



Our current students (from left: Abi, Dennis, Ruth and Gideon)

Greetings from Kenya!

We have had an amazing year so far, our students are doing great at university and we are growing in different areas:

- All our students have completed their first years at university with one of our students set to graduate next year.
- We have had 8 volunteers join us so far- one of them being our first ever international volunteer from the UK!
- All our students have started working on their personal projects. They have wonderful ideas they are excited to implement.
- We are expanding more into the community we work with, we started a Skills and Mentorship Programme for high school graduates within Elgeyo Marakwet County

- Our staff is also growing. We have a new staff member, Phylis, who is joining us to run the daily operations of New Routes.
- Arthur Childs joined our New Routes UK board. He has been a great guide and encouragement to us.
- Our student's families and support systems are doing well, we have kept in contact with them and have visited them from time to time.
- We held our very first open day where we invited the community around us to visit and learn more about what we do.
- We are also very excited because we have moved into our new office this September!



We had a wonderful time at our open day – here is a photo of our staff and interns. (From left: Mercy (programme coordinator), Mirriam (intern), Ruby (intern), Sophie (co-founder), Nancy (visitor to the open day), Storm (co-founder), Jerome (intern) and Helen (intern).

Programme Updates

ONGOING RESIDENTIAL AND ONLINE DISCIPLESHIP

Discipleship is a key component of our programme. Our office day always begins with a Bible study for our staff, interns (and students when they are on break from university). All our students attend their own local church close to their universities too.

ONGOING NRF COURSES

All students are now certified first aid providers trained by St John's Ambulance - an organisation that equips people with first aid and other lifesaving skills to handle disasters. As medical resources are expensive and limited in our student's home areas, these skills are vital to help themselves and their community.

Our students also practise regularly what they learnt in the Soft Skills, Financial Management, Health & Wellbeing and Computer Skills courses.

PERSONAL PROJECTS

Most of our students are working on their personal projects which allow for a practical element within their fields of study (more about this below).

ONGOING UNIVERSITY SPONSORSHIP

Our students are being fully sponsored through university, we cover all the costs that come with attending, and living in, university – tuition fees, living costs, transport costs, and all extra course-related costs.

INTERNSHIPS

Abigael has completed her internship with Samaritan's Purse. The rest of the students will do their internships before completing university.

ONGOING MENTORSHIP

Our students are mentored throughout their time with us. We hold weekly online mentorship sessions with them when they are away and have in person mentorship sessions during their university breaks.



NEW ROUTES OPEN DAY

Our open day was a huge success! The community around us visited our office to learn more about our work, our future, and how they can partner with us. We did a presentation on how our first year of operation was and showed them around our office and student accommodation.

We were happy to host local individuals and organisations that have partnered with us in the past, as well as welcome local, potential future partners. This is all in the hope of motivating the local community to support their own. We highlighted various ways in which the Kenyan community can be part of what we do.



Attendees of the New Routes Open Day

SKILLS AND MENTORSHIP PROGRAMME

Our team began a new Skills and Mentorship programme for orphaned and vulnerable high school graduates in Elgeyo Marakwet County. It was a two-month programme where the beneficiaries learnt soft skills and financial management skills. They were also mentored and disciplined within that period.

The programme benefited many of these students who were planning to start small businesses or seek jobs after completing secondary school.

Beneficiaries of our skills and mentorship programme (from left: Charity, Monica, Alice, Alice, Sarah, Stanley and our intern Helen)



Personal Project Updates



DENNIS

Dennis' personal project addresses the lack of ultrasound services in his community.

Many pregnant mothers in his community do not go for ultrasounds because the machines are not available near them. They have to travel about 30km to the nearest referral hospital to have access to ultrasound services. Most of them don't go because they do not realise the importance of having an ultrasound done during pregnancy.

Dennis' project will be a community outreach programme involving him and a team of radiographers and health workers to reach pregnant women in his home area. These women will be given free ultrasounds and educated on the importance of having ultrasounds and other pre- and post-natal matters.

Dennis' project is about taking ultrasound services to his unreached community

Ruth's project is about raising awareness of gender-based violence issues in her community through a documentary series

RUTH

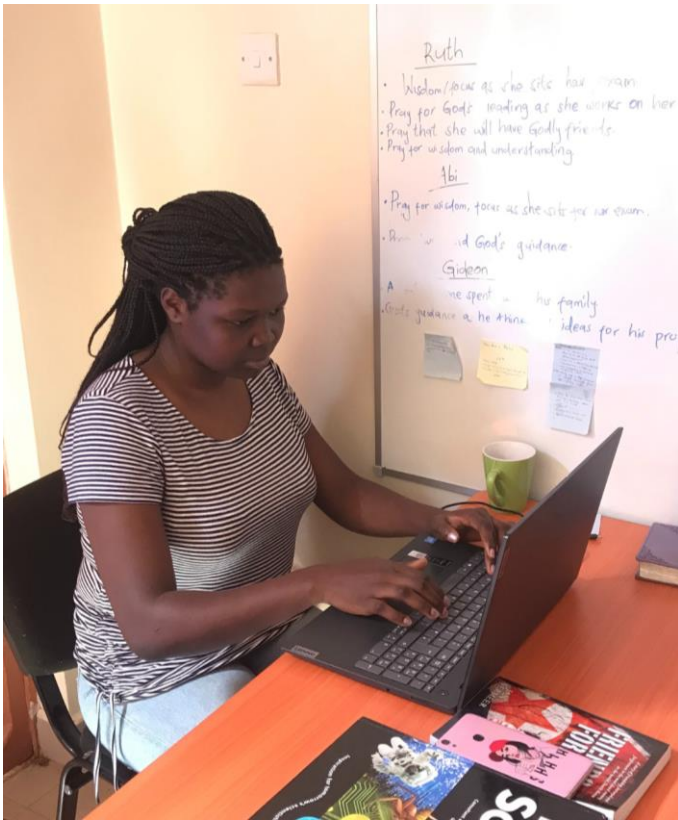
Ruth's personal project is focused on highlighting various issues that are not commonly talked about in her community through a YouTube channel. She is incredibly passionate about raising awareness and educating others.

Her documentary series will give insights into gender-based violence in Kenya and will include interviews with various members of her local community.

Ruth has grown in confidence as a Journalist since starting her personal project. She has learnt so many skills - from videography and advanced editing, to interviewing skills.

We are very excited to see where this project takes Ruth in the future.





ABIGAEI

Abigael is working on a personal project that aims to solve a persistent problem within the aviation industry.

She is researching on possible solutions to bird strikes in aviation. A bird strike is a collision between a bird and an aircraft which is in flight or on a take off or landing roll. It is a significant threat to aircraft safety and can cause fatal accidents.

Abigael's research involves talking to pilots and engineers with multiple years of experience and visiting airports to witness how different airlines/airports deal with bird strikes. She is looking into previous solutions and seeing how effective they have been.

Her project aims to contribute positively to the industry by highlighting progress as well as ongoing issues which still need to be addressed by the relevant authorities.

Abigael's project is researching possible solutions to bird strikes in the aviation industry

Gideon's project is about teaching younger students the importance of financial management

GIDEON

Gideon is working on a project that will teach financial skills to young students in primary and secondary school. He is passionate about equipping young people with these skills so that they can be well-prepared to manage their finances well in the future.

Financial Management was one of the courses he learnt while at New Routes and he wants to pass his knowledge on to the younger generation. He is working on a website where students can access simplified financial information for free. The website will have information on topics such as budgeting, credit/debit and savings.

Gideon believes that practising positive financial habits should start early in life. He hopes his project will be effective in helping young people to become wiser in their financial decisions.





Skills and Mentorship Programme - Application Day



A visit to Dennis' home



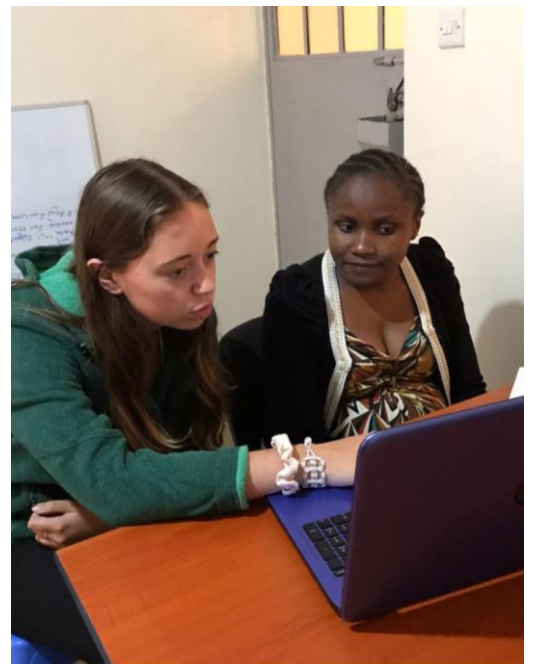
Ruth and Abi during their university break



A visit to Abi's home



The Skills and Mentorship Programme beneficiaries with their certificates



Phylis and our international intern (Bridie) working in our new office



Gideon attending his St John's First Aid Training session



Co-Founder Sophie pictured with Ruth



A visit to Dennis' home



Our students learning about life in the UK



Some members of the New Routes Open Day audience



Gideon and Dennis during their university break



We couldn't have made it this far without the support of our donors, sponsors and prayer partners. Our students have grown so much within the year and it has been an honour to witness what God is doing through our programme, to the lives of our beneficiaries, volunteers and staff. We have been encouraged to keep going and to reach out even more.

There is still more to be done as not all of our students are fully sponsored yet. We would like to take in more students next year and we have also started shorter programmes for the benefit of the greater community. We need more institutions and people to join us in our quest to provide **New Routes** to the orphaned and vulnerable in Elgeyo Marakwet County. We have had a great year and we are so excited for what lies ahead. Thank you again to everyone who has walked with us thus far.

**All our love,
New Routes**

FIND OUT MORE

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