment of South Sudan, as it was formerly an internally displaced persons camp for the Sudanese minority Nuba people escaping the conflict in their home region of South Kordofan, and only became a refugee camp with the creation of the new border in July 2011. Currently we are working with more than 1000 children each year and have supported some 6000 young people since 2017. By maintaining a safe environment for young people to be themselves and educate boys and girls equally and with respect to learn from each other – we aim to reduce the likelihood of recruitment to the many warring gangs or military in the area. We use a strong sports organisational structure to develop opportunities for developing interpersonal and community-based approaches to camp life.

The purpose of the charity is to promote the wellbeing and meet the needs of children and young people who have been displaced by conflict through:

- (a) the provision of healthy recreational activities provided in the interest of social welfare, designed to improve their conditions of life; and
- (b) the provision of support and activities which develop their skills, capacities and capabilities to enable them to participate in society as mature and responsible individuals.

The welfare of children is paramount regardless of age, disability, gender, racial heritage, religious belief, sexual orientation or identity. Each child has the right to equal protection and the right to freedom from any harm or abuse. We work with parents, guardians, NGOs and government agencies to maintain child welfare.

## Public benefit

The charity has given consideration to the Charity Commission's published guidance on the public benefit requirement under the Charity Act 2011 and believe we meet this requirement through our work in South Sudan and our awareness raising and fundraising activities in the U.K. The Trustees believe that the activities outlined below provide benefit to the residents of Yida camp in South Sudan and also to communities throughout the U.K.

Though annually we provide direct support to over 1000 children, our ongoing sports projects, educational, welfare and wellbeing programmes have a knock-on effect and benefit many more of the 46,000 residents of Yida Refugee camp, 23,000 of whom are aged 5-17.

Green Kordofan is supporting six paid workers in Yida camp South Sudan and an employee in Juba, the capital of South Sudan, as well as 50 volunteers – many of whom are former beneficiaries. We approach difficult social and gender issues such as roles, responsibilities and social ailments, including bullying, through a number of practical, educational and therapeutic initiatives. We also address health problems such as HIV, Malaria, Yellow fever and more recently COVID-19 through games, role play, workshops, community activities and advocacy.

80% of households in Yida are female led and whilst our primary focus is on children and young people via sports, Green Kordofan also supports women, especially single mothers and survivors of sexual violence (SV) in the ways described above and also by providing SAFE care and education for their children in order to give SV a chance to heal. Sexual violence against women and young girls is a very big issue and our focus is therefore to maintain a safe environment for people to be themselves and educate boys and girls to respect and learn from each other - the minimum we can offer is encouraging, educating, informing, connecting and giving people, particularly women and children, a voice. To this end, Green Kordofan has been fully engaged with a focus on developing therapy for women and girls who have experienced SV by enabling healing to take place through trauma workshops.

## Activities at Yida Camp, South Sudan

### Activities in Yida

With more people affected by recent war everywhere around the world and a consequent and continuous decrease in the level of support available, we are doing as much as we possibly can to reduce food shortage, the effects of displacement, insecurity and anxiety, and to maintain and increase dignity and self-respect. Below are some of the activities we have developed to achieve these outcomes.

Our experience in working with smaller groups during lockdown hastened and proved to be best in identifying the very, very vulnerable groups, those who are living with long term ill health, the disabled and their dependents. We were able to better aid children who are looked after by vulnerable adults such as elderly grandparents and live with little or no means of support. Of course, knowing that gave us clarity about where and how to utilise our limited funding and time as appropriately as possible.



## **Staffing**

We pride ourselves on the diversity of our staff. This includes various age groups, women, working parents and people with diverse ability, blind or partially sighted people and those with other issues which need special support.

This year we have added 2 new staff and increased the number of volunteers, many of which previously took part in our sports programmes.

## **Enhancement of GK compound in Yida**

Offering the children and young people a safe space to come to and providing a base for our staff and volunteers to do their work and to store equipment is essential. As previously reported, in 20/21 we purchased a 40ft shipping container and this year we were able to further develop the compound by building two more rooms. In addition to the physical and practical benefits the additional space offers, spirits are greatly lifted by the improvement of facilities and the opportunities this provides. One of the rooms has been allocated for use by a nurse which will help provide basic medical care and advice to our participants.

## **Workshops**

This year we offered several workshops for the young people. Covid-19 continues to be an area of concern and the information leaflets designed last year continue to be distributed, along with soap. Al Hadi Hassan, one of the GK employees, reported “We managed to send leaflets and created information charts that made it simpler for staff to distribute them, spreading the word around the communities. We delivered 10 cartons of soap (100 bars in each) to the community and volunteers and staff were given information on washing hands.”

Staff member David Philips arranged a number of general health and safety workshops for the young people stating “We put lots of effort into educating ourselves, our young people and the community about general wellbeing and safety and safety at the playground and in the compound. The organisation helps us achieve this through the provision of the educational resources and training materials including text and videos.”

This year our small bubble group activities developed into more regular classes run by our new recruits Sabri and Manahil. We worked closely with the Yida community to better understand their pressing issues and particularly the issue of sexual violence to help create a safe space for the victims and their families and for them to be able to share their stories, process the trauma in a confidential way and offer the best available support for the victims.

Our staff, volunteers and community leaders have done amazing work in identifying cases and delivering the appropriate assistance. Sabri shone in recording and documenting cases whilst Manahil did well in leading a singing workshop for the children.

### **Sports programme**

After a hiatus during the height of the pandemic, our sports programmes have resumed. We are again offering football and volleyball training and competitions for the children which are extremely popular. We continue to send sports equipment and clothing to the camp. Any excess clothing is distributed among the camp’s general population.

One of our volunteers, Isaac, commented “I really give thanks to all who are supporting Raga, donors who gave our children such wonderful sporting kit and lift their spirits up, thanks to Crystal Palace F.C and Brighton & Hove. Green Kordofan’s activities are very popular and by supporting it that means more people can enjoy the sports, the soaps and clothes. The community were really happy and all appreciation goes to those who help. Children have

learned many things through Green Kordofan's various activities and been united as one because of your help.”

### **Communication and collaboration**

We are proud that most staff now are able to communicate by using Facebook & WhatsApp despite a serious shortage of IT equipment and internet facilities.

This year we obtained a licence to install satellite internet. The installation is not yet complete, but we hope to be able to complete this project in the coming months as this would greatly enhance communication.

We also continue to work on building alliances with the local authorities in Yida and to explore potential partnerships with other NGOs in the region to maximise resources.



## **Activities in the U.K. to raise funds and awareness**

### **Pilgrimage to Canterbury:**

In May 2021 Green Kordofan organised a 22-mile sponsored walk from Folkestone to Canterbury and raised £1,855.00 to support our activities in South Sudan. One of the best moments was being welcomed by the Dean of Canterbury, Robert Wills. See the link for a local news item on the event.

<https://www.inyourarea.co.uk/news/folkestone-charity-organises-pilgrimage-to-canterbury-for-sudanese-children/>

### **Join the dots**

Join the dots in June 2021 provided a great networking opportunity to meet new people and hear from the local groups in Kent. Raga gave a speech focusing on the impact of wars and the human activities which cause the destruction of ecological resources and end with mass displacement, giving examples from Sudan, South Sudan, Central Africa, etc. The event was organised by the Kent Refugee Project and Diocesan House of Canterbury. The talk was led by Rev. Jo Kelly-Moore (Cathedral) who lovingly recalled her visits to Kadougli town in the Nuba Mountains of Sudan.

Domenica Pecoraro the Kent Refugee Project Officer and Rev Joyce Addison gave a brilliant presentation on the environment and forced displacement and the ways in which the world could respond to these crises. Their presentation also included a short documentary from South Sudan.

## Singing for Peace

This was a fundraising event with jazz and rock singer Carol Grimes and the jazz trombone player Annie Whitehead, held at the Folkestone Harbour Arm. Carol Grimes is a supporter of Green Kordofan and commented “We are living through challenging times; we owe it to the next generations and the young. We need to hand this world of ours over in a more compassionate and thoughtful state...”

## The International Day of Eliminating Sexual Violence in Conflict

On 19 June 2021, as part of a global campaign to stop sexual violence in war torn regions Raga represented Green Kordofan in a 5-hour conference. Here is a video of the whole conference:

<https://vimeo.com/narrowcastmedia/review/562848444/dcf5526ee4>

Nothing can prepare anyone for the emotional impact of hearing the victims' testimonies.



## International World Peace Day

We marked the day with two beautiful communities in Folkestone, Kent and Suffolk and all funds raised went to support our friends in Yida Camp, South Sudan. We screened the Figure to Ground film – a Site Losing its System by Felicity Allen at Folkestone, Harbour Screen and we showcased various artworks by amazing artists from the creative group in Folkestone and auctioned some of their work to raise money. One of these local artists David Alderman commented “It was a pleasure to be involved in a small way in such a worthy event and to help in a small way, thank you.” The auction raised a good amount, over £300



The event was hosted by actor/writer/director Jessica Hynes who commented “Whether it’s packing up dozens of football boots in her front room for shipping or providing a consistent wage for a blinded war veteran turned youth mentor for the children at the camp, Raga financially and emotionally assists her fellow countrymen tirelessly, selflessly and consistently. She does what needs to be done for those suffering tragedy and displacement and she does it with the grace and goodness we could all aspire to. A worthy charity runs by an exceptional woman.”

### **Refugee Tales**

In July 2021 Raga participated in the Refugee Tales annual sponsored walk to raise funds for Green Kordofan

### **Folkestone Christmas Dinner**

In 2021 Green Kordofan worked in partnership with the Local Community and the Christmas Dinner Project to provide a Christmas Dinner experience for young care leavers in our community. The Christmas Dinner founded by Lemn Sissay and his Gold from the Stone Foundation and their project helps groups of volunteers to set up home-from-home Christmas Day experiences for care-experienced youth between the ages of 17-25 years. Prior to 2021 there were no events on Christmas Day within Kent for this demographic of young person, so local couple Tom and Katie Wells worked with the Gold from the Stone Foundation and Green Kordofan to set one up.

Tom and Katie Wells commented, “On Christmas Day 2021, at a central Folkestone venue, the dinner was delivered - a fun and festive day of games, dinner, gifts and friendship - and gratefully received by 14 young people, many of whom were refugees who entered the UK as children. Green Kordofan’s support was crucial to getting the project off the ground, and Raga’s support and guidance very much appreciated.”

## Green Kordofan website

Much of our fundraising and information sharing is done through the Green Kordofan website. A major project, started in the past year but ongoing, is to revamp the site. We hope to complete the work and relaunch by next spring.

### Here's what some of our supporters in Kent and elsewhere say about our recent fundraising events:

**Councillor Laura Davidson of Folkestone & Hythe District** council “I’m constantly impressed and inspired by Raga’s determination, empathy and insight in her work for Green Kordofan and in her daily life. We are very lucky to have these things as part of our local community. I have really appreciated being able to participate, thank you.”

**Sal & Nicky** say “We are so impressed with the charity that Raga and her team have created. GK seeks to help refugees to help themselves by building confidence, self-respect and real skills – much longer-term than only giving



material goods. Good luck for the future GK.”

**Sal & Nicky** know Raga through Refugee Tales which works with immigration detainees in the UK, and we were delighted to take part in GK's Peace Day. Raga has met the Friends (Quakers) local to us and GK has become one of the Friends' monthly charities to support.

**Steve Bishopp is a Green Kordofan ambassador, and this is what he says** “I have witnessed Green Kordofan grow, from its initial roots of caring for 45 children to now with over one thousand. An amazing achievement which means so much to the children in the Yida camp. It has given them hope and direction and stability by giving them a sense of community and keeping them safe. This is all done by engagement through gender-neutral sports activities and social education.”

<https://kentbylines.co.uk/green-kordofan-sudanese-children-can-still-play/>

Green Kordofan has benefitted enormously from the skills, commitment and enthusiasm that volunteers, individuals and groups bring to our charity. Their commitment and expertise have contributed to our progress and made a huge impact on those we serve.

We are so grateful for the efforts of all our volunteers, donors and supporter in the UK and beyond. Despite the challenging time and looming wars everywhere, there was so much goodness revealed and our friends at Yida Camp and all the Refugees supported by Green Kordofan are so grateful for all the support.

Despite the obvious difficulties, which everyone and every organisation has experienced, we remained strongly connected and committed to delivering the best we can to help the communities we passionately support! As our Yida camp volunteer Isaac wrote to Raga this year “Let us have what in Kiswahili we call “Harambee” meaning let's put our hands together and bring Green Kordofan up for the betterment of our children, be blessed and thank you.”



## **Financial Review**

Income from Crowdfunding: £13,602.97

### **Grants:**

Souter, the charitable trust, £2955.00

Tinsley Charitable Trust – £2000, received in May 2021

Bethnal Green mission church: £600

Folkestone Coastal 10K 2021, £250.00 received in June 2021

### **Legacy**

Mr. Old Legacy - £15000

Funding for supporting Community Events in Kent, UK:

The list below includes grants from local government, business and charitable groups and crowdfunding, thanks to our amazing local community fundraisers.

Folkestone & Hythe Council: £2000

Crowdfunder: £2515.40

Stagecoach: £250

Gold from the stones: £2000

Co-opt grant: £300

Quiz nights proceed: £585.92

Asda Grant £775

Araky donation: £350

Keith & Susan Rawlings Charitable Trust: £100

Green Kordofan also benefited from the support of American Institute for Foreign Study (AIFS) in London for their wonderful contributions to our charity and for the nomination of Green Kordofan for secret Santa last year.

Raga has benefited from membership of Ella Forums (<https://ella-forums.org>) and we are very grateful for the donation of this from Waging Peace (<https://wagingpeace.info>). Ella Forums was established to bring a successful development and peer mentoring programme from the commercial world to the charitable sector.

**Account: A table showcasing Income and expenditure for the Year 2021/ 2022**

**A short summary of the financial figures is as follows:**

Reserves increased by £18,675 in the year largely as a result of the legacy from the late Mr. Dennis Olds MBE of £15,000 received at the end of the year and not spent and the fundraising around the Christmas Meal. More sports kit and shoes were donated and sent to South Sudan in the year compared with the previous year and so as a result shipping costs were higher.

Income from regular donors was slightly higher than last year but one-off donations were lower.

Payroll costs in South Sudan were similar to last year but more operating expenses were incurred there mainly an increase in licensing and other regulatory costs. Building costs in South Sudan were lower in the year as there was no repeat of the building project in 2020/21.

Income items	GREEN KORDOFAN		Expenditure		
	£ 2021-22	£ 2020-21		£ 2021-22	£ 2020-21
Voluntary Charitable Grants etc.			Transactions fees	£2,472.98	£1,184.17
Christmas Meal	£13,602.97	£18,230.79	Charitable activities	£4,747.30	£4,218.85
Donations of Goods for S Sudan	£19,995.00	£6,300.00	Christmas Meal	£3,563.06	
Other (Mostly Paypal Donations)	£9,432.38		Donated Goods sent to S Sudan	£5,265.00	£3,392.50
Sales of Donated Goods	£5,265.00	£3,392.50	Charity running costs	£1,080.36	£469.66
Expenses not claimed and Loans Soap Campaign	£1,156.31	£447.02	Wages and other costs for S Sudan empl	£13,204.85	£8,807.28
	£0.00	£0.00	Building works in S Sudan	£127.34	£14,698.24
Sale of T Shirts	£0.00	£1,524.15	Soap Campaign for Covid Prevention	£0.00	£511.88
	-£315.73	£3,905.00	Purchase of Posters	£0.00	£405.99
	£0.00		Purchase of T shirts	£0.00	£34.00
Total income	£0.00	£0.00	Total expenditure	£30,460.89	£33,722.57
	£49,135.93	£33,799.46	Opening Balance	£968.20	£891.31
Total income			This year's Surplus/(Deficit)	£18,675.04	£76.89
Total expenditure			Closing Balance	£19,643.24	£968.20
NET INCOME BALANCE	£49,135.93	£33,799.46	Made up of:	3/31/2022	4/1/2021
	£30,460.89	£33,722.57	Bank Balance	£19,643.24	£325.00
	£18,675.04	£76.89	Cash in hand Balance in SS (USD)	£0.00	£633.29
Signed:			Paypal balance	£0.00	£9.91
Date:			Closing Balance	£19,643.24	£968.20

## GREEN KORDOFAN IN SOUTH SUDAN

Income items	GREEN KORDOFAN IN SOUTH SUDAN		Expenditure		
	£ 2021-22	£ 2020-21		£ 2021-22	£ 2020-21
Money Transferred from UK (After B	£14,107.56	£19,622.50	Wages (Gross)	£5,012.89	£5,370.23
Donations of Goods for S Sudan	£5,265.00	£3,392.50	Non Payroll And Assistance	£537.60	£854.97
Container Purchased from UK	£0.00	£6,314.78	Donated Goods sent to S Sudan	£5,265.00	£3,392.50
Purchases in UK and Shipped	£239.99	£883.32	Admin Costs incl Transport	£1,768.85	£2,398.67
			Transfer Agent and Customs Charges	£1,408.66	£880.60
			Purchases in UK and Shipped	£239.99	£883.32
			Legal and Licencing charges in SS	£4,243.85	
			Equipment and tournament purchases	£1,641.66	£183.41
			Printing and Transport of Posters	£0.00	£405.99
			Building Costs	£127.34	£14,698.24
			Soap	£0.00	£511.88
Total income	£19,612.55	£30,213.10	Total expenditure	£20,245.84	£29,579.81
Total income	£19,612.55	£30,213.10	Opening Balance	£633.29	£0.00
Total expenditure	£20,245.84	£29,579.81	This year's Surplus/(Deficit)	-£633.29	£633.29
NET INCOME BALANCE	-£633.29	£633.29	Closing Balance	£0.00	£633.29
			Made up of:	3/31/2022	4/1/2021
			Bank Balance	£0.00	£0.00
			Cash in hand Balance	£0.00	£633.29
			Paypal balance	£0.00	£0.00
			Closing Balance	£0.00	£633.29