

# **MALAWI ASSOCIATION *for* CHRISTIAN SUPPORT**

[www.malawimacs.org](http://www.malawimacs.org)  
Registered Charity No 1025616

**Annual Report April 1<sup>st</sup> 2011 – March 31<sup>st</sup> 2012**

**PATRON**

Bishop Donald Arden

**TRUSTEES:**

**Chairman**

Richard Barton

**Vice Chair**

Anthea Griggs

**Treasurer**

Colin Gardner

**Secretary**

Sally Huband/ Julie Lupton

**Project Officer**

Eileen Eggington

**Jane Arden**

Newsletter and Supporters

**Bridget le Huray**

Medical Projects

**Rachel Eaton**

Fundraising

**Christine Matthews**

**Tony Cox**

Bursaries

**Richard Davies**

Co-opted April 2011

**MALAWIAN REPRESENTATIVE:**

Grafiud Tione

**WEBSITE COORDINATOR:**

Peter Woodhouse.

**ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE:**

During the past year, 2011-2012, the volatile and changing political and economic situation in Malawi has proved challenging. This situation led to the cancellation of plans for the 2012 Group Visit. The regular fuel shortages made life difficult for Grafiud Tione, our Malawian representative. However, whenever he managed to find fuel, he carried out supervision of on-going projects. Despite such problems, our project officer was able to carry out her annual visit in July 2011 and in October 2011 Richard Barton and Eileen Eggington were able to travel to Malawi to represent MACS in the 150th Celebrations of the Anglican Church at Magomero. 2011-12 has been a productive year for MACS and we have seen some good progress with 22 projects signed off as complete, 24 new projects undertaken, and numerous long-term projects still on-going.

The problems did not prevent the 2011 Fund-raising Group Visit going ahead. The group project involved the redecoration of the Special Needs Teacher's house and the replacement of mosquito gauze on nurses' houses at Nkope Health Centre. Many items were purchased to improve the students' quality of life. These included Rocket stoves and educational materials. The trip participants became closely involved in the unrest in Zomba and were most grateful to Grafiud for his help and support at that time.

**THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES** has met seven times during the year. Richard Davies, appointed 13th April 2011, brings with him useful IT skills and he has taken an active role in the areas of fund-raising and the website. Sally Huband was unwell for some months and Julie Lupton stepped in to be secretary from September 2011. Sally has continued both as a Trustee and also works with Peter Woodhouse on the website.

**PROJECTS:** a total amount of **£114758** has been allocated to projects during the year. The fluctuating exchange rate, coupled with high inflation, have provided our treasurer with some challenges. All project proposals placed before Trustees are carefully considered. Once again we have undertaken a wide variety of projects.

#### **Parish and Diocesan Support: £32374**

Trustees have supported a mixture of building and renovation of churches and priests' houses as well as enabling some worthwhile training courses and planning courses to take place.

- We have been able to support eight churches with building projects, including St Michael's Nembere, Chididi Church in Kayoyo and Buzi Church. Help with the cost of roofing remains the most frequent request.
- Training courses have been supported with, among others, part-funding for ten Anglican students on the Chilema Women's Vocational course; a Mothers' Union leadership training course in DLM and a three day Strategic planning workshop for Clergy at Nkhokotakota.

#### **Health: £20368**

Trustees have been able to help with a combination of support for building and upgrading hospital staff housing, training of both hospital staff and people in the wider community as well as providing specific items requested.

- a 4 day Youth conference on AIDS for up to 1000 young people took place at Nkhokotakota Lay Training Centre.
- In outreach areas of Mposa, MACS funded a programme of training to volunteers and supervisors for Family Planning sensitization. It is hoped this will help to reduce teenage pregnancy in a predominantly Muslim area.

- Support has been given to nurses in training in the form of fees, uniforms and hepatitis B inoculations. Houses for four nurses at St Martin's Hospital have been built. Renovations have been carried out at St Luke's.
- Help has been given with electrification and metering to staff houses at Mposa.
- Following a fire at the clinical officer's house at St Luke's, we were able to pay for the repair and renovation of the house.
- MACS also joined up with WORKAID, a charity that refurbishes tools and equipment for vocational training centres. Acting as their partner in Malawi, MACS was able to fund the transportation of a container of equipment to the Orphan Vocational skills training centre at St Luke's.
- The Sponsor a Bed scheme has raised £856 with the money split between St Martin's and St Luke's Hospitals.

### **Education £31723**

- Teachers' housing continues to be a priority, either the construction of new housing or renovation of existing houses. We have helped with, among others, housing at Malomolo, Mpinganjira
- Requests for classroom blocks have also been met. The building of a double classroom at Chombo School was agreed. The laboratory at Nkhotakota is still under construction. Costs have risen and trustees have made an additional grant to help complete this project.
- There has been continued support for Nkope Blind School with the provision of braille machines and other educational resources. The kitchen was renovated and rocket stoves provided.
- A major project for the future is the provision of two new hostels at Nkope for boys and girls.
- Bursary schemes for young people at both St Michael's and Malosa Secondary School are now being well monitored with reports coming from the schools on a termly basis. We support 15 pupils at each school, including one at each school being supported by the Archbishop Donald Arden Bursary for the education of children of priests. Fees have risen during the past year, making it increasingly difficult for parents to afford secondary education.

### **Community and Training £24270**

- A practical training workshop on Permaculture was carried out to coincide with the launch of the handbook "More and Better Food."
- A tree nursery workshop also took place in Blantyre.
- At Malosa, the water project has moved forward and trustees agreed to the replacement of the old main water pipe in order to reduce leakages. Jane Arden is helping the local management team to follow set procedures for payment and maintenance.
- On-going support has been given to Nkope Blind School. Phase One of the Nkope Water project was completed with the improvement of water pressure to the priest's house and the existing hostel. This was done following recommendations carried out after a Professional Water Survey was undertaken looking at the supply to the whole mission station.

### **Miscellaneous £6023**

- For some years MACS has ensured that funds raised by St Chad's Church were transferred to an orphan project called Mkata wa Moyo. This year £4555 was sent out to that project.
- Similarly a Sheffield church supported Mitengwe School teachers' salaries with £1195.

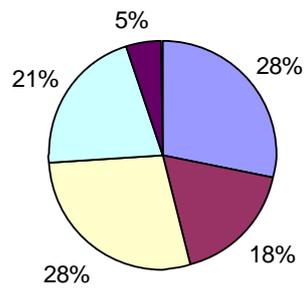
**FUNDRAISING:** Funds are raised by individuals and by various groups such as schools and congregations. Following talks by trustees, many groups undertake to support specific projects. Trustees have formed a Fund-raising sub-committee to look at ways of improving our fundraising. Some ways in which 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 £9005.00.
- **Facebook and Twitter:** with the help of Annie Barton Hodges, a supporter who went on the 2011 Trip, MACS moved forward into the world of Facebook and Twitter. This up to date method of maintaining a high profile has proved to be very successful.
- **Website:** this is continually being updated with project information as well as fundraising news. We are most grateful to Sally Huband and Peter Woodhouse for their work on this.
- **Individuals and churches:** various appeals have been met by specific churches such as the Haslingfield and the Eversdens Group's on-going support for work at Magomero.
- **GRAFIUD TIONE'S UK VISIT:** this visit proved a great success. Grafiud joined us at the 2011 AGM and shared his experiences with everyone. He then accompanied trustees and spoke at the following:  
 Junior King's School, Canterbury,  
 Lydden Primary School,  
 Canterbury Cathedral Fellowship,  
 The Fund-raising committee, All Saints', Blackheath  
 Parish of Kingston Bagpuize with Southmoor  
 Aylesbury Grammar school  
 Tenterden Homewood Secondary School  
 United Benefice of Kingston, Rodmell, Iford and Southease churches  
 Ditchling Church  
 Plumpton Primary school

Trustees believe the cost of Grafiud's travel was a well-justified expense. Without doubt, being able to introduce Grafiud to our supporters boosted their enthusiasm and support for MACS.

We remain indebted to all MACS supporters for their interest and for their financial and prayerful support. Together we are all working towards creating a better future for the people of Malawi.

**Grants Allocated in 2011/12 - Total £114,758**



■	Parish and Diocesan Support	£32,374
■	Health	£20,368
■	Education	£31,723
■	Community and Training	£24,270
■	Miscellaneous	£6,023