

# BOAT COMMITTEE

May 2017 to May 2018

<b>Chair</b>	Anna Lucas	<i>Chairman's Report</i>
<b>Secretary</b>	Rene Banares-Alcantara	<i>Ethiopia</i>
<b>Treasurer</b>	John Thanassoulis	<i>Treasurer's Report</i>
<b>Asst Treasurer</b>	Filomena Nave	<i>Regular Donations &amp; Brazil</i>
<b>Voting</b>	Lucy Carpenter	<i>Cameroon</i>
	Mick Conefrey	<i>Zimbabwe (African Mission)</i>
	Jenifer Dye	<i>Tanzania</i>
	Geraldine Johnson	<i>India (Sugandh)</i>
	Ag MacKeith	<i>Nicaragua and Annual Report</i>
	Nicolette Michels	<i>??</i>
	Rosaleen Ockenden	<i>Uganda (Kigumba/Kagadi/Mubende)</i>
<b>Non-voting</b>	Rene Banares-Alcantara	<i>Ethiopia</i>
	Julie Lynch Bridson	<i>Myanmar, Philippines</i>
	Luke Doherty OP	<i>Pakistan</i>
	Domenico Caprotti	<i>Grenada, India (Allipalli)</i>
	Helen Ghosh	<i>Peru (San Benito) and Sri Lanka</i>
	Emerita Pilgrim	<i>Uganda Cancer Trust</i>
	Gayna Wyles	<i>Publicity and Design</i>

*Italics indicate the project for which members are responsible.*

**Of course everyone in the 9.30 congregation has a part to play in keeping  
BOAT's large fleet of projects afloat. We are very grateful  
for the generous response to our appeals for help, and for the initiative,  
skill and hard work used to raise funds in so many ways**

## CHAIRMAN'S FOREWORD 2017

Dear Friends of BOAT,

As I look back on 2017, I do so from a very happy vantage point: the pinnacle of camaraderie that was the recent BOAT Mothering Sunday Café! Not only was a wonderful sum raised for the San Benito project in Peru through the collective efforts of cake-makers and cake-eaters; this time, our regular event was made extra special by the heart-warming involvement of the children of the 9.30 Family Mass congregation, who had their own cake stall and who offered beautiful prayers, written by the children of San Benito, during the Mass which preceded the Café. The reigniting of this flame of solidarity between our own children here in Oxford and the children of the San Benito township, over 6,000 miles away, took place in September 2017, with a Children's Mass and a fair to rival the St Giles Fair! Coordinating these children-centred events is no mean feat; thank you to Victoria Tebbs for bringing it all together.

Indeed, involvement of all kinds and from all quarters is one of the things which is absolutely key to BOAT. It is thanks to you and the manifold ways you take loving ownership of BOAT that BOAT can continue to make a difference to the lives of our brothers and sisters whose struggles and achievements you can read about in this report. Your prayers for the people BOAT helps are at the heart of BOAT. Your willingness to lend a hand with moving tables and washing dishes and – in the case of the brethren – to allow an invasion of home and, especially, kitchen, are crucial to the spirit of fellowship which BOAT fosters. Without your enthusiastic presence at Harvest Auctions, Advent Cafés, project presentations, and Lenten talks BOAT would be a soulless enterprise.

BOAT is extraordinarily fortunate to enjoy the support of artists such as Gayna Wiles (whose glorious sunflower display adorns the BOAT noticeboard in the narthex) and Jackie Conway (whose beautiful prints have raised large sums at silent auction); of craftswomen such as Toni Lacey (whose richly patterned hand-knitted blankets are such appreciated fundraisers) and Gill Emerson (whose card-making team, including Anna Baidoun, Yvonne Miskin, Ros Schiffner and Ag MacKeith, turn used cards into fresh and lovely stationery). Moreover, BOAT must be the only charity to count on its own resident comedian: Joshua Dubin, who runs the sales, puts his deadpan delivery to good effect in his advertising of BOAT cards!

BOAT also relies on your contacts and suggestions; thus, in 2017, BOAT adopted two new projects thanks to the recommendations of Maddalena Caprotti and Clare and John Prangley. It was also owing to your heartfelt concern for the people of Iraq that, once more, BOAT made the work of the Dominican Sisters of St Catherine of Siena the focus of its Lenten Appeal. This appeal resulted in the remarkable figure of £12,303 being raised to help the Sisters in their mission to rebuild devastated communities forced to flee the Nineveh Plains as Daesh rampaged through the land. Special thanks to Br Samuel Burke for his exceptional perseverance in establishing good communication with the Sisters in such difficult circumstances and for arranging a secure means of transferring the money raised.

Your financial generosity throughout the year meant that, in 2017, BOAT received £55,876 from donations and events; an increase of £11,613 compared with 2016. Accordingly, in 2018, thanks to you, the size of the grant to each project will be increased to £2,500.

At the end of 2017, we learnt of the death of Susan Marshall. Susan was a devoted and inspiring Catholic, who put her faith into action in so many ways, and was one of our founder members. Susan is greatly missed by the 9.30 Family Mass congregation. We thank her family and friends for the generous collection made at her funeral, in aid of BOAT.

As always, I would like to thank all the Committee; especially, John Thanassoulis who, as Treasurer, continues to manage BOAT's finances so efficiently; also, Filomena Nave whose dedication as Assistant Treasurer has resulted in an impressive Gift Aid claim this year of £7,808. René Bañares-Alcántara has been admirably conscientious in his first year as BOAT Secretary. Thanks are also due to Ag MacKeith for editing the report you see before you, and Adam Hodgkin who has kindly given of his time and expertise in examining our accounts.

### **BOAT's Public Benefit**

All charities, including smaller ones like ours, are required to report on the "public benefit" they bring through their activities, and to describe how they have achieved their objectives.

### **Our purpose**

Under our constitution as a registered charity, the purposes of BOAT are to "provide support for the charitable activities of Christian parishes, organisations or societies, situated or working outside Europe, the United States, Canada, Australia and New Zealand, in (i) the relief of poverty, and (ii) the advancement of education". Everyone attending Mass at Blackfriars or giving to BOAT on a regular basis is regarded as a member of the Trust. The formal Trustees are a committee of ten people, elected each year at our Annual General Meeting. A representative from the Dominican community – Br Samuel Burke up until May 2017, Br Luke Doherty since that date – also sits on the Committee, as a link to the Priory which is home to BOAT.

### **The benefit we bring**

We have paid due regard to the Charity Commission's public benefit guidance. Under our Principles for Giving, updated at our AGM in 2007, we have a very clear set of criteria for the projects we support and for assessing the public benefit that support will bring. On the key principle that we want our funding really to "make a difference" we aim to support relatively small-scale or grass-roots projects with regular grants (£2,100 in 2017). Some funding will be one-off but more often a project will be funded for three years and then considered for renewal on a rolling basis.

All our projects have some link to the 9.30 Family Mass congregation or the Dominican order; although most have Catholic leadership, that is not a requirement, and we don't fund any form of proselytizing. We make sure that there is regular personal contact, partly so that we can identify priorities and needs quickly, but also so that we can help the Congregation's understanding of the challenges in developing countries. We aim to help communities find long-term solutions to their needs, rather than short-term fixes although, from time to time, we do give money to help with emergencies. As you read through this report, you will see that our projects fall broadly into three areas:

**Health:** especially primary health care and preventive medicine;

**Welfare:** especially for children, people with disabilities, refugees, and victims of war or poverty;

**Education:** particularly practical skills, women's education, and the provision of basic educational needs for children.

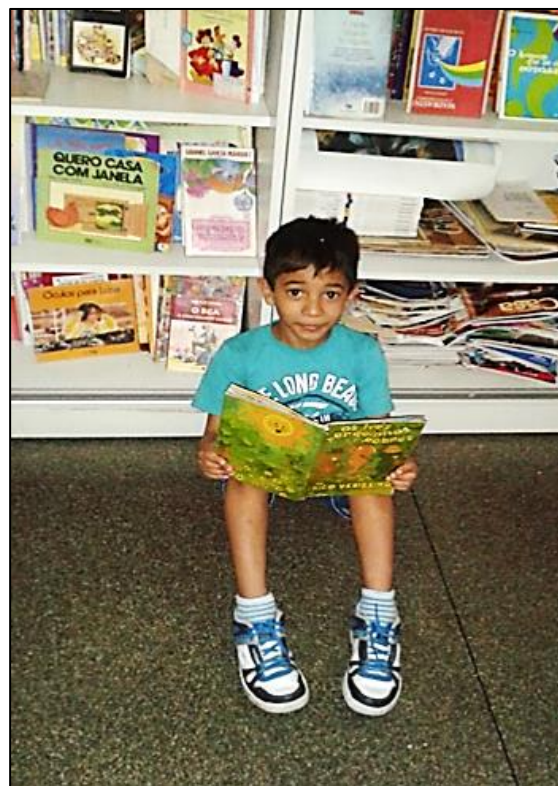
We are always looking for good projects to help on a one-off or regular basis. This is your charity, so please tell us if you know of a project which satisfies BOAT's criteria. And thank you, as always, for the countless ways you demonstrate your support of BOAT

*Anna Lucas.* Chairman

## Brazil

### São Paulo da Cruz, Calvário Church

BOAT has been supporting the Serviço Social e Promocional São Paulo da Cruz (SSPSPC) – a centre for 120 school-aged children and teenagers from low-income families – since 2005. The SSPSPC, based in the premises of the Calvário Church, offers social and educational activities and complements state school education. It helps the parents too, as in the evening the premises are used for adult literacy courses attended by family members. There are regular talks and workshops for the families, who are encouraged to participate in the development of their children. What I find unique about this project is the support it gives to teenagers. It doesn't just keep them off the streets, it gives them skills that will be useful in their adult life. The children who go to this day-centre have a real opportunity to complete school education and to break with poverty. Recently, a few of them have even gone to university. The photo shows a boy having a quiet time after lunch.



In 2017 we have not send a donation because the SSPSPC are changing their bank account, in order to reduce bank charges. Donations will resume once this process has been completed.

*Filomena Nave*

## Cameroon

### ARCH, Dibanda

The Associated Rehabilitation Centre for the Handicapped (ARCH) in Dibanda, South West Cameroon, aims to meet the physical needs of disabled people by providing rehabilitation and support services for them and their families. Since 2005 BOAT has been in regular contact with Sr Leonarda Tubuo, the physiotherapist who manages a team of well-trained health care and other staff there. As well as health carers, ARCH also has a workshop staffed by shoemakers, welders and carpenters. The number of patients receiving care from ARCH continues to grow each year. Many of them are children. More than 2,400 patients were seen at the centre in 2017, the majority receiving around five therapy sessions from the carers.

The stability at ARCH in 2017 was especially good news, as over the past year Cameroon has been suffering from military unrest. As Sr Leonarda writes “here life is different and has been very scary sometimes. We used to pride ourselves in our peaceful country but that is history. There have been some very tense moments, but we in the health service tried to work all



through it. Schools were closed down from November 2016 till September 2017. A few opened in September 2017, but some were burnt and some are still being burnt... A lot of people were stressed up and there is a high level of poverty since small businesses could not operate, meaning that some of our patients had to go home without paying their bills.”

In 2014, BOAT agreed to continue support for ARCH by helping set up its new poultry project. After some initial problems, Sr Leonarda was pleased to send us good overall news about the first trial for the poultry. There was, however, a disappointment in the last batch of chickens.

As a result, she writes “plans are now in place to have the supervision of a veterinarian and a feed producer to make sure we have quality and quantity... Above all, the oil company that tormented us with hopes has finally granted the



**Foundations being laid for the quail farm**

project. We will be having a proper poultry building so we will recommence when the construction is done. By the end of February, things will be in place. We plan on keeping 1000 chicks to begin and 200 quails.”

Sr Leonarda ends her most recent correspondence on a happier note, reporting on a recent party for the children at ARCH.

She writes “While this was supposed to be held last year, we considered that the high amount in tension in town did not agree with merriment.” The photo shows children who have recovered from severe arm paralysis, and celebrates that they can now eat independently.

She also has a message for the BOAT congregation: “You remain in our prayers. I wish you a wonderful Lenten season as you strive to grow closer to Him who loves us and makes us new



at all times. I continue to be grateful for the kindheartedness of Christians in your parish who make dreams in other parts of the world possible.”

*Lucy Carpenter*

# Ethiopia

## Zizencho

This year our report focuses on Zizencho, one of the two schools set up by the Bethany sisters to take in poor children, without distinction of religion or language. Last year our support went to the Lord Jesus Catholic Kindergarten and Elementary school in the village of Zizencho, situated 225 km from Addis Ababa.

The Zizencho school started in 2004, and this past year it had 568 students from kindergarten to Year 8. Eighty per cent of the students come from extremely poor families, and many of them are orphans, living with a single parent or with their grandparents. The school provides free education, school uniforms, stationery, clothes, shoes, and basic medical attention. In some instances the school has even opened bank accounts to send money for food to the families of very poor students. In the picture, a child is showing her new shoes.



School starts at 8.30am and ends at 1pm; some students walk as far as six or seven kilometres to get there. After school some students return home to do their homework but others have to work to provide for their families, carrying water, collecting firewood for the household, feeding the animals (cows, sheep, donkeys, etc) or selling home-produced items, such as eggs, spinach, bread, etc., in the market.

Many students, however, can return to the school in the afternoon to read books in the library or attend special classes. The village has no electricity, so at night children have to do their reading by the light of oil lamps. In the past year 38 students sat the 8th grade Ministry exam and they are waiting for their results. The photo shows an 8th Grade study period.



Sr Prasantha SIC has replaced Sr Surabhila as the new Director of the school. She tells us in her reports that the school is facing many challenges, for example:

- the need to pay extra for teachers to cover special afternoon classes
- lack of resources forcing students to stop their education at 8th grade, when they are capable of progressing further
- the need to support students who excel in extra curricular activities like sports
- most parents have no formal education and some are not aware of the importance of education

The Bethany sisters of the Zizencho community, in the name of the school students and their families, send their greetings and gratitude for the continued good will and constant support from BOAT through the Jean Grove Trust.

*Rene Banares-Alcantara*



# Grenada

## Grand Anse

The School Feeding Programme at the Blessed Sacrament Roman Catholic School in Grand Anse, Grenada, continues to be supported by BOAT. The project aims to provide school meals to impoverished children who unfortunately, all too often, receive their only meal of the day at the school. There are now over 270 children, aged between 5 and 12 years of age, that are fed thanks to this project. In recent years, the project has been trying to expand to provide more than one meal a day, aiming for both breakfast and lunch whenever possible.

Grenada, one of the smallest countries in the Americas, is heavily dependent on tourism and agriculture. It is a popular holiday destination and produces a large array of different spices, from cinnamon to ginger, which is why it is often dubbed the 'Spice Island'. Despite this economic activity, the small island still suffers from a wide wealth disparity, with one third of the population living below the poverty line. It also has the highest unemployment rate in the Caribbean and, at 34%, is second only to Haiti in Central America for this statistic.

The school is located in one of the most impoverished and socially challenged areas of Grenada. Many of the children come from struggling single-parent families who find it difficult to provide nutritious meals. Hence, their children often go hungry to school and have difficulty concentrating in class, often resulting in frequent absenteeism. With increasing crime and drug use in the area, the school has become a safe haven to many of the school-children. The aim of the project, therefore, is two-fold: to provide vital nourishment to the children and to strongly encourage school attendance.

The project tries to make meals as substantial as possible. Typical meals consist of cereals, milk and meat for breakfast and fish, rice and vegetables for lunch. Improvements to the kitchen facilities continue and basic kitchen items are being purchased. Many parents, enthusiastic about the project, have taken to volunteering whenever possible in cooking and serving the meals.



Fr David Sanders, from Blackfriars Priory, has recently visited and reports that all is well. He spoke to the headmaster, who oversees the project and takes a very keen and active interest in ensuring it runs smoothly. Fr David also visited the kitchen and met many of the children, who are very grateful and appreciative of their school meals. BOAT's support helps the school feeding programme to continue to reach out to as many of the school-children as possible. Each meal costs an average of \$1 and our contribution provides vital nutrition to one class for 3 months.

*Domenico Caprotti*

# India

## Allipalli, Andra Pradesh

The medical project in Allipalli, in the region of Andhra Pradesh, India, is a new BOAT project. It started in 2017/2018 after Rachele Riva and Maddalena Caprotti, a member of the 9.30am congregation at Blackfriars, volunteered for three weeks at the Mission that runs an orphanage in this deprived region of India. This was organized by *Operatori di Pace*, a small Italian charity that has had links for decades with Father Maria, the founder of the Mission in Allipalli. The immense impact of Father Maria's work on the children of the orphanage and on the population of the surrounding villages triggered a small BOAT project that aims to respond to one of the most pressing needs of the population, where access to medical treatment is often very difficult: better eyesight.

The Mission was founded in 1992 by Father Maria Joji Rai with just 20 orphaned children. In the last 27 years the orphanage has expanded to take in around 400 boys and 400 girls, who live there permanently. The latter are now looked after by a group of nuns. The children are mostly from the lowest castes in India and the surrounding area is one of great poverty, where the majority of the population earn less than \$1 a day and live in mud huts with no foundations. One of the major aims of the orphanage, other than to provide a safe haven for the children, is to provide primary education and job opportunities through professional formation (such as training for tailors, mechanics, nurses and teachers). To fulfil this purpose, a primary school and professional schools have been added to the orphanage and are open to the children of the wider population. This education and training gives children from the lowest castes the chance to rise above the conditions of great poverty they were born into.

The orphanage is located in a fairly remote area of Andhra Pradesh and medical assistance and hospital facilities are almost a two hour journey away by bus. Access to healthcare, therefore, is nearly non-existent. This BOAT project aims to provide ophthalmological assistance to both the children of the



orphanage and the surrounding 30,000 villagers who live in extreme poverty. Free eye tests are offered to the children and the surrounding population; as well as glasses (mainly for the orphans) and cataract operations to villagers in need. *Operatori di Pace*, located near Milan in Italy, was so impressed by BOAT's assistance that they offered to match BOAT's funding pound for pound. This adds €2700 to the £2500 that BOAT has committed, allowing this medical project to reach out to as many of the local villagers and children as possible.

The funding by BOAT facilitates the transport of medical volunteers to visit the orphanage and attend to the eye care needs of the children and of the surrounding population, as well as to cover the costs of transport, any necessary equipment and hospital stay for eye operations.



Prescription glasses to the local children enable them to pursue their studies and take advantage of the opportunities offered. Cataract operations are provided to the villagers who suffer from the strong sunshine in this area of India. This enables them to keep working and provide for their families.

Medical visits were advertised throughout the local area for the two weeks ahead of the date. Around 2000 people flocked to the orphanage and 700 were seen by the medical professionals. Of these, 250 (mostly children) were given prescription glasses and 250 older villagers were offered cataract operations. The latter were divided into three groups. One group at a time was transported to the nearest hospital, where they were operated on and stayed for two days following the operation. Many of those who benefited from these operations were women, as their difficulties are often ignored or passed over in preference for the main breadwinner of the family.

The Mission of Allipalli, managed by Father Maria, helps restore dignity to people often considered inferior by society as a result of their poverty. This message of brotherhood, love of neighbour and of acceptance, where all the children in the orphanage are equally valued, is in sharp contrast to the prejudice and reduced opportunities that they often experience. It is a wonderful practical example of the Good News of the Gospel in a population where only 2% are Christian. As a consequence the orphanage, and Father Maria in particular, have attracted some hostility from the local authorities where education of the lower castes is not a priority.

BOAT's contribution, combined with that of *Operatori di Pace*, has enabled a larger than anticipated number of children to see properly and to get the most out of school. It has also helped to return the joy of full eyesight to many people who are often ignored or who have little or no access to healthcare. The Mission of Allipalli acts as a centre for help for many of the families in this impoverished area and provides opportunities to the local population in a society where caste-based discrimination perpetuates inferiority and poverty. BOAT hopes to continue supporting this Mission which spreads the Christian message of being loved and valued.

*Domenico Caprotti*

## India

### Sugandh Society

Sugandh is a charity dedicated to supporting marginalised communities in New Delhi, with a particular focus on children's education, empowering women, and helping families and individuals access a wide range of social services. It runs two main centres, one in Madanpur Khadar and the other in Holambi Kalan. Projects include vocational training and self-help groups for women, tutoring and out-of-school enrichment activities for children (the photo on the next page shows them on an outing), and advocacy on behalf of the poor communities the charity serves.

Through its staff and education centres, Sugandh managed in 2017 to enrol 204 children from very deprived communities in local schools. The children it supports have continued to maintain an impressive 100% pass record in their high school exams, which is sadly not the case for other local children, who on the whole have very low pass rates. In 2017, there was

also a marked increase in the number of girls in Sugandh's tutoring programmes, which is a very encouraging sign.

One young woman who benefited directly from Sugandh's tutoring centres was Nirmala, a nineteen-year-old student. After being admitted to a government school, she found that she was having trouble keeping up with her better-educated classmates. Sugandh provided special tutoring to help her catch up and then pass her high school exams. The result is that Nirmala is now in her first year at college. In her own words, 'because of Sugandh I can now do something better with my life.'



Sugandh also reached many hundreds of people through its various outreach, advocacy and training programmes. In 2017, this included over 3600 home visits in which information was shared with members of the local community about registering for government benefits, accessing educational and health entitlements, and seeking advice about issues such as debt and domestic violence. Another ongoing programme organises self-help groups, which boast over 900 members and seek to connect women so that they can pool their savings and then provide loans to one another to undertake essential vocational training or set up their own small businesses.

An example of the very positive impact the self-help groups can have is seen in the case of Kusun, a wife and mother of four children who moved to the Holambi area when the slum her family was living in in Delhi was destroyed about seventeen years ago. Kusun used a Sugandh savings scheme set up through a self-help group to take out a loan for a tea stall and to extend the small shop she runs. These loans have allowed both businesses to be properly established, grow and succeed. They now provide a decent income for Kusun and her family. The photo shows her at her tea stall.



Sugandh's activities also include everything from providing emergency clothing and bedding to a number of families in the Khadar neighbourhood whose homes were destroyed by a fire in 2017, to giving advice and training on the importance of good hygiene and of clean water.

BOAT's support for Sugandh in 2017 directly contributed to, among other things, the salary of one full-time teacher/community worker at the charity's centre in the Madanpur Khadar neighbourhood, a part-time clearer for the centre, vocational training for women in sewing skills along with maintaining the required sewing machines, providing emergency relief after the fire mentioned above and for some basic medical care, and organising special community events and educational visits.

*Geraldine A. Johnson*

# Myanmar

## Living Water Myanmar

This year BOAT began to support Living Water Myanmar, an exciting initiative founded in 2011 by Rosemary Breen, a school friend of Claire Prangley from the 9:30 am Blackfriars' congregation. Living Water Myanmar is a community development project that addresses the severe lack of drinking water for villagers and school communities in the Dry Zone of Myanmar.

Specifically, with the support and labour input from local communities and under the direction a local project coordinator, volunteer Saya Toe, Living Water Myanmar constructs and installs water tanks and piping systems, often on the grounds of local schools. These tanks, which cost approximately US\$2000 each, can transform the lives of local people, who no longer need to travel (in some cases, for many hours) with their bullock or ox-carts in order to collect water from their nearest pond or river.



In January 2017, Rosemary (at her own expense) visited 59 villages that had received water tanks. She also witnessed the 162nd tank being constructed by Living Water Myanmar. She described it as “truly a mini-miracle”, having “seen for myself the difference having clean drinking water makes to the local people”. In January 2018, BOAT funded the 204th water tank (over a newly built bore) and our donation will help to fund a second one. The villagers who benefit from these tanks affix a plaque to each one and in a remote village in Myanmar, the words “Blackfriars Overseas Aid Trust, Oxford U.K.” are inscribed on a 5000 gallon water tank. This plaque is not simply an acknowledgement of our contribution and a means to say thank you. More importantly, it connects us to people we will likely never meet. As Rosemary explains “these plaques were not my idea but the people said they liked to think people in the wider world were thinking of them.”

*Julie Lynch Bridson*

# Nicaragua

## Leon

We learnt last April that our Project at El Platanal had foundered when the children of the leading parents left school, and the teachers who supported it retired. Luckily, thanks to good local contacts, we were able to transfer the funds to a comparable project at the NECAT centre in the Emir Cabezas district, in the southern part of León, and this has enabled it to develop along similar lines. Here, 40 boys and girls between the ages of 6 and 14 from local primary



schools attend an after-school club, run by a qualified teacher, where they are helped to do their homework and have occasional educational outings.

The project has been named after a popular phrase *Barriga llena corazón contento* ("Full Belly – Happy Heart"), because it addresses the fact that children often arrived without lunch for various reasons. They were easy to identify: they had headaches, or a stomach ache, didn't want to do homework or have much interest in the various different activities planned. A survey showed that an average of between 4 and 8 children arrived unfed, but although this number seems small, in practice the children missing out were not always the same ones. The poverty of 80% of the families means that such food as they do eat is often of poor quality, high in fat and sugar.

In the past they were offered a sticky bun and a cereal drink on arrival, but with our help they now receive a more nutritious meal. Our contribution builds on a grant from a church in Wendover, which was spent on basics like grains and cereals. We were able to add variety to complement these. The result doesn't just alleviate hunger, it also contributes to the children's learning capacity in terms of attention span, concentration and retention.

Through educational workshops on Fridays, the children are being taught about healthy eating, and how unhealthy food stops our bodies working properly. Other workshops teach good table manners, good habits of hygiene, and norms of courtesy and gratitude.

Another way of learning about the responsible consumption of food is through growing vegetables in the orchard. As well as lessons on the nutritional value of plants, the children grow spinach, lettuce, coriander, tomato, mint and sweet peppers. They learn about the good use of organic fertilizer to fertilise the soil. This year they managed to plant twelve boxes of garden produce.



The families have now become involved in the preparation of the food, and learned about the importance of reducing fat and sugar intake in their diet. A monthly food preparation rota is in place, and each family knows what kind of food to prepare. In some cases they needed to be shown how to cook foods like Spinach and 'Flower of Jamaica' (good for anaemia). Mint, linseed and fruit juice aid digestion and hydration, provide Omega 3 and improve physical achievement. At first the children didn't want to eat vegetables but by the end of the year they had learned to like them. Now they relish healthy food like bean soup, stew, cheese on toast, chicken with rice or pasta and ripe plantain pasties, amongst other things.



As a result attendance figures have risen, and problems now only arise when illnesses like conjunctivitis, dengue and bronchitis are rife. The project is working well – not only do children enjoy the activities, but their improved attendance and concentration is shown in the grades at their end of year exams.

*Ag MacKeith*



# Pakistan

## Women in Struggle (WIS)

Women in Struggle (WIS) is an organisation based in Faisalabad, Pakistan. WIS aims to empower women at the grassroots level and to promote participatory sustainable development. Villages assisted include Chak 500, Chak 90, Dullam, Chak 91, Chak New Sarabah, Maseetian. WIS strive to improve the domestic conditions of poor women by providing them with sources of income and to promote education in poor, rural areas. The WIS team, consisting mainly of schoolteachers, works entirely voluntarily to run their local activities for long-term outcomes. They make a point of celebrating International Women's Day (*see photo*) "with great zeal, to promote awareness and also to give the chance to women to sit and share their stories with each other and find the time to recreate, which they usually don't get the chances during their daily routine life. These days always give the women a source of inspiration to fight against domestic violence and social evils."



This year BOAT supported WIS by supplying 250 school children with essentials like clothes, pens, pencils and backpacks. There have been fruit tree planting projects completed, and more planned, including trees for 150 families. In late July 2017 several toilets were constructed for orphans. The photo shows two of them outside the door holding a thank-you note. The toilets are not just a matter of hygiene, but keep the girls safe from sexual harassment. Also completed is a 'roof for kids' which is a permanent sheltered learning space, which replaces a temporary structure.

As for proposals for 2018-19, five hand pumps are planned for widows and orphans, and five toilets for the families who are most in need. WIS aims to continue in its long-term agricultural projects, providing crops to help women gain economic independence, including orange trees, and continuing to care for orphaned children. All of these activities were made possible through the financial support of BOAT.



Additional plans for 2018-19 are provision of mosquito nets, and continuation of Awareness programs and leadership development programmes, as well as Basic English for rural children. Lubna Ghani continues to run the project with diligence and keeps in regular contact with BOAT, sending photographs and reports of their work. They send their thanks and offer their prayers for BOAT's benefactors.

*Luke Doherty OP*

# Peru

## Lima: San Benito Township

BOAT has been supporting the work of Fr Ed O'Connell and the Warmi Huasi project in San Benito for many years. Warmi Huasi provides a safe space for the children to learn, to play and simply to be children, when they might otherwise be at the mercy of violence and bullying while their parents are at work. The children at Blackfriars have adopted the San Benito project for fundraising and have helped organise two events (a sale and a café) which have raised more than £800.

Fr Ed is a wonderful correspondent, and we are hoping to see him in Oxford again later this year. Here is the newsletter he sent us last autumn about what Warmi Huasi has been up to.

**Greetings from Lima!** I am rushing with this newsletter, to bring you up to-date with life here in Peru and to bring it back to post in the UK, it is cheaper there, believe it not!

The photo is of young children in San Benito, taken earlier this year, as they raised awareness of their right to play and for their voice to be heard in the life of their township and by the local municipality.

Last year the children of San Benito formed themselves into a Children's Commission called "Children of San Benito in action" to work with the local council and the adults in the township to make safer a number of public places for them to play in and be able to move around without being molested, especially the girls. The work proved very successful and here is a photo of the inauguration of the San Benito maze park and me in the middle of maze too! Soon another park will also open, another group of children are working on that. The children speak well and many of the leaders are girls.

Warmi Huasi has a new project now in its second year, with children high up in the Andean mountains, in the department of Ayacucho. The project is based in the town of Pausa, with an outreach program in the village of Lampa. In each place, there is a reading club and each group of children, between 6 and 12 years of age, have formed their own children's committee, so their voice can be heard as they make their proposals to their local municipalities so as to improve the situation of all the children in their towns. Never a dull moment, with the children studying in Pausa and playing in Lampa.

Many, many thanks for your support, I am most grateful. Love and blessings, Ed.

*Helen Ghosh*



# Philippines

## Midsalip, Missionary Sisters of St Columban

“Warmest greetings to each of you as we take leave of 2017, a year which has been filled with unexpected tests to our faith and hope, but a year filled with abundant graces.”

These are the inspiring words of Sister Kathleen Melia of the Sisters of Saint Columban, who leads the Subaanen Mission in Midsalip, in the Southern Philippines. Despite suffering an atrocious attack in Midsalip earlier in the year (which led to Sister Kathleen’s hospitalization, rehabilitation and recovery in Manila), her well-trained and committed staff continue to assist the indigenous Subaanen people in accessing health care and education and in protecting their ancestral homeland against mining and deforestation.

This year, 69 primary students and ten high school students received BOAT funding for their education. Another fifty students were helped to pay for school supplies. Fourteen primary BOAT scholars are now ready and will progress to high school. The Mission also runs a feeding programme for their students during term time. However, due to the exceptionally wet year that resulted in a poor corn harvest, children in the Mission schools were becoming malnourished. The Mission, with BOAT’s support, was able to provide their students with rice during the Christmas holiday.

The Mission also helped many Subaanens who returned home from Marawi, a region in the Philippines plagued by war. Many young Subaanens traditionally move to Marawi for work – as home helps and labourers – to provide funds for their families back in Midsalip. During the war, terrorists affiliated with IS held some Subaanens hostage. Three were confirmed killed. Those who were released and returned to Midsalip found spiritual and physical support from the Mission: the Mission provided a safe space for those returning to share their painful stories; the Mission arranged medical help; the Mission provided rice; and finally, the Mission assisted some young Subaanens to return to school.

Over the years, environmental issues have always been a priority for the Mission. They have educated and encouraged parents and older students to assist in tree planting programmes. This year, despite a horrific typhoon which caused damage and loss of life in neighbouring areas, the people and the mountains in the barrios of Midsalip, which are at high risk of landslides, were spared. The investment by the Mission over many years in contour farming, planting forest trees and above all in education, helped to protect the soil. The long struggle against logging and mining and mono-cropping in biodiverse areas paid off.

As Sister Kathleen writes, “As a new year begins, we pray that the challenge to protect nature will continue to be met with courage by the present and future generations, so that God’s creation in all its loveliness, will continue to nourish life and give praise to the Creator.”

*Julie Lynch Bridson*



## Sri Lanka

### Child Development Initiative (CDI) Vavuniya

Sister Nichola Emmanuel is a committed and determined fighter for the Tamil women and children in northern Sri Lanka, whose lives were shattered by the civil war, and who have been the victims of poverty and abuse. The aims of the CDI are “to create a better and peaceful society for the traumatized and war-affected specially children and women so that they can live with dignity as human beings and children of God in the post war context”. It provides educational materials and support, as well as advice for women affected by domestic violence. It also campaigns for human rights and justice for families whose relatives have “disappeared”. We have been happy to support this worthwhile initiative since we were first put in touch with Sr Nichola in 2012.



The CDI has grown considerably since then and now receives funding from a number of individuals and in this country and abroad, and from Sri Lankan and Australian charities. In line with our Policy for Giving, we have decided that the time has come to transfer our funding to other projects which need our help more and where BOAT support can make a real difference. We are delighted to have helped set CDI on its feet, and wish Sr Nichola and the project all the best for the future.



*Helen Ghosh*

## Tanzania

### Livingstone Trust

The Livingstone Tanzania Trust is hugely grateful for the support that BOAT has provided in the past year. The Trust is a grassroots development charity operating in Babati, northern Tanzania, which we have supported for a number of years. The focus is on improving education and supporting enterprise initiatives that are environmentally sensitive and sustainable. LTT has two programmes: the Education Programme, addressing the specific needs of individual schools; and the Enterprise Programme, empowering communities by providing resources and training to enhance their skills and build on their existing knowledge.



With BOAT's support, LTT has been able to fund a vitally important dual-aspect project at the very core of its development model. The School Enterprise Programme operates at Managhat Primary School, 10km from Babati, which serves the rural areas to the east of Lake Babati. The Programme not only teaches young people important, transferable, entrepreneurial skills and knowledge, but also generates a sustainable profit for the school. In previous years, BOAT's donations have enabled the School to establish a vegetable market garden to train young people to run a business of growing vegetables. By the end of last year, the Garden's infrastructure had been considerably improved, the teacher responsible had received practical training, and the Garden was even able to provide the School with free vegetables to supplement school meals. The pupils kept the Garden's accounts, and the project created an income which it was intended to plough back into the Programme's development.



The students have run a far more successful programme in the last year than in the preceding year. They increased annual profits from Tsh 283,200 to Tsh 553,750, which is a great achievement considering that vegetables are sold for Tsh250 per unit. This increased profitability was due to better training, improved business management and drip irrigation.

Consequently, this year the Garden's income has paid the School's electricity and water costs, and also contributes to the school maintenance programme, which in turn reduces the financial burden on the local community.

In 2017 LTT were thrilled to be the runners-up in the Pan-African Awards for Entrepreneurship in Education 2017. This was a great achievement and demonstrates the effectiveness and value of the Programme.

Julian Page is our contact with LTT. He is based in London but is often in Tanzania, actively involved with all LTT's projects.

*Jenifer Dye*

## **Uganda**

### **Cancer Trust**

Since 2015 BOAT have been supporting the Uganda Cancer Trust UK (UCT) whose main goal has been the development of a local palliative care volunteer group to enable people with cancer to access good quality information and support about cancer, the availability of its services, and treatment.

In doing so, BOAT has been contributing to the salary of the specialist Palliative Care Nurse, Liz Nabirye. Liz Nabirye was in the UK last October for a palliative care course, on a bursary from St Christopher's Hospice. Whilst here, she visited members of the BOAT Committee at Blackfriars and described her everyday role with cancer patients. Apart from providing clinical care and emotional and spiritual support, an important aspect of her work is the provision of information to address the concerns of cancer patients and their families. Her information/teaching role reaches three groups of people in Uganda's Mulago Hospital:

- the cancer patients undergoing treatment, through her weekly Q & A sessions in the radiotherapy hostel (*see photo*);
- the palliative care volunteers who are part of the team, whom she mentors;



and

- other health professionals, to whom she teaches palliative care as Link Nurse.

**Volunteers**, as part of the Mulago Palliative Care team, have played a key role to date, in providing practical, psychological and pastoral care support to cancer patients and their families. The need for more volunteers and for them to be trained is even greater now, as some of the existing volunteers have moved to full time employment. In addition the Mulago Hospital is being renovated. Its services are provided on three sites, and this year a new radiotherapy machine will be in operation; this in turn will increase the need for volunteer support when the radiotherapy hostel re-opens.

**Link Nurses** currently provide generalist palliative care to approximately 2000 patients per year. Senior nurses have recognised the value of Link Nurse training and have requested additional nurses to be trained. Thus BOAT, with its excellent links in Oxford with Liz and Michael Minton, Trustees of the UCT (UK), has decided to continue to help the UCT to develop the palliative care volunteer team's services and to train more Link Nurses in palliative care at the Mulago Hospital.

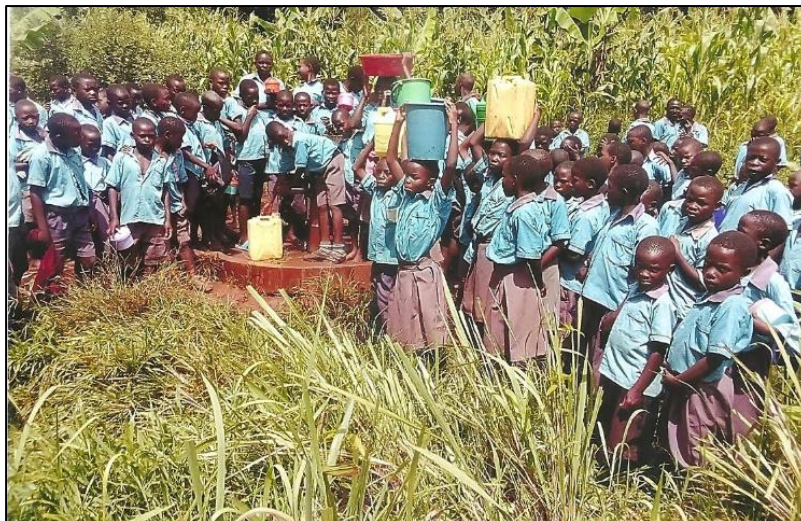
*Emerita Pilgrim*

## Uganda

### Church of Christ the King, Butema Catholic Parish, Hoima

In 2017 Father Sebastian started a water and sanitation project in his new parish of Butema, to which the bishop had moved him in 2016. The parish is in a rural area and extends across an area of 225 sq. km. There are twenty-eight chapels, as well as sixteen primary schools and two secondary schools, many of which lack adequate sanitation and clean water. Father Sebastian has started with the schools nearest his church and he writes that St Bruno's primary school (550 pupils) is the immediate beneficiary of the borehole that they have had re-drilled this year.

However, St. Kizito's nursery school (120 children) and St Cyprian's secondary school (300 students) are also able to fetch water from it, as can the presbytery and convent. Father Sebastian managed to supplement BOAT's grant which came to nearly 8,789,000 UG shillings with money raised from the local community and parents by selling their donation of foodstuffs.



Most of the money raised was spent on re-drilling costs for one borehole (7,820,000 UGs) and the rest was needed for replacing 15 water pipes, as well as the water pump and water bucket. His aim in 2018 is to re-drill another borehole which will specifically serve St. Kizito's nursery school, although once again the wider community will benefit.

## Karungu Convent, Kigumba

Sister Clemensia writes that in the first year over a third of the BOAT grant (of 9,210,000 UG shillings) was spent on buying 200 chicken and ducks for the poultry project, which she has set up to enable the women in the community to become more self-sufficient in supporting themselves and their children. They are using two grass-thatched buildings near the convent to house the poultry for the



moment, but aim to put up a purpose-built poultry shed later, when and if finances allow. Another third of the money was spent on veterinary vaccines, the services of the vet and a full-time attendant for the poultry. She was able to devote the remainder of the grant to providing lunch (maize and beans) for the 250 pupils at their Infant Jesus nursery school, who come from poor or destitute families and often become ill through lack of food. She hopes to continue providing lunch for those in need during the next two years of the project, while she works to empower the parents to be self-reliant by encouraging them in poultry farming.

*Rosaleen Ockenden*



# Zimbabwe

## African Mission

African Mission is a small, London-based charity, which is active in Uganda and Zimbabwe. Initially it revolved around the activities of Dr Ray Towey, a consultant anaesthetist who for over two decades has worked in African hospitals and clinics, but more recently it has expanded into education. BOAT has been supporting them since 2011, funding maintenance and construction and helping both children and staff at a number of schools in Fatima Mission, a large Franciscan-run mission in Zimbabwe. The £2,100 that BOAT sent in February 2016 was put towards a project for disabled children. This is a residential project offering education and training to nineteen blind, deaf or mute children in Fatima Mission. The project gives hope to a group who otherwise would be faced with an extremely difficult future.



The 19 disabled children live at the project during term time and attend a nearby school (with the exception of one who attends a different school). The school is the only school in the province offering a specific education for blind and mute children. In addition to their academic education they also learn skills to help them live and prosper with their disabilities. Before coming to Fatima many of these children led very isolated lives and were faced with a bleak future.

Thanks to African Mission they are receiving an education and as they are living in community, their confidence and ability to relate to other people is growing. Of the 19 children, nine are unable to speak, three are totally blind and seven are partially sighted. Prior to their arrival at Fatima Mission, several of the children were being looked after by a single parent or a relative, often in poor health themselves and living in poverty.

*Mick Conefrey*

## 2016 Lenten Project

We heard of the Sonbola project from Leila Vignal of Oxford's Refugee Studies Centre, and she and Timothy Radcliffe OP filled us in with more detail at a Sunday meeting after mass. It is a Syrian-run NGO in the Bekaa valley in Lebanon that transports 1300 Syrian children to half day sessions in local schools every day. It also runs a day centre, where 192 children are further schooled in English, art, maths and IT, also in half-day sessions. Some go to both kinds of lessons, some are so short of money that they can only go to the day centre, where they are taught for nothing by Syrian teachers and other professionals, working to keep their hand in.



The project is funded by donations and run by a team of Syrian volunteers, and – sign of the times – you can see their heroic efforts first hand on the **Sonbola** Facebook page. The project goes from strength to strength, as different groups come forward to make it work! In 2016 volunteers ran a summer school, and a bakery was established. Yoga teachers have crossed the world to run classes. Recent entries on their page include a video of three little brothers from Aleppo who started in the Sonbola choir, but have developed a talent as rappers.

The 9.30 congregation rallied round this initiative in a big way. We were able, when all the money including Gift Aid was finally collected, to send them an unprecedented £5,190. This kind of initiative is a precious thing that keeps hope alive. Children will never forget being taught in such circumstances, and will benefit from it for their whole lives. We're lucky to have the chance to have a hand in it.

*Ag MacKeith*

## **BOAT Recycled Cards 2017**

This home industry is continuing to recycle Christmas and greetings cards to raise money for BOAT. This year our net profits were around £800. This is more than is listed in the accounts at the back of the report, because the last tranche of money was banked after Christmas. Our best sellers are always the Fine Art Christmas cards, which all sell, and the Fine Art Greetings cards. We have a selection of greetings cards sold singly and in packs, as with the Christmas cards. These are on sale at key times after the 9.30 Mass during coffee in the Priory Refectory, and there is always a display of cards for sale in the Porter's Lodge.

We aim to produce cards of a high quality, and Ag MacKeith and Gill Emerson meet weekly, with coffee and cake, as do Yvonne Miskin and Anna Baidoun to sort the cards we receive to ensure we can recycle them, check for attributions of Fine Art cards, cut the cards to shape, fold the mounts, stick them and quality check them before we pack them or sell them singly.. We could not do this without the help we get from members of the congregation who call in to help Ag and Gill on a Friday, and this year Ag and Gill have welcomed Ros Shiffner joining them on a regular basis. Nor could we do this without those who take home prepared boxes, with instructions, mounts, cards and glue, to stick. Nor could we sell so many without Joshua Dubin's and Jennifer Dye's commitment to selling our cards, and his humorous adverts for their sale, which stand out among the notices! This year, too, we have Mari Girling to thank for selling Christmas cards at Oxford High School and Philip Owens to thank for looking after the displays in the Porter's Lodge.

We welcome anyone to help us to sort the cards we receive, as except for the Fine Art cards, it is just our taste that decides which cards we recycle! This is governed, of course, by the cards we receive, and to some extent which cards sell is a guide to what people like, but we welcome comments on what people would like to be able to buy. We are always short of religious cards to recycle outside of Christmas. We are also planning to experiment with packs of Children's Christmas cards.

We would welcome constructive suggestions as to who might be able to use the cards we cannot recycle, previous options having closed.

Finally, Thank You again to everyone who helps us to make and sell these cards.

*Gill Emerson*



# Reserves policy and risk management

The Trustees' policy is to maintain reserves of approximately £5,000. This was a decision made by the Trustees at a meeting in April 2002, and it remains their policy. This sum is sufficient to meet emergencies, but at the same time ensures that grants are made to beneficiaries without undue delay.

## Risk Management

In the light of the Trustees' desire to keep reserves at the relatively small level of £5,000, any surplus cash is held on a bank deposit until needed. The Trustees monitor the level of cash held and would review this policy if the levels of cash held were to increase significantly.

## Trustees' responsibilities in relation to the financial statements

Law applicable to charities in England and Wales requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements that give a true and fair view of the state of affairs and the charity's financial activities during the year and of its financial position at the end of the year. In preparing those financial statements, the Trustees are required to:

- Select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- State whether applicable accounting standards and statements of recommended practice have been followed subject to any departures disclosed or explained in the financial statements; and
- Prepare financial statements on the going-concern basis, unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue its operation.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 1993. The Trustees are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity, and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

By order of the Trustees

Signed: *Anna Lucas*

Chair

for and on behalf of the Committee of BOAT

January 2018

## **Treasurer's Report on the Statement of Financial Activities for the Year ended 31st December 2017**

It is with great pleasure that I can report that BOAT is a vibrant and financial healthy charity with enviously low costs. Let me perhaps begin with the highlight of 2017 which was the phenomenal response of the congregation and other donors to our Lenten Appeal. Our appeal was to support the provision for nursery and pre-school aged children displaced from the Nineveh area of Iraq in the face of the brutality of the ISIS advance. The children were cared for, amid real hardship and difficulty, by the Dominican Sisters of Iraq. We have sent £12,303 to support, this is multiples of our previous Lenten appeal record, and our contribution had a major impact. It has been an honour for BOAT to channel such generosity on to these vulnerable children.

More broadly our finances have grown with unreserved incoming resources up at £42,475, from the comparable 2016 figure of £36,701. This increase has been due to a move from one-off to monthly donations, and an increase at the same time. This is a very positive development for the security of BOAT's finances.

We have stepped up security before sending money to an account, and so transfers can take longer. For example, the donation to Iraq was made in 4 tranches, with the first tranche a small test donation of undeclared size, to ensure that the arrival of each sum could be verified before the next departed. This policy does slightly increase bank transfer costs, but it contributes to the financial security of the donations, and so the committee and I believe that, on balance, it is justified.

Thanks must go to Filomena Nave for securing the gift aid from HMRC. This year this added £7,808 to our resources. The contribution from card sales seem smaller than usual, but this is because the funds were deposited after the end of December 2017, and so these will appear in next year's accounts.

We remain ever grateful to all of our donors, without whose support none of the projects or good works could be supported. You have read about these earlier in this report. I will conclude with thanks for the notable one-off donations we have received in memory of Susan Marshall and of Raymond Brassington; from the St Dominic's Concert organised by the Dominicans; from Infinium Ltd.; and from SP Global which matched a private anonymous donation.

Signed: *John Thanassoulis*  
BOAT Treasurer

13 February 2018

### **Further Reference and Administrative Information**

BOAT address: Blackfriars Priory, 64 St, Giles, Oxford. OX1 3LY

Bankers: Lloyds Bank, Carfax, Oxford. OX1 4AA

Charity Number: 288585



# **Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of the Blackfriars Overseas Aid Trust ("the Charity")**

I report on the accounts of the charity for the year to 31st December 2017 which are set out on the following pages 28 to 31

## ***Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner***

The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under Section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 ("the 2011 Act") and that an Independent Examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- ◆ Examine the accounts (under Section 145 of the 2011 Act);
- ◆ Follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act;
- ◆ State whether particular matters have come to my attention.

## ***Basis of independent examiner's report***

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes considerations of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the accounts.

## ***Independent examiner's statement***

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

- (1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that, in any material respect, the Trustees have not met the requirements to ensure that:
  - ◆ proper accounting records are kept in accordance with Section 130 of the 2011 Act: and
  - ◆ accounts are prepared which agree with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Act: or
- (2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed: *Adam Hodgkin*

February 2018

# Blackfriars Overseas Aid Trust

## Statement of Financial Activities for year ended 31 December 2017

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2017 £	Total 2016 £
<b>INCOMING RESOURCES</b>				
Donations	38,039	13,401	51,440	41,338
Events and Sales	4,436	-	4,436	2,925
Bank Interest	-	-	-	-
<b>Total Incoming Resources</b>	<b>42,475</b>	<b>13,401</b>	<b>55,876</b>	<b>44,263</b>
<b>RESOURCES EXPENDED</b>				
<b>Costs of Generating Funds</b>				
Fundraising	250	-	250	178
Charitable Activities	33,402	16,439	49,841	34,366
Governance Costs	367	-	367	176
<b>Total Expenditure</b>	<b>34,019</b>	<b>16,439</b>	<b>50,458</b>	<b>34,720</b>
<b>Net Incoming/(Outgoing) Resources</b>	<b>8,456</b>	<b>(3,038)</b>	<b>5,418</b>	<b>9,542</b>
<b>Total Funds Brought Forward</b>	<b>13,355</b>	<b>3,038</b>	<b>16,393</b>	<b>6,851</b>
<b>Total Funds Carried Forward</b>	<b>£21,811</b>	<b>£0</b>	<b>£21,811</b>	<b>£16,393</b>

The notes on pages 28 to 31 form part of these accounts.

# Blackfriars Overseas Aid Trust

## Balance Sheets as at 31st December 2017

	2017	2016
	£	£
<b>Current Assets</b>		
Cash at Lloyds Bank	21,811	16,393
<b>Net Current Assets</b>	<hr/> 21,811	<hr/> 16,393
<b>Total Assets</b>	<hr/> <b>£21,811</b> <hr/>	<hr/> <b>£16,393</b> <hr/>
 <b>The Funds of the charity:</b>		
<b>Restricted Income Funds</b>	-	3,038
<b>Unrestricted Income Funds</b>	21,811	13,355
	<hr/> <b>£21,811</b> <hr/>	<hr/> <b>£16,393</b> <hr/>

Approved by the Executive Committee on 24th January 2018 and signed on its behalf by

Signed: *Anna Lucas*

Chair



# **Notes forming part of the financial statements for the year ended 31st December 2017**

## **1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

### **General**

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention and in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice, Accounting and Reporting by Charities (SORP 2005) issued in 2005.

### **Income**

1. Donations and grants are included in the accounts when they are received.
2. Interest income is included in the accounts when it is received.
3. Tax recoverable in respect of Gift Aid donations is included in the accounts when it is received.

### **Expenditure**

All grants to partner organisations and other expenditure are included in the accounts in the year they are paid.

### **Unrestricted Funds**

Unrestricted funds are donations and other incoming resources received for the objects of the charity without a specified purpose and are available as general funds. From time to time the Trustees may establish Designated Funds out of the Unrestricted Funds to meet contingencies.

### **Restricted Funds**

Restricted funds are to be used for specific purposes as laid down by the donor. Expenditure which meets these criteria is charged to the fund, together with a fair allocation of management and support costs.

## 2. DONATIONS

	<b>2017</b>	<b>2016</b>
	£	£
Donations received under Banker's Order (unrestricted)	31,541	20,246
Donations received under Banker's Order (restricted)	1,000	660
Other Donations (unrestricted)	3,127	9,504
Other Donations (restricted)	12,401	6,902
Tax Recovered under Gift Aid	7,808	6,950
	<u>£55,876</u>	<u>£44,263</u>

## 3. EVENTS AND SALES

	<b>2017</b>	<b>2016</b>
	£	£
Harvest Auction	392	523
Christmas Café	479	496
Card Sales	132	893
Honey Sales	30	300
Summer Café	222	296
Spring Café	281	247
Susan Marshall Funeral	355	-
The Dominicans: St Dominic's Concert, Stone, Staffs	500	-
Infinium Ltd	137	-
SP Global	1,164	-
Raymond Brassington Funeral	516	-
Nanoporetech	-	250
Our Lady's Abingdon	-	170
BLEAT, Children's Café	298	74
	<u>£4,506</u>	<u>£3,249</u>

#### 4. CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

##### Grants (Unrestricted) to Overseas Projects

	2017	2016
	£	£
Contribution to Sonbola Lenten Appeal 2016	352	-
Nicaragua, Leon	2,100	2,100
Pakistan, WIS	2,100	2,091
Uganda Cancer UK	2,100	2,100
Uganda Butema Parish	2,100	2,100
Tanzania, Livingstone trust	2,100	2,100
Cameroon Arch	2,100	-
Ethiopia Jean Grove Trust	2,100	2,100
Uganda, Sr Clemensia	2,100	2,100
Philippines, Camiguin Norte (test)	450	-
Zimbabwe, African Mission, Dungu	2,100	2,100
Philippines, Missionary Srs	2,100	2,100
Peru, San Benito, Br Ed O'Connell	2,100	2,100
India Sugandh	2,100	2,100
India, Operatori di Pace	2,100	-
Grenada Grand Anse, Primary School	2,100	2,100
Sri Lanka War widows	1,100	2,100
Myanmar Living Water	2,100	-
Brazil, St. Paolo	-	2,075
SUB-TOTAL	£33,402	£29,366

##### Grants from Restricted Funds

	2017	2016
Kenya Education	2,000	-
Sonbola Lebanon 2016 Lenten Appeal	1,838	-
Uganda Education	-	2,000
Lenten Appeal	12,303	3,000
Fr Ed O'Connell from Children's Café	298	-
TOTAL	£49,841	£34,366



## 5. COSTS OF GENERATING FUNDS

	2017	2016
	£	£
Costs of Printing the Annual Report	250	178
	<u>£250</u>	<u>£178</u>

## 6. GOVERNANCE

	2017	2016
	£	£
Bank Charges	367	176
	<u>£367</u>	<u>£176</u>

## 7. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND EXPENSES

No remuneration was paid or was payable for the year directly or indirectly out of the funds of the charity to any member of the committee or to any person known to be connected with any of them.

## 8. RESTRICTED FUNDS

	2017	2016
	£	£
Balance at January 1	3,038	477
Incoming Resources	13,401	7,562
Expenditure	(16,439)	(5,000)
Balance at December 31 2017	<u>-</u>	<u>£3,038</u>

## 9. GENERAL FUNDS

	2017	2016
	£	£
Balance at January 1	13,355	6,375
Incoming Resources	42,475	36,701
Expenditure	(34,019)	(29,720)
Balance at December 31 2017	<u>£21,811</u>	<u>£13,355</u>
Represented by Current Assets:	<u>£21,811</u>	<u>£16,393</u>

**Blackfriars Overseas Aid Trust (BOAT) Registered Charity No 288585**

A Banker's Order for regular donations, which can be cancelled by you at any time, greatly helps BOAT. We need more people to give regularly so that we can predict over a year how much money we can send to our projects overseas.

**Banker's Order**

To ..... *Name of your Bank*

.....

..... *Address of your Bank*

Account Number ..... Sort Code No. ....

Account Name .....

Please pay to Lloyds Bank plc, 1 High Street, Oxford, OX1 4AA (Sort Code No. 30-96-35)

for the account of Blackfriars Overseas Aid Trust, Account No. 00087533

the sum of £ .....monthly / quarterly / annually (*delete as appropriate*)

until further notice.

This instruction cancels any previous order made by me in favour of Blackfriars Overseas Aid Trust.

Signed ..... Date .....

Return to: **The Gift Aid Treasurer, Blackfriars Overseas Aid Trust (BOAT), c/o Porter's Lodge, Blackfriars, St Giles, Oxford, OX1 3LY** (*NOT to your own Bank*)

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If you are a UK tax payer and you sign a Gift Aid Declaration Form, we can make your gift worth even more to BOAT.

**GIFT AID DECLARATION**

*As a tax payer I want BOAT to treat all donations I make as Gift Aid donations.*

**Signature** ..... **Date** / /

*N.B. To be eligible, you must pay an amount of income or capital gains tax at least equal to the tax we reclaim on your donations (currently 25p for every £1 you give). Please let us know if your circumstances change. Thank you.*

**PLEASE USE BLOCK CAPITALS**

**Title .... Forenames .....** **Surname .....**

**Address .....**

..... **Post Code** .....

