

Report of the trustees for the year ended 31st March 2018.

Achievements and performance.

A Governance:

1. Meetings: Trustees met seven times during the year, here at St Saviour's Church. On six occasions trustees met to monitor projects, allocate funds, approve new projects etc. The seventh meeting was for our AGM and Annual Supporters' Day on September 23rd 2017.

2. Trustees: Margaret Campbell has joined the trustee board and has taken on the responsibility for communications with supporters and Safeguarding. Martin Herrick has come on board with a wealth of knowledge on matters medical and has been working with Gillian Barber and others to draw up the plans for the big new Operating Theatre project at St Luke's, Malosa. We are delighted to have both of these very able people working with us. We are currently looking for one more trustee and have identified the need for fundraising skills as a major focus for this person to broaden the range of skills within the board of trustees.

3. Communications with supporters: Once again two excellent newsletters have gone out in August and February, informing supporters of developments and progress and highlighting some major areas of achievement. Margaret Campbell produced these very ably. Margaret has also taken on Facebook and Twitter, through which supporters can be kept up to date with any major developments between newsletters.

4. GDPR compliance: We continue to maintain a list of all supporters and those who receive publications either by email or post. During the year we updated our Privacy policy and, in order to comply with the new GDPR requirements, we undertook a major exercise contacting all supporters inviting them to opt in to receive MACS newsletters, Gift Lists and occasional news via post or email. This has resulted in our supporter base appearing to shrink significantly but all charities undertaking this exercise have experienced similar shrinkage.

5. Safeguarding: In line with Charity Commission requirements, trustees have drawn up and adopted Safeguarding policies and procedures for Trustees and for our Malawi representative. All trustees visiting Malawi are now required to have a Disclosure and Barring certificate as well as safeguarding references. Margaret Campbell has taken on the role of Safeguarding Trustee. Jointly with the wider Anglican Communion we are going to encourage the church in Malawi to introduce more robust Safeguarding practices. In recent meetings in Malawi the Rev John Kafwanka, Director for Mission in the Anglican Communion, emphasised to all the Bishops the importance of getting up to speed on the requirements for safeguarding children and vulnerable adults, not least because the UK Charity Commission's ruling that all relevant UK charities must ensure that proper safeguarding procedures are in place with all partners at home and overseas. There is still a way to go with this matter but we are all moving in the right direction. We have been pleased to note that some contractors carrying out building work in Malawi are now including safeguarding clauses in contracts. This was noted recently with builders working for MACS at St Michael's Girls School in Malindi.

6. Remuneration of trustees' expenses: During the year a decision was taken to address the remuneration of trustees. It was felt that trustees give freely of their time but that no one should be put off becoming a trustee because of the cost of travel into London seven times a year. It was therefore agreed that trustees can claim for travel to attend meetings. Furthermore a grant of up to

£750 will be made to each new trustee towards a familiarisation visit to Malawi within the first three years of trusteeship. Other trustees who have not claimed within the previous four years will also be entitled to a grant to visit Malawi on MACS business. No more than two of these grants will be paid in any single financial year. Details of such claims are included in the financial report.

B Projects

- 1. Applications:** During the year a total of **£172,737** has been granted to new projects. There have been fewer applications for projects in the past year but those received have been of an increasingly complex nature and take enormous amounts of time and effort to get ready for presentation to trustees and even more work and cooperation to get documents ready for the tendering process in Malawi. By the end of March 2018 23 new projects had been approved. 15 projects were completed during the year and a further 18 projects were on-going or in the pipeline at the end of March 2018.
- 2. Support for:**
 - (a) Strategic planning:** trustees have been particularly keen in supporting the carrying out of strategic reviews for the hospitals and health centres in Malawi. These, once complete, will help everyone to agree where money can be most effectively and appropriately spent to enhance the services being offered.
 - (b) Internal auditing:** A programme jointly funded with USPG and the Diocese of Birmingham has been funding internal audits in Diocesan institutions. This programme has been welcomed by the institutions taking part and will continue into 2018-19 with local institutions now paying towards this as well.
- 3. Monitoring:**
 - (a) MACS Representative:** In Malawi our representative, Grafiud Tione, has worked throughout the year facilitating the smooth running of projects, disbursing funds, checking on progress, giving advice locally and advising trustees. Grafiud helps individual schools, groups to open accounts and to manage funds donated by MACS for particular projects and trustees are confident that every attempt is made to ensure funds are spent appropriately. Grafiud's expenses are reviewed and adjusted annually in March.
 - (b) Expert advice:** MACS has continued to make use of local Malawian professionals working alongside Grafiud in assessing potential projects, drawing up costed plans, tender documents and in monitoring work. Such partnerships are very helpful and the additional professional backing assures trustees in the UK and our overseas partners of the quality and sustainability of the work carried out in Malawi.
 - (c) 2017 Project Officer's annual trip:** In May 2017 Colin Gardner undertook the Annual Project Officer's trip as Eileen, the Project Officer, was leading a MACS trip with trustee Brian Griffin in July. Colin was accompanied by Tony Cable, who was undertaking a familiarisation trip. The trip enabled them to follow up some of the trustees' queries regarding various projects, to continue to make good contacts with various partners in Malawi and to come back with a better overall and up to date picture of what is going on.

4. Health £63,269

MACS continues to consider a wide range of requests including new buildings, renovations, help with electricity and water, training and financial management.

Examples of such are:

- The Medical Assistant at Nkaskala has a new house while two other staff members will soon be living in newly renovated houses. .
- Patients and domestic staff at St Martin's Hospital, Malindi, will soon enjoy a long awaited new washing machine for the hospital laundry.
- Nurses benefit from new BP monitors and watches, funded from Gift List donations.
- Patients enjoy new beds and fresh bedding, thanks to Gift List donations.

5. Education £67,173

- Students at Nkhanda Primary school in Likhubula Parish are looking forward to learning in three refurbished classrooms.
- Pupils will enjoy a new learning environment in a double classroom block at St Francis' Parish, Kasungu.
- Girls at St Michael's Girls' Secondary, Malindi, should be able to move back into a renovated hostel in the new academic year, following subsidence rendering the hostel unusable.
- Many young learners benefit from the distribution of additional text books to various schools from Gift List funds.
- Teachers' working conditions are improved with the production of teachers' desks, chairs and easels from Gift List funds.

6. Parish and Diocesan Support £23,983

Examples of grants made within the last year are

- The parishioners at St Philip's Likhubula have received funding for the roof of the clergy house they are currently building.
- The congregation at Holy Spirit church in Matope Parish will soon have a roof on their church.
- The Priest at Magomero will have a ceiling in his house, making it cooler and more sound-proof.

7. Community and Training £13,605

- 10 Anglican women are supported on the Chilema Training Course once a year.
- The course tutors at Chilema continue to get support from the Iford Group of churches who regularly provide funds for materials as well as practical materials.
- People in various institutions and houses at Chinwenya in Namwera Parish will have access to electricity once ESCOM connect them to the grid.
- Students, staff and local people benefit from a borehole installed at Bishop Mtekateka School.
- The villagers at Holy Cross, Jali, are happy with their renovated borehole.
- The new ordinands at Leonard Kamungu Theological Training Centre receive new bicycles and a training course in maintenance to help them in their parishes.
- Orphans at Chankhungu Orphan Centre get extra funds.
- People in the rural areas benefit from the MACOBO hen pass-on scheme.

8. Miscellaneous £4,709

- For MKate wa Moyo, orphan support programme funded by St Chad's Church, Sutton Coldfield.

C. Fundraising

We are grateful to all our supporters who raise funds and show interest and support throughout the year.

The MACS trip in July 2017 gave supporters an insight into the work of MACS, affording them the opportunity to work in partnership with Naturally Africa volunteers in and around Nkope as well as having the chance to gain some understanding of the country itself. This trip raised **£7,749** towards specific projects in Malawi.

The annual gift list raised **£9,384** this year. Colin Gardner has taken over monitoring the use of the non-medical funds. Gillian Barber works with 'gifts' to hospitals and health centres. Examples of the benefits of this list are:

- People in rural communities near Malosa being given a goat as part of the successful goat pass-on scheme
- Teachers and trainers in both schools and at Chilema Lay Training Centre getting materials and equipment to help with passing on skills
- Clinic staff, teachers and clergy benefit from the provision of solar lamps in rural areas.

D. Our Supporters

We remain indebted to all MACS supporters, be they individuals, churches, schools or other groups of people. Your financial as well as your prayerful support are greatly appreciated. Together with the people of Malawi, we are working towards a better future.

Julie Lupton

Secretary.