

Book Aid International distributes more than 800k books

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New books donated publishers went to communities all round the world



Book Aid International distributed 867,567 new books donated by publishers to communities all around the world in 2020. Among them were 431,000 children's books, 88,000 teen and adult fiction books, and 75,000 medical texts.

The books went to libraries, schools and healthcare providers, as well as to displaced people such as refugees in Greece and escapees from violence in Cameroon. Book Aid's London Book Fair Excellence Award-winning Solar Homework Club was continued in the Kakuma Refugee Camp in Kenya, providing secondary school students with revision guides and solar lamps to enable them to study at night.

George Nandi of Windle International Kenya said: "When schools were closed learning was going on [in Kenya] through radio lessons, but our learners faced challenges in accessing devices such as radios, smart phones and internet bundles. So the teachers issued out books provided by Book Aid International and also solar lamps. They helped the students to continue to study at home."

Doyel Maitra, group communications at Hachette UK, said: "We are proud to continue our partnership with Book Aid International to support its work with communities around the world who struggle to access books. Reading inspires, educates and entertains, and ultimately helps people to change their lives for the better. Last year, Hachette UK donated 43,644 books to Book Aid International and we hope to expand on this in 2021, so we can help to bring the joy and opportunities of books to even more people."

Book Aid International chief executive Alison Tweed said: "2020 was an incredibly challenging year, and we have been overwhelmed by the generosity of our supporters. We know that many publishers faced uncertainty over this last year, yet their book donations to our charity never wavered - and it was only through that support that we were able to keep providing books around the world. I would like to thank each and every organisation that chose to support our charity in 2020 - and invite them to join us as we look to 2021 and beyond."



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Companies interested in supporting Book Aid International's work in 2021 should contact operations manager Harry Boughton: Harry.Boughton@bookaid.org.

Pictured: Children in Ghana reading donated books (Rotary Club and Rainbow Trust Foundation)

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