



MALAWI ASSOCIATION for CHRISTIAN SUPPORT

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Registered Charity No1 O25616

Annual Report April 1st 2010 – March 31st 2011

Patron	Donald Arden
Chairman	Richard Barton
Vice Chair	Anthea Griggs
Treasurer	Colin Gardner
Secretary	Sally Huband
Project Officer	Eileen Eggington
Jane Arden	Newsletter and Supporters
Bridget le Huray	Medical Projects
Rachel Eaton	Fundraising
Christine Matthews	
Tony Cox	Bursaries
Julie Lupton	Co-opted March 2011
Richard Davies	Co-opted April 2011
Malawian Representative	Grafiud Tione
Website Co-ordinator	Peter Woodhouse.

Introduction.

MACS has had another busy year. The large projects being funded by the substantial legacy we received are now being finalised. Progress on these is as follows:

- The building of a second girls' hostel at Malosa. There have been ongoing delays with this project due to the departure of the headmaster. However the hostel is now nearing completion and should be ready for students by the September term.



- Upgrading of the water supply at the six institutions at Chilema, Likwenu, Malosa and adjoining villages. One of the tanks was blown off its stand during a storm and has since been replaced. The other tanks have been protected by guard rails. Training in the maintenance has been carried out and a committee with representatives from the institutions manages the scheme. This first stage was completed and handed over in June 2011. There remains the replacement of the main asbestos pipes which will need to be done as soon as there is money available.



- Building of 4 semi-detached houses at St Martin's Hospital Malindi. New contractors had to be found, but at last the houses are completed. Unfortunately they cost more than anticipated due to all the delays and the change in contractors.



- Mosquito nets. Working with the Against Malaria Foundation, MACS was able to purchase 9,400 mosquito nets at cost of £24,500 which were distributed by MACOBO volunteers to 22 different villages prior to the last rainy season. A post distribution survey was carried out in February 2011. Verbal responses from beneficiaries indicated an estimated 95% drop in the number of cases of malaria. We expect that this will have led to a significant decrease in the number of cases admitted to St Luke's Hospital with malaria.



Inflation in Malawi has caused considerable problems. The price of cement has risen from 2650 MK (£11) to 3500MK (£14) a bag. (£7 a bag in the UK) There has also been a steep increase in the cost of fuel, and at times no fuel has been available. Consequently many of our projects have

required additional money to complete and Grafiud Tione has not always been able to travel to view projects at an optimum time. The exchange rate between the Malawi Kwacha and £ sterling has been a little more stable but still causes headaches for both our Treasurer and Malawian representative. Despite these challenges, 32 building projects have been completed during the year. (see attached list at back)

MACS once again produced a Gift List which has raised a total of £10,074 including Gift Aid and this not only solves a problem for some of our supporters on 'what to give at Christmas and anniversaries', but also gives us very welcome additional funds. It is now possible for donors to contribute directly by Paypal, using the website.

The working party of 2010 led by Bazil Arden, raised a marvellous £6165. There were 11 travellers ranging in age from 14 to 83, and a report of their trip has been on the Website and also in the January newsletter.

A special fund has been set up to provide a Bursary for clergy children. This money was donated by supporters to celebrate the 70th anniversary of the ordination of Archbishop Donald Arden. Trustees hope that this scheme will commence in September 2011

The Board of Trustees has met 6 times during the year. We are pleased to have co-opted two new trustees since the last Annual General Meeting. Julie Lupton and Richard Davies, both of whom have spent a considerable amount of time living and working in Malawi. Tony Cox has taken over the management of the bursaries and has achieved much better feedback on the students we support at both St Michael's Malindi and Malosa Secondary School. Peter Woodhouse is now managing the website and it is now much more interesting and informative. If you haven't looked at it recently, we hope you will take another look and make this a regular habit as it changes regularly.
www.malawimacs.org

Projects. A total amount of £138,939 has been allocated to Projects during the year. Some of the money remains in this country until needed in Malawi to overcome the problems of a constantly changing Exchange Rate.

Parish and Diocesan Support. £21,043

10 churches have received money, either to complete building work or to make repairs to already existing churches. Those who have previously visited Nkope will be delighted to hear that the Priest's house there has at last been completed to a high standard and is now occupied. Funding was also given to the Diocese of Lake Malawi to enable them to run a conference following the appointment of the Bishop Francis Kaulanda after a vacancy that lasted almost five years.

Health. £42,779

The major expenditure has been on completing the 4 nurses houses at St Martin's Hospital, Malindi and the cost of the 9,400 mosquito nets. MACS agreed to sponsor 3 student nurses at St Luke's hospital as the Government withdrew funding for the first year. At the end of the first year, funding was resumed but MACS has continued to make up the shortfall for these students. Unfortunately Government funding has been withdrawn again and the students sent home. MACS is committed to continue funding these 3 students as soon as their training is able to be restarted. Money has also been given for training Home Care volunteers and patient attendants in hospital. With an acute shortage of nurses in the country, volunteers who can visit people at home or help care for patients in hospital are a vital component of caring for the sick. Funding has also been given to run a Mental Health Training course and a course on caring for disabled children. Support has also been given to the Nutrition gardens at St Luke's and a refresher course for Maintenance workers. The latter has been much appreciated and should save money in the future by helping to keep vital equipment and

services in good order. The sponsor a bed scheme has enabled £3355 to be sent, the money being split between St Martin's Malindi and St Luke's Hospital.

Education. £59,624

Because of the delays in the building of the hostel at Malosa Secondary School, MACS allocated an additional £12,000 to this project. Teacher's houses in rural areas are always in demand and many are in poor condition. A total of 8 houses have either been built or repaired during the year. Money has also been allocated to build a laboratory at Nkhotakota secondary school. MACS has previously given money for 2 double classrooms at the school and a laboratory is needed to bring the school up to government recommended standards. Schools have also been given money either to build new classrooms or repair old ones. The money from the gift list has enabled us to send money to buy desks and text books at some of the poorest schools, but there is always a need for more. The bursary scheme continues and 14 students at Malosa co-educational secondary school and 14 at St Michael's girls' school Malindi are benefiting from the scheme.

Community and Training. £10,266

Agnes Mkocho who was for many years the Worker of the Mothers' Union in the Diocese of Upper Shire was sent a small amount of money to run a health and sanitation workshop in her village for the women there. Money has also been sent to MACOBO the organisation that distributed the mosquito nets and educated the villagers in their use. They were in great need of more bicycles to enable their volunteers to carry out the project and MACS supplied them with special T shirts as a mark of appreciation for the successful completion of a huge project which has benefited at least 19,000 people. Money has also been sent to support 5 Anglican women from the rural areas so that they could attend a course at Chilema. The 6 month course covers a variety of subjects such as nutrition, hygiene and child care. On completion, the women are able to return to their homes and teach others the skills that they have learnt.

Miscellaneous. £5,226

A church in the UK St Chads has raised money for several years to support orphan children. The project is called Mkate wa Moyo and a total of £3386 has been raised and sent over the past year. Money has also been sent to the Orphan Care Group at Malindi.

Once again we are indebted to all our supporters, not only for their financial help, but for their interest, their hard work and ingenuity in raising money, their concern and their prayers. Without all of you, MACS would not be able to continue to help the people in Malawi.

Completed building projects. April 1st 2010 – March 31st 2011

1. Mtsiro Primary School teacher's house
2. St Martin's Malindi Secondary Day School teacher's house
3. St Martin's Malindi staff house re-roofing
4. St Michael's Malindi school water pump
5. 2 laptops, a printer and scanner for DUS Headquarters
6. Chankhungu Orphan Care block
7. Kayoyo Primary School teacher's house
8. Chikusa Primary School double classroom block
9. 5 single chalets at Chilema Ecumenical Lay Training Centre
10. Training course for Sunday School teachers
11. Funding of five Anglican women on 6-months Vocational Training Course
12. St Theresa's Church Dambolawana roofing, flooring and plastering
13. St Luke's Chamalala church building
14. Matamangwe renovation of priest's house
15. St Peter's Church Naminete roof, windows, doors and plastering
16. Chambawala priest's house
17. Nkope Community Day Secondary School electrification programme
18. St Martin's Malindi staff house re-roofing
19. Nkope Blind School electrification of Specialist teacher's house
20. Likwenu Primary School renovation programme of five teachers' houses
21. Kayoyo Parish roofing of five churches
22. St Francis Church Bala re-roofing of worn asbestos roof
23. Nkope priest's house
24. St Joseph's Church Chisanja rehabilitation and extension
25. Chimera Primary School double classroom block
26. Kaphiridzinja Diocesan Cottage cook's house re-roofing and refurbishment
27. Msalabani Primary School refurbishment of 4-classroom block
28. Magomero Memorial Church partial re-roofing
29. Bishop Josia Mtekateka Secondary School Nkhotakota double classroom block
30. M'Manga Church flooring and plastering
31. St Paul's Chizuula church building
32. Ulande Primary School renovation of teacher's house