



MALAWI ASSOCIATION for CHRISTIAN SUPPORT

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Registered Charity No I O 25616

Patron: Bishop Donald Arden CBE

Annual Report 2004/2005

Trustees

Chairman	Saddie Munthali
Treasurer	Roger Flambert
Projects Officer	Margaret Parr
Secretary	Sally Huband
Supporter's sec	Margaret Brewster
Publicity and Liaison HIV/AIDS	Jane Arden
Website Co ordinator	Andrew Bell
Other Trustees	Geoff Stone
	Guy Smith
	Diana Moore
	Anthea Griggs

Malawian Helpers

Mr Grafiud Tione
Bridget Le Huray

Introduction

MACS has had another successful year as can be seen from the financial report which is attached. There has been a significant increase in income, due to 3 main factors. We were the beneficiaries of a large legacy; we had an anonymous donation of £20,000 and also applied to Aspect Capital for funds. As you will see our income for 2004/2005 was nearly ¼ million pounds. It is worth noting that this year the total MACS funds since we started have reached over a million pounds. Over £156,000 was spent in Malawi during the year. However a considerable amount of money was still held in the UK account at the end of the year. This money was given for specific projects, including the building of hostels at Malosa secondary school, an ambulance for St Luke's and the building of a labour ward at Matope Health Centre. Since the end of the financial year a large proportion of this money has been sent out to Malawi.

The Board of Trustees has met approximately every 2 months throughout the year. Margaret Parr, our Projects officer visited Malawi last September and was able to see many of the projects we have supported and maintain contacts with people in Malawi to ensure that we continue to meet their needs as best we can. It has been apparent for some time that even though Margaret visits annually we needed someone in Malawi who could visit projects on a more regular basis and improve communication between the trustees and the local people. Accordingly in January Mr Grafiud Tione, who has helped us with the control and distribution of funds in Malawi for many years, was appointed as a part time local representative. Already this has proved extremely helpful. The trustees get regular feedback and the people in Malawi have a contact in the country who speaks their language. It does mean an increase in our administration costs, but the trustees feel this is money well spent.

3 of our current trustees will not be standing for re election this time. Andrew Bell and Diana Moore are now proud parents of Iona and as they live in Exeter, travelling to London for meetings is no longer feasible. We are delighted that Andrew will continue to manage the website for us and Diana to deal with any enquiries that arise from it. We are most grateful for their input over the years. Guy Smith has gone to Petersburg for a year's locum, so is standing down for this year, we hope he may be able to rejoin us next year. All other trustees are willing to stand for re election.

Projects

Over the year, the following range of projects have been supported.

Churches and clergy houses (£21,011).

Requests for repairing churches and building new ones is never ending as congregations expand. Since there are so many appeals for other needs, trustees now try to limit support to no more than one church from each diocese at each meeting. These have been prioritised by the bishops. The demand for clergy houses is also infinite and we have to try to be fair and respond to those whose need is greatest.

Education (£55,103)

£30,000 of this went to the building hostels at Malosa secondary school. The old ones, high up on Malosa mountain were in danger of slipping into a ravine and also open to interference from local wood gatherers, so the need was urgent. Money has also been

sent for bursaries for pupils at St Michael's, Malosa and Community Secondary Schools. Too often students have to leave because their families can no longer afford the fees, so we are now supporting students on a regular basis. The donation that MACS sends, together with a bursary grant from USPG, makes it possible to support 40 students at both St Michael's and Malosa and in the region of 15-25 in the community secondary schools. £2000 was sent during the year and a further £2000 in April. Trustees have decided that we will send out £1500 each term and the schools will work out how many students this will support. We have also sent money for classrooms at Mpondas, Lubagha, Mtengeza and Chilumba. Smaller amounts have gone for repairs to schools and to teachers' houses.

Health (£44,765)

We continue to support St Luke's hospital and St Anne's Nkhotakota on a regular basis. £5,000 went towards a new staff house at St Martin's, Malindi and £1,538 for mattresses. £2430 went to health centres at St Anne's. Money has gone to build a new labour ward at Matope Health centre and to Likoma. We also sent £5000 for an ambulance boat. This is based at Chizumulu health centre and can be used to take serious cases to the hospital on Likoma island. £20,000 has gone to buy a new ambulance at St Luke's. We have also funded a mobile nursing library supplied by the International Council of Nurses for the nursing school at St Luke's.

AIDS/Orphan care (£10,310)

The problems with AIDS and increasing number of orphans persist. The introduction of Anti retroviral drugs is welcomed but only reaches a small proportion of those affected. With an increasing awareness of the problems of Africa and global initiatives, hopefully more people will be able to be treated. The disease continues to decimate the teaching and medical professions and more die than can be trained. MACS has continued to support orphans at St Luke's, Malindi, Lisule, Chilipa and Ntcheu. We have also funded educational courses when requested from Malawi, and funded booklets for schools provided by Macmillan.

Miscellaneous (£11,145)

Other projects supported include various self help and income generating projects. We have supported the building of a library in a rural area at Chikwawa in the Southern area and also the installing and repair of bore holes.

We do thank all our donors most earnestly. Without your support and prayers we could do nothing. We hope that the work of MACS will continue to expand and we will be able to meet more of the needs of the people of Malawi. On their behalf we thank you all.