IRFF UK: Ripping at the Roots of Poverty

Edward Hartley
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Taking on Poverty at Its Roots

Poverty is not an inevitable fact of life, but it is extremely hard to uproot. Every October 17th, the UN International Day for the Eradication of Poverty reminds us that **ending this crisis is a relentless struggle.**

That's because **poverty is multidimensional.** It attacks from every angle. It strikes when children are deprived of classrooms, when girls drop out for lack of sanitary pads, when clean drinking water is out of reach, when families lack job skills, and when incarcerated mothers face a devastating loss of hope behind bars with their babies.

At IRFF UK, we do not stand by. For over four decades, we have tackled root causes through education, healthcare, clean water, vocational training, and nutrition.



Bringing the Campaign into Classrooms

Look at what happens when we act. At Busabala Primary School in Uganda, our GirlChild initiative delivered essential sanitary supplies and health education. The result? **Attendance among participating girls hit 100 percent,** overall enrollment doubled to over 1,000 pupils, and the school achieved its first-ever top-grade exam results.

We backed that breakthrough with **solid infrastructure.** We drilled a 230-foot (70-metre) deep borehole directly on site at Busabala. Over at Destiny Junior School in Kampala, we built a secure perimeter wall, installed security cameras, provided fire extinguishers, and constructed clean biodigester toilets to replace

decaying pit latrines.

In South Africa, our support for the SHINE Literacy Program at Walmer Primary School **equips young children with vital reading skills.** In the Slovo township, we fund university education for young adults. Meanwhile, the Walmer Soup Kitchen **feeds 500 children and adults every single day,** so children can learn and parents can work.



Enterprise Breaks the Cycle

This drive for self-reliance runs through our entire history. Past work – such as vocational training in dressmaking and baking in Gambia and Ghana, and quilting cooperatives in Cameroon –

reflects our core belief in local skill and enterprise.

In Goma, DR Congo, where our supported Hope for Children shelter rescued 400 young people from the streets, recent conflict forced children into foster care. We moved fast, **funding small business training for 20 foster families** so guardians could run micro-enterprises and put food on the table.

In rural Uganda, our mobile medical team treated over 3,000 people suffering from painful jigger infestations – cleaning wounds, disinfecting homes, and handing out footwear. Inside Masaka Prison, we established The New Hope Academy to educate inmates, provided soap-making skills, and **erected shelter tents for incarcerated mothers and their babies.**

Pressing Ahead Together

Poverty takes many forms, but our mission stays clear. On this UN International Day for the Eradication of Poverty, **we press ahead to make the biggest impact we can.**

We are truly grateful to you, who have stood with us over these years. **It's an honour to campaign alongside you.**

And to our new readers: If you resonate with IRFF's core philosophy of **'living for the sake of others'**, perhaps you would

like to join us? We are looking for volunteers in several areas.

Please reach out and let us know how you can help.

Thank you!

Donate to a project here

Featured Project – Easy Fundraising

Looking for a cost-free way to support us?

IRFF UK recently joined EasyFundraising, a platform used by around **2.5 million people** that has raised more than **£72 million** for charities and good causes.

The idea is simple. When you shop online, participating retailers make a small donation to IRFF UK **at no extra cost to you!**

Here's how to do it:

1. **Sign up** and select **IRFF UK (International Relief Friendship Foundation)** as your chosen charity.
2. **Download the app** or add EasyFundraising to your browser.
3. **Shop online** as normal.

Follow this PDF guide to get started.

Heartbreak News: The Tricycle Shop is Closing Its Doors

The Tricycle charity shop in Alton is permanently closing in late October.
Founded in 2012 by Tessa and Markus Thonett, the store was a vibrant community hub and a supportive workplace for local volunteers.
Crucially, the shop provided one-third of IRFF UK's total income.
Losing this funding jeopardizes our African humanitarian aid work.
IRFF UK needs your help more than ever. Please consider making a donation or organizing a local fundraiser to keep our vital missions alive.

Please Click here to visit our website

and **read in-depth reports** on all our projects.

Donate to a project here

Connect with IRFF UK

Contact us on social media or ***email us at:*** *irffukhq@ gmail,com*

Follow IRFF UK to stay close to our work and see real-time updates here:

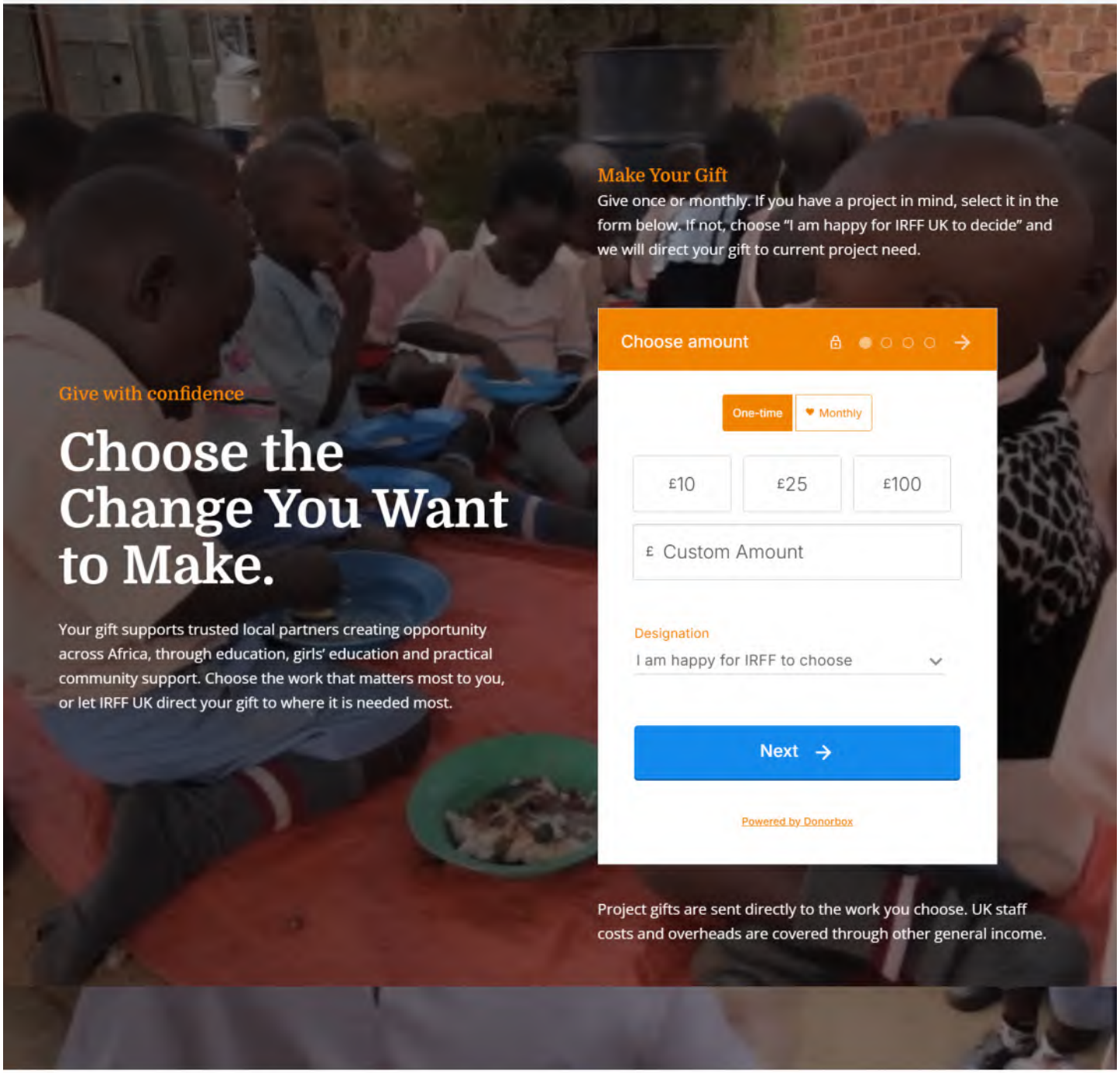
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Support Our Projects

International Relief Friendship Foundation

Account number: 96497645

Sort Code: 60-05-29



Give with confidence

Choose the Change You Want to Make.

Your gift supports trusted local partners creating opportunity across Africa, through education, girls' education and practical community support. Choose the work that matters most to you, or let IRFF UK direct your gift to where it is needed most.

Make Your Gift

Give once or monthly. If you have a project in mind, select it in the form below. If not, choose "I am happy for IRFF UK to decide" and we will direct your gift to current project need.

Choose amount

One-time | Monthly

£10 | £25 | £100

£ Custom Amount

Designation

I am happy for IRFF to choose

Next →

Powered by Donorbox

Project gifts are sent directly to the work you choose. UK staff costs and overheads are covered through other general income.

Where would you like to help?

Support the Work That Moves You.

Each project is led by people rooted in their own community. Explore the stories below, or select your preferred project in the donation form above.

Uganda

Help Keep a School Open

Destiny Junior School in Kampala educates 207 children with 15 teachers across 10 classrooms. Regular gifts give Jesca and her team a more reliable foundation to keep children learning, fed and safe.

Meet Destiny Junior School →





Girls' Education

Help Keep Girls in School

RFF UK has supported locally led period-poverty work in **Uganda, Ghana and South Africa**. Through menstrual products, hygiene education and practical support, these projects help girls manage their periods with dignity and stay connected to education.

Give to Period Poverty →



South Africa

Support Community Food Projects

The Walmer Soup Kitchen in Gqeberha supports people experiencing severe poverty with practical, community-led care. Explore the project and choose it in the donation form if it is where you would like to help.

Explore the Soup Kitchen →



Your Gift Deserves to Be Accountable.

Choose Your Cause

Select a project in Donorbox, or allow IRFF UK to direct your gift where the current need is greatest.

See the Evidence

We receive field reports from local partners, publish annual reporting and share project updates with supporters.

Give Your Way

Give once or monthly, change or cancel a recurring gift through Donorbox, and add Gift Aid if you are eligible.



Prefer to Give by Bank Transfer?

Bank transfer is available for UK donors and can reduce payment-processing fees. Please include your name and, where possible, the project you wish to support as the payment reference so we can direct your gift correctly.

International Relief Friendship Foundation
Account number: 96497645
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FAQs

Can I choose where my gift goes?

Yes. Choose your preferred project in the donation form. If you select "I am happy for IRFF UK to decide," we will direct your gift to the current project need.

Does my project gift cover UK staff costs?

No. IRFF UK has some UK staff costs and overheads, but these are covered through other general income. Project gifts are sent directly to the work you choose to support.

Can I give monthly or make a one-off gift?

Both options are available. Monthly gifts are especially valuable because they help project teams plan with greater confidence. You can change or cancel a recurring gift through Donorbox.

Can I add Gift Aid?

Yes. If you are a UK taxpayer, please select Gift Aid in the donation form. This enables IRFF UK to claim an additional 25p for every £1 donated, at no extra cost to you.

Join Our Newsletter - Get Updates From Our Projects

Field reports, impact stories, and news from Uganda, South Africa, and Ghana — direct to your inbox.

Enter your email

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IRFF UK

IRFF UK is a registered charity (No. 281776) working in Africa since 1980.

UK costs are covered through other general income. Project gifts support the work you choose.

Our Work

- Destiny Junior School
- Building Schools for Africa
- Period Poverty
- Walmer Soup Kitchen
- Past Projects

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Organisation

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