

VineTrust

Connecting People to Change Lives



CONNECTIONS

Issue 43 - Winter 2023



Patron: HRH The Princess Royal

Contents

	<u>Page</u>
Welcome to Connections 43!	3
Thank You to Willie McPherson	4-5
Vine Trust New Chief Executive	6
Vine Trust Board News	7
New Ship for Lake Victoria	8-9
Babies, Big Smiles and Messages of Hope	10-11
New Family Homes in Moshi	12-13
The Value of Volunteering	14
Medical Volunteer Reports from Peru	15-16
Medical Volunteering 2024	17
New School Update: Kazunzu 'Village of Hope'	18-19
Jubilee Hope Medical Programme Update	20-21
School Expeditions Heading to Tanzania in 2024	22-23
Guild Partnership Update	24
Vine Trust Conference 2024	25
'Seed' Funding Appeal	26

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Welcome to Connections 43!

Welcome to our latest bumper edition of Connections!

Autumn in the UK has well and truly arrived. Although the long, warm days of summer have passed and the temperature has dropped, it's the spectacular transformation of the countryside into multiple shades of orange and red which so often inspires a love of this season. This very visual and dramatic changing of the season often produces a natural desire to not only reflect on the year so far, but to also look forward to the coming months.

For Vine Trust, this means looking back on a huge amount of work that has taken place through our partnership programmes, reaching thousands of people in Peru and Tanzania. It also sees us looking ahead to many exciting new developments planned for the next few months which will see even greater impact from the work.

We are delighted to share news of a new ship (page 8) which will soon be making its way to Tanzania to significantly strengthen medical services to remote island communities on Lake Victoria, particularly bringing new hope for people living with HIV.

There's an update from the Amazon Hope Medical Programme team sharing

some examples of exactly how their work has impacted the lives of patients in the communities they serve (page 10).

Plans to restart school expeditions after the pandemic have taken a big step forward (page 22), and more families have been blessed with new homes through one of our partnership projects in Tanzania. There's exciting news about developments at the Kazunzu 'Village of Hope', and our fundraising appeal (page 26) is focused on 'seed' funding for the families enabling new agricultural projects which build resilience and sustainability in the community.

This is also a very special edition of Connections, where we give thanks to Willie McPherson and celebrate so much of the remarkable work that was achieved during his leadership.

So much progress has been made over these past few months and we hope that you will be encouraged as you read these updates. Thank you so much for all your support for the work of Vine Trust and our partnership programmes.



Kenny Holt
Chief Executive

Thank You to Willie McPherson



After more than two decades of unwavering dedication and exceptional leadership, Willie McPherson recently stepped down from his role as Chief Executive of Vine Trust.

As we acknowledge a remarkable chapter in the organisation's history, it is fitting to reflect upon just some of the incredible work he has directed during his tenure.

Many may not know that Willie's journey with Vine Trust began before his time as Chief Executive, starting as a member of the Board established to steward the funds raised through the Branches charity shop in Bo'ness. When he did become Vine Trust's first ever

employee, he worked tirelessly over the years to develop and support a network of key partners in Peru and Tanzania, always with the aim of reaching the most disadvantaged and marginalised in society.

With his strong and clear passion for the dignity and sanctity of human life, Willie has led bold and innovative projects in response to needs shared with him by the Trust's local in-country partners, such as the delivery of medical ships to provide care to remote riverine and island communities.

The first medical ship to Peru was delivered in 2001, with another two in 2006 and 2017, transforming access to primary health services along Amazon tributaries.

The first ever medical ship on Tanzanian Lake Victoria was delivered in 2015, with another vessel on its way later this year. As a result, over the past 20 years, these programmes have made hundreds of expeditions, delivering over 2.5 million medical consultations.

Vine Trust's support for construction projects has also brought safety and hope to many through the provision of 8 homes for street children in Peru, 4 homes for orphans and 142 family homes in the Moshi region of Tanzania, as well as the new Kazunzu 'Village of Hope' which combines homes, education and health in a sustainable community setting.

Central to Willie's work has always been people and relationships, with his ability to inspire and connect others with Vine Trust projects. He always sought to create opportunities that allowed people to use their skills and talents to support the work, creating life-changing opportunities for them to learn and grow on a personal and professional basis.

Everyone at Vine Trust expresses their most sincere thanks to Willie for all his tremendous endeavours over the years.

Although he has stepped down from his role as Chief Executive, we are delighted that Willie will continue to support the work of Vine Trust in an advisory role going forward.



Vine Trust's New Chief Executive

The Vine Trust Board are delighted to announce that Kenny Holt has been appointed as the new Chief Executive with effect from October.

Kenny joined Vine Trust in 2014 as Manager for the Trust's medical partnership programme in Peru and then also for the work in Tanzania in 2015 with the launch of the new Jubilee Hope medical ship.

More recently, he has also assumed the management of Vine Trust's construction partnership projects in the Moshi region and at the Kazunzu 'Village of Hope', in addition to overseeing the Trust's volunteering programmes.

Over the past 10 years, Kenny has worked closely with Vine Trust's partners to accompany them in the development of their community work as well as to help shape the respective volunteer programmes to build capacity and create reciprocal learning opportunities.

Prior to joining Vine Trust, Kenny lived for 15 years in the



Amazon region of Bolivia where he supported the expansion of community projects which provided health and education services in the city of Trinidad.

Kenny is passionate about developing community-driven projects, working in collaboration to develop innovative approaches to address challenges and needs identified by local partners.

He is delighted to continue supporting the work of Vine Trust and to build upon the tremendous work that has already been achieved over many years.

Vine Trust Board News

It's an exciting time of change at Vine Trust, with Dr. Claire Bawn being appointed as the new Chair of the Board at the meeting in June, a few months before Kenny took over as Chief Executive.

Claire is a General Practitioner who has been involved with the work of Vine Trust since 2011. Formerly a medical practice partner, she now divides her time between locum work across Scotland and volunteering with the charity.



Claire has served on the Trust's medical committee since 2015 and has been a trustee since 2019. She has volunteered as a medic in Peru and Tanzania on multiple occasions and recently had the opportunity to visit both Kazunzu and one of the new homes built in Moshi, Tanzania. She is excited and honoured to be appointed as Chair of Vine Trust.

Vine Trust would like to thank Alec Carstairs for all his work as the previous Chair between 2019 and 2023. Alec has been on the Vine Trust Board since 2004, providing guidance on all the Trust's major projects in both Peru and Tanzania, as well as helping to guide the charity through the unprecedented times of COVID-19. Alec will remain on the Board.

We also thank Captain Peter Hall for his work with the Trust after stepping down in June's meeting after serving on the Board for many years. Peter provided a wide range of support to Vine Trust, particularly with the delivery of its medical ships to Peru and Tanzania.

At the June meeting, the Board was also very pleased to welcome two new members: James Clark and Rev. Alex Currie. James first became involved with the Vine Trust in 2006 when he led the delivery voyage of Amazon Hope 2 to Iquitos, while Alex has taken part in four Vine Trust expeditions to Tanzania.

New Ship for Lake Victoria

We are delighted to announce that a new ship will be joining the Jubilee Hope Medical Programme to significantly expand the reach and enhance the range of services to remote island communities on Lake Victoria, Tanzania. This ship is a direct response to needs being identified by our Tanzania partners, Africa Inland Church Tanzania, and will help the programme deliver an estimated 600,000 consultations over the next five years.

Since its launch in 2014, the Jubilee Hope Medical Programme has become the largest healthcare provider to the islands of the Kagera Region of Tanzania, delivering over 400,000 free consultations in support of the Tanzanian Government's target of improving care for people living in these areas.

Whilst the work of the Jubilee Hope Medical Programme has made a considerable impact over the past nine years, there is still a huge demand for even more healthcare services on the islands.

In particular, HIV infection rates are still extremely high within these communities, with research showing



that up to 30% of people are living with HIV in some locations, compared to average levels of infection of 5% in the rest of the country.

One of the main challenges for people living with HIV on the islands is access to life-saving antiretroviral treatment (ART) due to irregular supply and distribution. This medication is free of charge and readily available on the mainland but, due to the distance and difficulty of delivery to the islands, very few living there can obtain regular supplies which are vital for their health and wellbeing. Access to ART medication is vital for all people living with HIV, including efforts to break the transmission infection from mothers to their children.

In response to this need, this new vessel will play a key role in the development of a supply chain

for ART medication to a number of strategic locations across the islands, with regular expeditions to make deliveries as well as to provide testing and counselling services.

The ship will also support plans to develop a network of community health agents located on the islands to strengthen local capacity and resilience in dealing with many of the social and cultural norms which perpetuate high HIV infection rates amongst the local population.

Furthermore, the ship will greatly increase the frequency of expeditions and number of locations

that the programme can visit, strengthening malaria prevention and treatment initiatives, child vaccination services, as well as health education and promotion on the islands.



Naming Ceremony

On the 29th September, the naming ceremony for the ship took place at Portsmouth Historic Dockyard, Hampshire. Representatives from a number of companies and organisations who had played a key role in the project joined together to celebrate the former HMS Scimitar being named the MV Lady Jean in anticipation of its delivery to Lake Victoria.

With significant support from Babcock International, the former UK Royal Navy patrol ship has undergone a complete overhaul, including a new generator, electrical rewiring, servicing of the engines, installation of new seats and air-conditioning, and full painting.

Other companies which are supporting this project include Victoria Quay, UK Docks, SES, International Paints, Caterform, SWJ Maintenance, Portsmouth Naval Base Property Trust, Sevenstar Yacht Transport, Alexander Dennis, Lazzerini, Transeast Group and Ramco. We are incredibly grateful to everyone who has played a part in making this project possible.

Keep an eye out on our social media channels for more details on the ship's journey and the work it will go on to do on Lake Victoria over the coming months.

Babies, Big Smiles and Messages of Hope

It's been a busy year again for the Amazon Hope Medical Programme (PMEAP), with regular expeditions taking place and over 73,000 consultations provided. Here's Programme Director, Róman Rodríguez with an in-depth update:

During recent months, PMEAP has continued to carry out health expeditions to many isolated communities in the Amazon.

In these most recent trips we have had the support of many Peruvian volunteers from the city of Iquitos, who provided support to places that they often had never been to despite living in the same region. As one of these volunteers said, "sometimes we don't know what things are happening right next to us." Their experience was so positive that several took the opportunity to go on two or three different expeditions.



We also had the support of two volunteer dentistry students from the Universidad Científica del Sur, which is located in Lima. They stated that it was a new and very meaningful experience, and the university has shared with us that it wants to continue sending students on future trips.

There are a number of inspiring stories to report, like that of Segundo, an eight-year-old boy who was suffering from seizures and unable to stand, walk or speak normally. He appeared dizzy and avoided eye contact. Dr Ronald Ramírez found out that the medicine Segundo was taking from the local health post wasn't the right one for his condition, and provided him with a new prescription. The next day, Segundo and his mother returned to the ship for a second check-up, and he looked very different: he could walk, talk and even gave us big smiles.

In August, the PMEAP team were joined by an international volunteer specialising in education, to carry out workshops with children on the ship and in some communities. She carried out a very beautiful activity that consisted of bringing letters written by her students in the United Kingdom addressed to the boys and girls of the Amazon communities, with messages of hope, strength and affection. The children were able to respond in the same way. This exchange shows how good wishes and solidarity can create bonds despite distance, through words of hope that cross rivers and oceans.



A few weeks later, and early in the morning, someone came onto the ship to ask for help because there was a young woman who had been in labour since midnight. They couldn't take her to the local health post because it was too far. Dr. Ronald Ramirez and his team ran to the patient's house and after half an hour, the baby was born, healthy and without complications. The relatives were very happy because she was a first-time patient, and they were very concerned about a delivery without specialised care.

Outreach in the Community

In addition to the medical services provided via the ship, the Amazon Hope team took advantage of time in between expeditions during the months of September and October to participate in health campaigns in local communities near Iquitos, including visits to provide care to school children.

Many thousands of children, teenagers and adults accessed a variety of different services, including general medicine, eyesight testing and health education workshops.



New Family Homes in Moshi

Over the past 10 years, Vine Trust has supported our partners, Tanzania Women Research Foundation (TAWREF), as they construct homes and help to empower people living in extreme poverty, providing them with the security they require to have a brighter future.



This month, we've got some exciting updates from TAWREF about two new homes that they've built for particularly vulnerable families in the Kilimanjaro region of the country.

Deborah's Story

In June 2023, TAWREF finished work on a new house for **Mama Deborah Msumanie** (33) and her four young children (**Daines**, 13, **Mariam**, 9, **Miraji**, 5, and **Sarafina**, 2).

Deborah has a positive HIV diagnosis (although her children do not) and became a widow when her husband died in 2022. The family had been living in a tiny hut that wasn't structurally sound and was in a state of disrepair, with a roof that let in rain.

This new home will provide the family with a newfound security and hope for the future. As Deborah said when she moved in, "I'm happy as I now possess a very good house which I can enjoy living in with my children, no longer feeling poor as before."





Claudia's Story

In more recent weeks, TAWREF finished building a new home for **Claudia Onesmo Kewka** (48) and her two daughters, **Maria** (15) and **Theresia** (13).

Claudia's husband was HIV positive and died in February 2020, yet, while she takes medication for the virus, her children are free from it.

Day-to-day, Claudia works with a group of local women to collect sand from the Weru Weru River, carrying it back up the hillside to where she lives. She also breaks down some of the rocks into gravel to sell to local builders, but it's incredibly hard manual labour and neither her nor the other women have access to tools that can help with this arduous process.

Despite working whole days and with no shelter from the sun, Claudia says that "the money I get here cannot fend for my needs."

Claudia, Maria, and Theresia moved into their new home in late summer, a transition that represents newfound security and opportunity. As Claudia said herself, "this house will bring back my happiness and hope."

These are the **141st and 142nd homes** built for disadvantaged families in the Kilimanjaro region, and are a reflection of the powerful partnership between TAWREF and Vine Trust that seeks to provide people with a sense of increased stability and hope.

The Value of Volunteering

Vine Trust works alongside long-term Peruvian and Tanzanian partners to strengthen health systems and support construction projects in Peru and Tanzania.

A key element of Vine Trust's model is to connect volunteers to our long-term partnerships through enabling them to take part in the community development programmes in question. Our volunteers are given the invaluable opportunity to interact with community members and in-country project workers in a way that inspires mutually empowering and long-lasting relationships.

At Vine Trust, we believe firmly that it's not just "what" you do but also "how" you do things that is key to the success of our volunteering programmes. To put it another way, it's about recognising that the "ends" don't justify the "means" if those "means" aren't ethical, sustainable, or constructive. We place a strong emphasis on enabling volunteering which encourages and supports global citizenship.

We promote volunteering opportunities which:

- **are designed by the leadership of our in-country partners,**
- **benefit both the local programme and the volunteer,**
- **emphasise the importance of informing volunteers about the programme's objectives and their own role in helping to achieve these goals.**

At Vine Trust, we believe in the power of ethical volunteering to create positive and reciprocal social and human impact in communities across the world. It's how we connect people to change lives.

On the next couple of pages, two volunteers share their experiences aboard the MV Forth Hope in the Peruvian Amazon. Jonny Williams went on a medical trip in April this year, whilst Felicity Pollock travelled to Peru a few weeks ago, in September.

Friends and Experiences That Will Last a Lifetime

Jonny Williams

In April 2023 I was lucky enough to be given a place on board the medical ship MV Forth Hope, for 11 days in the Peruvian Amazon. I'd been a UK-based paramedic for just over 6 years and was ready for my next challenge, which is what drew me to the Vine Trust in the first place. I'd hoped that I would be able to play a small part in helping the local communities and learn about a whole new culture along the way.

On day one I met my new teammates, three Australian doctors. It was very clear early on that the four of us would become great friends. We were all apprehensive about what medical cases we might encounter so far from home, but being with such fantastic like-minded people gave me much reassurance. By the time we arrived in Iquitos it felt like we had known each other for years.

In Iquitos, we also met our charismatic guide, Frank. We could not have asked for a better person to support us during our time on the ship. Frank was funny, knowledgeable and always determined for us to make the most of our time in Peru.

Once aboard the ship, we met the rest of the team. Dr Ronald Ramirez, the ship's consultant, and Paola the ship's dentist. Both fantastic people; driven and passionate about helping anyone who arrived at the ship. However, Ronald is unbeatable at all card and board games, so don't even try.

Over the coming days, we worked together as a team and helped hundreds of patients. The friends I've made and the experiences we've shared will last a lifetime.



It Was All of This and More

Felicity Pollock

In September 2023, I accompanied a crew of doctors (from Peru and the UK), nurses, healthcare assistants, a dentist, translators, a local guide, a lab technician, a pharmacist, boat crew, the captain, engineers and a (very talented) chef on my first trip with Vine Trust, on the Forth Hope ship.



I myself am a recently qualified GP and had heard about this team through UK colleagues. I had heard I would meet amazing, hard-working people, both on the boat and amongst the local populations we served. I had heard it would be busy in a way that was different to the environment I am used to working in. I had heard it would be a fantastic experience. It was all of this and more.

Nursing staff and health care assistants would start at 8 am triaging patients into groups for the dentist, the nurse, the doctor and those who wanted vision and glasses checks. I was provided with a laptop for online notes, which meant I could electronically prescribe medication and request same-day investigations from the clinic room. Same-day investigations included blood sugar testing, haemoglobin testing and urine sampling.

I was prepared to be unfamiliar with health presentations and diseases less common in the UK. However, for many patients, health concerns were similar to GP in the UK, like musculoskeletal complaints, diabetes, and chest infections.

Late afternoons and evenings were spent in each village we visited with our vastly knowledgeable guide, Frank. We played football (apparently badly) and were shown local wildlife, plants and food. I feel very lucky to have been able to work in this environment and grateful for lessons I learned from the people and patients I met.

Medical Volunteering 2024

Our 2024 medical expeditions to the Peruvian Amazon and Lake Victoria, Tanzania are open for registration, and our in-country partners are looking for health care professionals or final-year students to work under their guidance as they bring high-quality and crucial support to isolated communities.

If you or someone you know would be keen to get involved, reach out to us at health@vinetrust.org for more information. Here are our 2024 trip dates:

Amazon Hope (PERU)

- 23 Feb - 9 Mar 2024
- 4 Mar - 18 Mar 2024
- 29 Mar - 12 Apr 2024
- 7 Apr - 22 Apr 2024
- 30 Apr - 14 May 2024
- 9 May - 24 May 2024
- 31 May - 14 Jun 2024
- 9 Jun - 24 Jun 2024
- 2 Jul - 16 Jul 2024
- 11 Jul - 26 Jul 2024
- 6 Oct - 20 Oct 2024
- 15 Oct - 30 Oct 2024
- 8 Nov - 22 Nov 2024
- 17 Nov - 2 Dec 2024

Jubilee Hope (TANZANIA)

- 3 Feb - 17 Feb 2024
- 16 Mar - 30 Mar 2024
- 13 Apr - 27 Apr 2024
- 25 May - 8 Jun 2024
- 22 Jun - 6 Jul 2024
- 10 Aug - 24 Aug 2024
- 31 Aug - 14 Sep 2024
- 19 Oct - 2 Nov 2024
- 16 Nov - 30 Nov 2024



New School Update: Kazunzu 'Village of Hope'

Progress continues to be made at the Kazunzu Village of Hope on the banks of Lake Victoria. A very important recent development has been the completion of the first phase of the primary school building, with furniture also now in place.

The building of the school was completed by local builders, including some of the guardian parents from the Kazunzu village. Many of you will remember the lorry that was donated through Vine Trust to our partners, AICT Geita Diocese, and this has proved to be a very useful resource in the transportation of building materials to the site over the past few months.

This is a significant step forward for the development of the village, as the school will go a long way to providing much-needed education opportunities for the children at Kazunzu and the neighbouring area.



AICT are working hard to progress a number of different tasks needed before classes can begin, but we look forward to seeing this wonderful new facility welcoming the first children very soon.

A key aspect behind the design of the village was to create a number of self-sustaining projects to support its future growth and development, placing the families at the heart of the discussions and planning. On this note, we've been greatly encouraged to receive updates that progress is being made with agricultural projects which will provide the families with a source of food as well as a regular income.



A technical team from the AICT Geita Diocese has been working with the families to provide training on management of crops, starting with maize which is a staple food in the community. A demonstration plot has been established which provides opportunities to combine theoretical training with practical work, with the families already seeing the benefits of their endeavours.

Soon the families will work together to develop two acres of land to plant and harvest maize under the guidance of the local experts. AICT Geita Diocese have a strong track record in such community projects and it's wonderful to see their different departments coming together to support the families and the development of this village.

The project will soon expand to include other types of income activities such as cassava, sweet potatoes and the planting of fruit trees.

If you would like to help support the Kazunzu families in providing them with some resources for this project, we would invite you to see details on page 26 where there is more information of how to get involved.

Jubilee Hope Medical Programme Update

The Jubilee Hope Medical Programme has been at the forefront of some excellent work in and around Lake Victoria the past year, providing crucial health care to vulnerable and isolated communities whom would not otherwise have access.

Since January 2023, the Jubilee Hope team have completed 30,263 total medical consultations, which include over 1,000 dental sessions, over 850 optical services, and just over 9,000 general medicine consultations.

The team also provided health education talks to over 7,500 people on the islands, working with local community members and groups to help break the cycle of poor health in the Lake Victoria island communities.

They have also led over 3,500 HIV/AIDS testing and counselling sessions, and there are currently three active HIV post-test groups which help a total of 45 women.



Marburg Virus Response

Earlier this year, the Jubilee Hope Medical Programme was able to play a vital role in supporting the Tanzanian government's response to an outbreak of the Marburg virus in the Kagera region of the country.



After the first cases were reported at the end of March, within three days the Jubilee Hope medical ship was chartered by the Kagera region's Rapid Response Team (RRT). Accompanied by the Jubilee Hope's medical team, the RRT visited the islands of Goziba, Kerebe, Makibwa and Bumbire to conduct public meetings, interviews and training sessions with the community members. This was the first of two extended visits to these islands.

Through these important expeditions to the islands, the Jubilee Hope team supported the distribution of vital equipment, including PPE supplies, thermo-scanners and surgical masks to nine key locations. They also helped to provide training to 56 community-based health workers in infection prevention and control, health surveillance, and water sanitation and hygiene practices (WASH). Furthermore, the visits proved very useful for the collection of data from the communities, which will help guide the programme's ongoing development and tailoring of services to the needs which exist.

At the beginning of June, the Tanzanian health authorities declared the outbreak of the virus officially over in accordance with World Health Organisation (WHO) regulations. The quick and extensive response by the health authorities, supported by the Jubilee Hope programme, was crucial in the outbreak seeing only a very small number of isolated cases (9 in total).

Reports from the Jubilee Hope team have highlighted the immense gratitude received from the Tanzanian authorities for their collaboration and support throughout this challenging time. There was a recognition of the incredible value of a dedicated medical ship working in the area, as well as the strong relationships and trust which the Jubilee Hope Medical Programme has been able to develop with these communities over many years of service. Our congratulations to the Jubilee Hope team once again on the wonderful work they continue to do on Lake Victoria!

SCHOOL EXPEDITIONS HEADING TO TANZANIA IN 2024

For the first time since the COVID-19 pandemic, school expeditions will be returning to the Mount Kilimanjaro region of Tanzania in the summer of 2024.

We are delighted that three schools - Perth Grammar, Galashiels Academy, and Milne's High School – will be heading out to visit our in-country partners, Tanzania Women Research Foundation (TAWREF) to see and learn about their community development work.

These school trips are a great opportunity for young people to grow in their understanding of how organisations like TAWREF are making a difference in their own communities, combining engagement with local leadership and neighbours with in-depth research to identify those in need and the best ways to bring about change.

The students will be able to spend time with some of the families TAWREF support, hearing their individual stories and understanding just how the provision of a new home can make such a transformational difference.

These expeditions will also include opportunities to visit a local school and meet Tanzanian students of a similar age, sharing together about their lives and aspirations for the future.



There will also be time spent in a nearby village to see and hear from local leaders and experts on the impacts of climate change on communities in the region.

Throughout the expedition, the students will learn about the local culture, traditions and language, as well as see some of the amazing landscape and animals in this part of the world.



At Vine Trust, we have seen so much evidence of how these school expeditions are life-changing and transformative experiences, often challenging students' pre-existing perceptions and encouraging fresh perspectives on the nature of their role in the global community.

School Expeditions in 2025

We are also receiving interest from schools looking to travel to Tanzania in 2025. If you would like to know more about school expeditions, please do get in touch. We'd love to share with you the ways in which we can connect young people to wonderful communities and organisations in Tanzania, providing them with an incredible opportunity to learn, share and grow through a wide variety of exciting activities and experiences.

For more details, contact the Vine Trust office - education@vinetrust.org / 0131 555 5598



GUILD PARTNERSHIP UPDATE

Kazunzu Village of Hope is now into its third and final year as a partnership project with the Church of Scotland Guild. Vine Trust has always had a strong relationship with the Guild, but to be a Partnership Project is particularly special for us.

As a result of this partnership, we will have visited 191 Guilds across the country by the end of 2023, giving presentations on Kazunzu and its developments.

On Saturday 9th September, Vine Trust, along with the other five current Guild Partnership Projects, gathered at the General Assembly Hall at The Mound in Edinburgh for the annual Guild Gathering.

The theme was “New Wine, New Wineskins,” and there were a thousand Guild members there to celebrate a wonderful day.

Several Guild businesses spoke at the event, which also included guest speakers the Right Rev. Sally Foster-Fulton, Moderator of the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland, and Professor Jason Leitch, Scotland’s National Clinical Director.

If your Guild would like to arrange a presentation, please phone us at 0131 555 5598 or email admin@vinetrust.org.



VT CONFERENCE 2024

Vine Trust will be holding a conference on **SATURDAY 25th MAY** to celebrate what Global Citizenship looks like in 2024.

Representatives of our partners from Peru and Tanzania will share about the impact that volunteering support has made on their projects over the years as well as ways for volunteers to get involved today.



We'll also look at how Vine Trust works closely with our partners to develop wonderful learning and sharing opportunities throughout the range of volunteer programmes that are open to participants.

There will be more news available soon about how to sign up for the conference, but we encourage you to **SAVE THE DATE** and keep an eye on updates via social media and newsletters.

Hire the VT Barge!

The Barge is the UK headquarters of Vine Trust, and is located at Prince of Wales Dock in Leith, just off Ocean Drive. We have variety of rooms available for hire which make for an excellent location for a wide range of activities and events.

If you are looking for an events venue that's accessible and affordable, with high-quality facilities and multi-purpose spaces, get in touch with us and we'd be delighted to speak with you:

- admin@vinetrust.org
- vinetrust.org/about/vine-trust-barge

A large photograph of the Vine Trust building, a modern structure with a dark, slatted facade. The 'Vine Trust' logo is prominently displayed on the lower right side of the building. The logo features the word 'Vine' in green and 'Trust' in blue. The building has a distinctive roof with a central spire topped with a weather vane. In the background, other buildings and a clear blue sky are visible.

Vine Trust

‘Seed’ Funding Appeal

TARGET: £8,000

In recent months an AICT team has been helping to train Kazunzu village families in growing and managing vital crops like maize, a staple of the local diet.

This initiative not only enables families to grow their own food in a sustainable way, but it also provides villagers with valuable new vocational skills.

As part of Vine Trust’s support for this initiative, we are seeking to provide funding that will allow this first stage of the agricultural project to be expanded. These funds will help with the purchase of more seeds, tools and supplies needed for the families to introduce new crops into the village.

If you would like to support this project, you can use the below QR code or go online to the Vine Trust website (www.vinetrust.org/donate) - selecting *Kazunzu Village ‘Seed’ Funding* from the drop-down menu.

Alternatively, you can use the donations form on the inside back cover. Any support you can give is hugely appreciated.



Your Details	
Title:	First name(s):
Surname:	
Address:	
Postcode:	
Telephone No.:	
Email:	

'Seed' Funding Appeal

£ _____

Standing Order	
Bank:	
Bank Address:	
Sort Code:	Account No.:
Please pay Vine Trust the sum of £ _____ on the date of _____	
And (please circle) monthly / quarterly / annually thereafter until _____	

I would like my Standing Order to support (please tick one):

General Operations

Peru Medical Programme

Tanzania Medical Programme

Kazunzu – Village of Hope

Where the Need is Greatest

Boost your donation by 25p of Gift Aid for every £1 you donate!

Gift Aid is reclaimed by the charity from the tax you pay for the current tax year. In order to Gift Aid your donations you must tick the box(es) below:

I want to Gift Aid all of my Standing Order /Donations and/or

any donations I have made in the past 4 years

'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.'

Signature: _____

Date: _____

Thank you!

We couldn't operate our programmes without you.

Please send this form to The Vine Trust Barge, Prince of Wales Dock, Edinburgh, EH6 7DX. We will register the standing order in our records and then forward the form to your bank

Please notify the charity 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
If you pay Income Tax at the higher or additional rate and want to receive the additional tax relief due to you, you must include all your Gift Aid donations on your Self-Assessment tax return or ask HM Revenue and Customs to adjust your tax code.

Patron: HRH THE PRINCESS ROYAL

The Vine Trust is registered in Scotland as a Company Limited by Guarantee. Company No: SC268073. Registered Charity No: SC017386.
Registered Office: The Vine Trust Barge, Prince of Wales Dock, Edinburgh, EH6 7DX

VineTrust



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