

# VineTrust Connections

Issue 34 - Spring 2019



Patron: HRH The Princess Royal

Connecting People to Change Lives

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# A Warm Welcome!

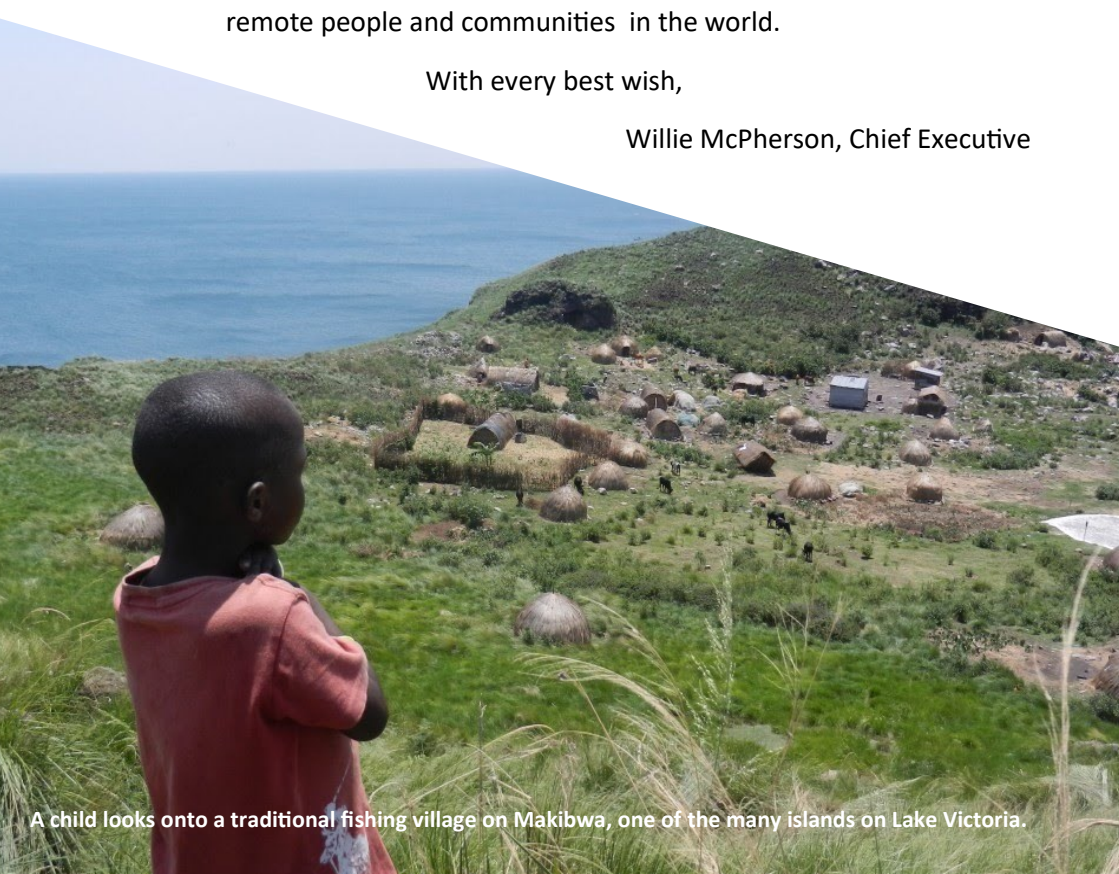
Have we really just had the warmest February since records began? I will let you answer that question depending on where you live! One thing is for certain, life at Vine Trust is certainly warming up for 2019 as we embark on our largest construction project ever with Kazunzu - “Village of Hope” in Tanzania.

News also includes some comings and goings within the staff team and within the leadership of the board of trustees. Collaborations in Peru, partnerships here in the UK and news of our work in Tanzania are all enclosed. At the heart of everything however is the involvement of people and how together we are connecting with people to change lives, whether that is as Chairman of the board, volunteer of an expedition or our team of staff, supporters and businesses who do so much to make our vision and programmes a reality.

Enjoy the read, keep in touch and thanks for the part you have played and continue to play in the journey of Vine Trust in serving some of the most vulnerable and remote people and communities in the world.

With every best wish,

Willie McPherson, Chief Executive



A child looks onto a traditional fishing village on Makibwa, one of the many islands on Lake Victoria.

# Kazunzu - 'Village of Hope'

In 2019 we are launching the largest construction project to be undertaken yet by Vine Trust: Kazunzu Village of Hope, on the shores of Lake Victoria. This self-sustaining village will offer a safe home to orphans and widows from the lake islands, as well as education and vocational training opportunities and a health care hub for inhabitants of the village and the local communities on the peripheries of the village. In later phases of construction, we hope to see a jetty where our medical vessel Jubilee Hope can dock to allow its medical team to visit the health hub, creating a place-based approach across our medical and construction programmes.

The first volunteer team to embark on this incredible journey with Vine Trust will be a group of 12 from Falkirk Trinity Church. In May they will travel to Kazunzu for 2 weeks to be involved in the construction of the initial two homes in the village; the homes will be built in clusters of 4, each with their own shamba, or cottage garden area. While there, the team will also be able to witness the beginning of construction of the accommodation unit for the vocational training centre; this accommodation will allow students to travel from across the country to attend classes.

The village will provide a new start in life for the most vulnerable orphans on the islands of Lake Victoria. With the highest instance of HIV/AIDS in the country, many orphans are left with no parents and no immediate family to care for them. Working closely with our local in-country partners and regional government, we will ensure that the children living at Kazunzu are given the secure family setting that they currently lack.

Our vision for the village is a centre of excellence, which provides a full cycle of support to the children living there, furnishing them with the learning and skills which they can use to influence and develop wider communities in the future.



**Want to be part of this incredible journey?**

**Get in touch with us at :**

**[expeditions@vinetrust.org](mailto:expeditions@vinetrust.org)**



## Robertson Trust Partnership

In 2017, 20 Robertson Trust Scholars - young adults studying at various universities throughout Scotland - travelled to Tanzania on a Vine Trust building expedition. The impact of the expedition was felt both in Tanzania and on their return home. As Ryan, a member of the team commented,

*“The experience was most humbling; my perception of what is really important in life has completely changed. I now have a bigger appreciation for the smaller things in life.”*

Building on this experience, we are excited to announce the launch of a new collaborative project with the Robertson Trust. The 'International Development Career Pathway' offers scholars the opportunity to develop their skills and experience alongside an organisation that works in their area of interest.

Vine Trust will welcome a Robertson Trust Scholar with an interest in international development and the third sector. The pathway will span over 3 years during which the scholar will take part in a Vine Trust Building Expedition. The programme will also provide an array of activities to get involved with based on their current skills, knowledge and experience, and those which they wish to develop.

Vine Trust look forward to working closely with The Robertson Trust and are thrilled to be able to support a scholar in their professional development journey. To learn more about Robertson Trust, visit the website: [www.therobertsontrust.org.uk](http://www.therobertsontrust.org.uk).

# 2020 Young Adults Expedition

# 2020

Vine Trust  
Young Adults  
Building Expedition  
Tanzania

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This year, we will celebrate our 1000th school expedition volunteer supporting our local partners to empower vulnerable communities. Having spoken to our returned school volunteers from 2018, we were told by many of them that they would love to have the opportunity to return on a Vine Trust expedition.

Taking this feedback on board, we are excited to welcome our returned volunteers to apply for our 2020 Young Adults expedition to Moshi!

Aimed specifically at returned school volunteers and their friends, the summer 2020 trip is an opportunity for like-minded young adults between the ages of 18 and 25 to be part of an expedition designed especially for them. We have loved hearing from our 2020 Young Adult applicants on their reasons for returning with us:

*“The first time I went, I loved being able to work closely with the community and families and experience first-hand the benefits of the work the Vine Trust does. The opportunity to physically help has had a strong effect on me and I am very keen to revisit the area and continue to support the work of the Vine Trust.”* Nancy, Banff Academy, 2018

*“I enjoyed my first time volunteering in Tanzania and would like to go back and experience it all again. Seeing the buildings grow higher each day was also very rewarding”.* Heather, Earlston High School, 2017

*“After coming back from my previous trip to Tanzania I realised how much our help was appreciated by everyone out there and how much small gestures really mean to them. The two weeks I was in Tanzania I learnt so much about the culture, country and just a completely different way of life, the experience really just changed me as a person and has made me appreciate things a lot more and allowed me to have a different outlook on life and I would love to go back.”* Kayleigh, Millburn Academy, 2018

If you are a returned Vine Trust school volunteer and would like to find out more about our incredible 2020 Young Adults expedition, please get in contact with us at:

[expeditions@vinetrust.org](mailto:expeditions@vinetrust.org)

# School Expeditions in 2019

Over 160 school volunteers will travel on expeditions in 2019. Our six schools travelling to Tanzania will be based in Moshi during their time in-country. Alongside our exciting new development of Kazunzu - 'Village of Hope' in the north of Tanzania, there is still a great deal of work to be done with our Moshi-based partners, TAWREF (Tanzania Women's Research Foundation) & ELCT (Evangelical Lutheran Church of Tanzania). By the end of 2018, a total of 118 individual homes had been completed, surpassing our target of 100! We are thrilled that Perth Grammar School, Arran High School, Berwickshire High School, Earlston High School and Culloden Academy are returning on expeditions to continue to empower vulnerable communities in the area this year. They will be joined by independent school Clifton Hall on their first expedition to Tanzania with us.



St Kentigern's and Perth Academies will travel together to support an exciting new project in Peru this summer. The team will be working alongside Mensajeros De La Paz (Messengers of Peace) in the area of Chorrillos in Lima. Mensajeros De La Paz provide day education centres for children aged 6 – 12 from the Armatambo neighbourhood. Many of the 200 children who attend the day centre live in tin-roofed shacks precariously placed on the hills above Lima in poverty-stricken conditions with no access to potable water or electricity. Our team will spend their time between Armatambo and the day centre in Chorrillos, providing maintenance and development support.

We wish all of our school volunteers good luck in their upcoming exams before they depart on their impactful expedition this summer.

# Collaboration in Peru

Over 15 years of medical work on the Amazon would not be possible for the Amazon Hope medical programme without our long term partners and collaborators. Vine Trust is passionate about making connections to change lives and one main avenue for these developing partnerships has been with academic institutions and universities. In recent times we have had an increasing amount of support from both Peruvian universities, universities in the UK and elsewhere. Not only have we had staff and students alike volunteer with the medical programme, we have also been partnering on several research projects for the benefit the local communities.



In 2018 the Amazon Hope medical programme hosted 44 medical, dental and nursing students from 21 universities for their expeditions. A trip on board the ship is a unique experience for students with an interest in global health and remote medicine. They are provided with an opportunity to work alongside the experienced national team as well as experiencing medicine in a different cultural context. Amazon Hope had the pleasure of hosting national nursing students providing a bilateral learning experience between UK and Peruvian students.





In 2018 Vine Trust signed a Student Placement Agreement with Edinburgh Napier University School of Health and Social Care. This collaboration will see Vine Trust and Napier University work together to provide overseas volunteering opportunities in the Peruvian Amazon. Meaghan Hay is the first nursing student from Napier to complete her elective with the programme, having served aboard the Forth Hope in March.

We have also been encouraged by the participation of the University of Texas Medical Branch who have supported us in the development of hardware for an electronic medical records system on board the ship. The implementation of this system means the Amazon Hope programme is leading in healthcare innovation as we will be the first facility in the Loreto region to have this system in place.

In addition, more recently we are thrilled to have met with the National Director of Students for Global Health, Lucy Singh. The Students for Global Health toolkit is an excellent resource and it is our pleasure to look into future collaboration.

***“Personally, the connections made with the team on board and the fun we shared was just incredible. They really are as family and we were welcomed with open arms into that family. Professionally, the chance to see things we would rarely see in the UK and the confidence gained from working in such a supportive environment, again such a rarity in the UK. “***

Emily Stokes, Vine Trust volunteer 2018

# Jubilee Hope Programme

Collaboration, community engagement and local ownership are vital components of successful and sustainable, long-term international development programmes. These factors have been at the heart of the Jubilee Hope Medical Programme at all levels since it was launched in 2014 on Lake Victoria, Tanzania.

At a national level, the launch of a medical ship on to the lake has complemented national health strategies which recognised the need for mobile health facilities on the lake to reach nomadic and isolated communities. The Programme is also contributing to the development of Tanzanian medical students and will be building upon its links with The National Medical Students' association (TAMSA), providing capacity building opportunities through participation on expeditions to the islands.



Local medical students volunteers on the Jubilee Hope

At a regional level, the introduction of the MV Jubilee Hope medical ship is an extension and complementation of an ongoing project which our national partners, African Inland Church of Tanzania (AICT) have been running themselves for many years through health posts and dispensaries on the islands.

The island communities themselves have been key to the successful expansion of the work. Community leaders and health workers on the islands have been actively involved in discussions about the services which are provided and have also participated in the delivery of the services themselves when the ship is visiting. The Jubilee Hope medical team has also been providing training and moral support to those health workers based on the remote islands.

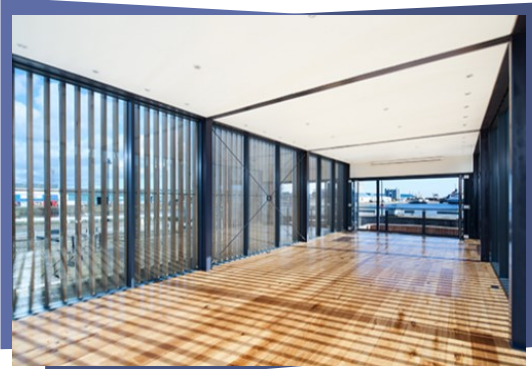
A recent household survey commissioned by Vine Trust included islander focus groups who were able to share about health needs and challenges that they face. During 2019, results of this study will be fed back to these communities as well as district and regional health authorities, helping to raise a wider understanding of the needs that exist and also shaping the development of the medical services provided.

Individuals within the communities have also become more active in topics of health, particularly with issue connected to HIV/AIDS. Over 400 women have registered at HIV support groups initiated by the Jubilee Hope Programme, receiving education, orientation and access to micro-enterprise opportunities. In 2019, this work will be strengthened further through a review of progress, increased support from a community development worker and plans to integrate this work into the wider services of AICT.



# Vine Trust Venue

The Vine Trust Barge is situated prominently at the Prince of Wales Dock in Leith with free parking and all-access facilities. As a state-of-the-art venue, we invite you to share in this exquisite setting by hiring one of our event spaces.



A beautiful Glass Room is a space to suit conferences, private events or meetings. With floor to ceiling glass windows and a scenic view of the Port of Leith, this space would be ideal for any occasion. With a variety of layout options, built in audio-visual facilities, and comfortable seating, this venue is a flexible space for any of your needs.

The Training Room located on the lower deck has been refurbished specifically for training purposes. Equipped with a range of facilities including a multimedia projector, and a range of catering options, this area makes the perfect space for your team seminar day.



**“We held our networking event here - fantastic reviews from all in attendance, beautiful setting and staff incredibly helpful and polite - could not recommend enough.”**

All our spaces are available for full or half day hires with complimentary tea and coffee. Catering options are also available, full information can be requested by contacting [admin@vinetrust.org](mailto:admin@vinetrust.org).

# Welcome & Thank You



It is our great privilege to congratulate The Very Rev Albert Bogle at the end of his service as Chairman of the Vine Trust Board.

Albert has provided invaluable direction and vision to Vine Trust over the course of 34 years and we wish him well as he continues with us as Founder and Chaplain to the board.

Vine Trust welcome Mr Alec Carstairs as the new Chairman of the Board.

Supporting Vine Trust since 2003, Alec has volunteered and visited our projects, and previously convened the Finance and Personnel Committee. We look forward to Alec's leadership as we continue into the year.



We wish to say a big thank you and farewell to our Finance Officer, Heather Bingham, who has been a fantastic support to the Vine Trust family and known by all.

We also welcome two new members of staff on board the Vine Trust barge.

Sheila Renton (right) joins as our new Finance Officer and Joanna MacQueen as Vine Trust's Communications & Events Officer.



# A Change at the Helm

Dear friends,

I think it is important to be always learning from the past, while living in the present, but planning for the future. It is with the future development of the Trust in mind that I announced to the board last year that I would stand down as Chairman in 2019 having completed 34 years at the helm. (I thought our seafaring supporters might like the reference to the nautical).

Little did I think when the Trust was founded in 1985 that I'd end up chairing an international development agency, with Royal patronage, touching the lives of so many vulnerable people. Over these years we have seen many changes in our approach to our work. Perhaps our greatest was when we moved in 2002 from being a small grant making organisation to becoming a grant receiving organisation working in partnerships with others to achieve our goals (and of course Willie moved from being a board member to becoming our first employee). In just over eighteen months we changed from having a turnover of around twelve thousand a year to a turnover of just under a million.

It has been my great privilege to lead an organisation in which Chairman, Board, Chief Executive and staff have worked hand in glove to make our strap line "Connecting People To Change Lives" a reality.

It is now my great pleasure to congratulate Mr Alec Carstairs as my successor, and Professor Alasdair Munro as our new Vice Chairman. Both Alec and Alasdair have made outstanding contribution on the board, Alec with his financial background, and Alasdair from the world of science and medicine.

The board also resolved that I should continue to attend board meetings and be known as the Founder and Chaplain to the Board. Making these changes allows the board to have the benefit of a different style of leadership, while keeping continuity, and begins to prepare the Trust to think beyond the leadership that both Willie and I have shared together for many years.

**Albert Bogle**

Founder and Chaplain



Please make cheques payable to 'Vine Trust' and post with this form to: **Finance, Vine Trust Barge, Prince of Wales Dock, Edinburgh, EH6 7DX**

Donation	Amount	Donation	Amount
General Operations		Amazon Hope Medical	
Kazunzu - 'Village of Hope' Project		Jubilee Hope Medical Programme	
<b>Total :</b>			

Title: \_\_\_\_\_ Forename(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Surname: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Post Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone No: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

**Did you know that Gift Aid can be claimed on your donation if you are a UK Tax Payer?**

For every £1, an extra 25p will go to Vine Trust, at no extra cost to you!

*'I am a UK taxpayer and understand that if I pay less Income Tax and/or Capital Gains Tax in the current tax year than the amount of Gift Aid claimed on all my donations it is my responsibility to pay any difference'*

I want to Gift Aid my donation of £\_\_\_\_\_ and any donations I make in the future or have made in the past 4 years to Vine Trust – SC017386

**Please notify Vine Trust if you:**

- want to cancel this declaration - change your name or home address - no longer pay sufficient tax on your income and/or capital gains

*Pay Income Tax at the higher or additional rate and want to receive the additional tax relief due to you? You must include all Gift Aid donations on your Self-Assessment tax return or ask HMRC to adjust your tax code.*

# VineTrust

Connecting People to Change Lives



[www.vinetrust.org](http://www.vinetrust.org)

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