

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE:

2014-2015 has been an interesting and busy year for MACS. Sadly our Patron, Donald Arden, died in July. His memorial service in Romsey celebrated his extraordinarily full life. The Memorial Fund in his name will fund the three year training of one new ordinand each year at the Zomba Leonard Kamungu Theological College for 7 years.

In Malawi our representative, Grafiud Tione, is kept busy. Over time he has been taking on a more hands on role, being involved in the tendering processes and allocation of contracts on the larger building projects. He spends a considerable amount of time sourcing items and delivering them as well as inspecting buildings and receipts to ensure high standards of work and transparency. His regular contact with our Projects officer, Eileen Eggington, and his reports to trustees keep us well informed and confident that funds approved are well spent.

During the year trustees have approved grants totalling £206,294 for new projects; more than 40 applications were received during the year and 25 were eventually approved. 26 projects were completed while 15 are still in progress and being monitored by Grafiud Tione and Eileen Eggington, helped by Susannah Woodd on medical projects and Jane Arden and Sally Huband on checking building regulations and details.

Some major successes in the last year have been the construction of a hostel for 20 partially-sighted boys at Nkope, the completion of the Maternity ward at Nkasala, and our 21 for 21 appeal launched at the last annual meeting for upgrading the water supply at Nkope. This latter project has been extended in its scope and thanks to the generous donations given by our supporters as well as from the White Feather Foundation, the Health Centre, the secondary school, the primary school and the unit for blind and partially sighted children as well as staff housing will benefit from a reliable and clean source of water pumped from the lake.

When heavy rains brought disastrous flooding to areas of Malawi we were able to respond in three ways. Firstly, with an immediate grant of £4000 to the Diocese of Upper Shire for emergency rations. Secondly by launching an appeal for funds to help the reconstruction necessary in the aftermath of the flooding. Thirdly, in March we sent £3000 to the Diocese of Southern Malawi to help 578 displaced households. Thanks to the generosity of our supporters, funds are available for more applications coming in as a direct result of the floods.

Our sponsorship of students in secondary schools has run smoothly and has been extended to help extra students through funding coming directly from Bishop Ramsey High School in the UK.

In addition we have an on-going list of approximately 15 smaller projects such as the distribution of Gift List items. This is administered, in the main, by Richard Barton and Grafiud Tione.

Supporters have been kept informed of major projects and progress through our two newsletters, prepared by Annie Barton Hodges. These went out in August 2014 and February 2015. The new website went live in February and, along with Facebook and Twitter posts these have updated supporters. We are grateful to supporters who now receive communications from by e-mail, thus reducing our postage costs.

THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES has met seven times during the year. Brian Griffin, who worked in education in Malawi, joined the trustees.

Parish and Diocesan Support: £49,316

Requests for help with funding the completion of church buildings continue to be submitted. Requests for part-funding for training are also considered favourably. Examples of such work are:

- Mothers' Union house refurbishment in Likwenu parish.
- Provision of bicycles for 8 ordinands and training in maintenance.
- Roofing of St Mary's church, Namalomba
- Roofing of St Mary's church, Golomoti.

Health: £58,126

MACS continues to support building, training and supplying specific items:

- Nurses' fob watches and blood-pressure monitors
- Ophthalmic surgical training
- Renovation of nurses' hostel at St Luke's hospital
- Construction of maternity ward at Nkasala, generously funded by St Luke's, Watford and St Lawrence Abbots Langley.
- Construction of Maternal waiting home, kitchen and latrines at Lulanga.
- Renovation of Kapiri health centre OPD and labour ward
- Training of traditional chiefs and church leaders in safer sex and HIV

Education £82,011

- Bursary schemes for young people at both St Michael's and Malosa Secondary School continue to be well monitored with reports coming from the schools on a termly basis. The Archbishop Donald Arden Bursary for the education of children of priests continues with additional students each year. The Bishop Ramsey high School now funds an additional 4 students per year. Tony Cox is the link for all current bursary matters. Brian Griffin is investigating other channels for funding learners at Community Day Secondary schools.
- Other useful items from the Gift List, coordinated by Richard Barton, include dictionaries (£500's worth) and text books (£2,500's worth) which Grafiud purchases as they are available and distributes appropriately.
- Refurbishment of classrooms at Nkope Primary school.
- School classroom blocks at Mkanda and Chimera Primary schools.
- Linga Primary school teacher's houses (funded by Birmingham Diocese).
- Building a kitchen for girls at Mpondas Community Day Secondary School.

Community £10,138

- Support with training women at Chilema on the women's programme.
- The provision of bicycle ambulances to villages
- Peer education training for youth clubs in the area around Malosa.

Miscellaneous £6,703

- for MKate Wa Moyo.

FUNDRAISING: Funds are raised by individuals and by various groups such as schools and congregations. Following talks by trustees, many groups undertake to support specific projects. The Fund-raising sub-committee takes the lead in communicating information to all our supporters. Some ways in which fundraising has been on-going are through the following initiatives:

- **Gift List:** MACS once again produced its annual Gift List of alternative presents. This raised a total of £6,537

- **Facebook and Twitter:** regular updates to these accounts keep our members informed of current issues and successes.
- **Website:** We are very grateful to Sally Huband and Peter Woodhouse who looked after the website for many years. With help from Paul Hodges, a new website was set up and went live in February. Richard Davies is now the administrator for this. Trustees are very grateful to everyone who supports and promotes the website.

Individuals and churches: we are grateful to individuals who not only raise the profile of MACS but also raise funds through such activities as cycling, running and singing and giving talks. The Iford Group of churches near Lewes continue to support training work at Chilema.

We remain indebted to all MACS supporters, be they individuals, churches, schools or other groups for their interest and for their financial and prayerful support. Together with the people of Malawi we are working towards a better future.