

# Bellary Support Group

REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER 1095365

[www.bellarysupportgroup.org](http://www.bellarysupportgroup.org)

## **TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT 2016-2017**

Covering the period 1 July 2016 to 30 June 2017

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**Trustees -** Peter Gibson (Chairman)  
Jennifer Lewis (Secretary)  
Brian Skinner (Treasurer)  
Owen Mayes  
Terence Wilcox

The Bellary Support Group was established under a Deed of Trust dated September 2002. Three of the Trustees have remained the same since this date. Jennifer Lewis was appointed an additional Trustee on 31 October 2014 and took on the role of Secretary from 14<sup>th</sup> October 2016. Terence Wilcox was appointed from 1 January 2016 and Brian Skinner was appointed from December 2016, also taking on the role of Treasurer. Colin Brown stepped down as a Trustee, Treasurer and Secretary on 14<sup>th</sup> October 2016 as a result of ill-health.

Appointment of Trustees is by decision of a meeting of the existing Trustees. Decisions are taken by a meeting of the Trustees. To date at least two meetings are held each year, plus additional meetings when considered necessary. From January 2018 this will be revised to at least three meetings per year. Between meetings, the work of the charity is undertaken by the Chairman and Secretary, often in consultation with the other Trustees.

During the current year, the Trustees reviewed all of the BSG's policies. On an annual basis the eligibility of all Trustees to serve is formally verified. All work is done on a voluntary, unpaid basis.

## **Financial Review**

The Statement of Accounts for the year ended 30 June 2016 show a balance of £60,899.05

This total includes Restricted Funds of £36,250. A further £20,000 was received in 2016 from the Generation Trust (additional to £15,000 received the previous year) towards the proposed development of some offices, the rents from which would meet the on-going running costs of the Halvi Hostel (see below).

During the year total income was £27,995.54 including £20,000 from the Generation Trust. Due to a change in Trustees and delays in updating HMRC records, the Gift Aid claim was delayed and is due to be made in 2017/18.

Total expenditure was £10,995.34 of which £100 was bank charges. Three payments were made during the year to the Church of South India Karnataka Northern Diocese to assist with the running costs of the Halvi Boys' Home, repairs and replacements as well as urgent medical costs for some individuals.

The value of the money in the bank, in terms of what it can achieve in India, depends on the exchange rate. Over the year under review the rate has varied between 73 and 82 rupees to the pound, a lower rate than the previous year.

The Accounts were reviewed by an Independent Examiner, Mr Stuart McVeigh, and signed-off on 29<sup>th</sup> October 2017 as a true representation of the financial position of the Group.

### **Gift Aid**

As many donors as possible have completed Gift Aid declarations. Gift Aid to be reclaimed in respect of the 2015-2016 tax year amounted to £1200.

### **Bank account**

The Group's bank accounts are with CAF Bank Ltd. Most of the money is in a CAF Platinum 30-day notice account. The rate of interest paid on this account was 0.2%. Our current cash account with CAF Bank receives no interest.

### **Public Benefit**

The Group's Charitable Objects are:

- 1 The support of the Boys Boarding Home in Bellary;
- 2 The support of other projects of the Church of South India (CSI) in the Bellary area that will promote the Christian religion, education, health and welfare of poor and underprivileged people.

Long-term support for the Boys Boarding Home in Bellary has been secured by a commercial development in 2006 (about one-third funded by the Group), the rent from which keeps the Bellary Boys Home running. The focus of the Group therefore shifted in 2006 to Object 2, in particular the on-going support for the CSI Boys Boarding Home in Halvi (near Bellary). In 2016 – 17, this funding amounted to £7,900 and has been growing gradually with inflation and disadvantageous exchange rates.

### ***Halvi Hostel***

The group is funding the running costs for this hostel, which accommodates about 40 boys, amounting to £7,900 this year.

Like the Bellary Boys Home, the Halvi hostel provides accommodation for boys from the surrounding rural area where they can stay while undertaking their education at the local schools. The boys come from very deprived households where the small contribution they can make to household income through casual labour would, if they stayed at home, keep them away from school. Boys are selected through the CSI diocese on the basis of need – priority is given to orphans and boys from one-parent families – and not on the basis of ability or religious affiliation.

In addition to food, clothing, health care and accommodation, the hostel is also able to provide a degree of extra tuition. The education they receive enables the boys to go on to more secure and better-paid work (often through higher education), helping themselves and the dalit families from which they come to overcome the cycle of poverty and discrimination and to contribute more to the national economy. There is no doubt of the great benefit to the boys and their families of the opportunity of a good education that the Halvi hostel provides.

Last year we reported on discussions with the diocese regarding a long-term funding solution for the Halvi Hostel, involving the building of an additional storey to accommodate offices above the 17 shops in Bellary that we helped fund in 2006 (from which rental income provides long-term funding for the Bellary Boys Home). Following agreement within the Diocese that this was an acceptable way forward,

the Diocese has drawn up plans for up to 17 offices above the ground floor shops. The current estimated cost is approximately Rs 6,900,000 (which equates to about £83,000). During the current year, the group has been in constant dialogue with the diocese to carry out 'due diligence' on project finance, planning, management and accountability to ensure that the project is sustainable, and will represent good value for money. A project team is being set up in Bellary comprising senior figures from the Diocese and locally in Bellary to oversee project implementation, giving Trustees clear lines of communication during the project roll out.

### **Local contacts, monitoring and Trustee visit**

The group's role is to provide the funds for projects run by the Church of South India in Karnataka Northern Diocese. Contact with people in Bellary and at the diocese is maintained by letter and email – particularly with the Bishop and the Diocesan Secretary, who are both efficient email correspondents. Additional communication takes place either directly by telephone or e-mail between the Group and Dr Irvin Immanuel (Manager of the Halvi hostel) and Mr Victor Emmanuel (Principal of the Wardlaw College in Bellary).

The diocese provides accounts of its use of the money sent and of the progress made by the children. Dr Irvin Immanuel frequently sends photos by email of the activities and improvements at the Halvi Boys' Hostel which have been enabled by the group's funding support.

We have found that there is no substitute for personal visits to see and discuss what is happening and meet with the Bishop, Diocesan officials, the Managers and Wardens of each of the institutions, ideally every 1 or 2 years. The most recent Trustee visit took place in November 2016 by Peter Gibson and Terry Wilcox. A comprehensive report of the visit was produced and discussed by Trustees at a subsequent meeting. The construction work at Kamandoddi church, partially funded by BSG the previous year, was inspected. Minor work remained which was to be funded locally. Peter and Terry also participated in a (belated) formal opening ceremony of the 7-classroom CSI Telugu Primary School in Bellary completed the previous year at a cost of approximately £36,000 to the Group and found to be in good order, including new desks provided by local donations. The Trustees additionally visited CSI schools, hostels and a number of churches. During visits to the Bellary and Halvi hostels, the Trustees met a number of hostel 'leavers' who have moved on to college education or employment, often in professional jobs.

All costs relating to these visits are met personally. No Group funds are used.

### **Support base**

The Group's income comes mainly from individual supporters, of whom some 14 are committed through monthly or quarterly standing orders. Other supporters give donations on a one-off or sporadic basis. In addition, various churches and related groups provide monies at various times to meet specific needs.

In the coming year we plan to approach grant-making charitable trusts to raise some of the balance of money required to construct the offices.

Communication is maintained with supporters through the Bellary Bulletin and the organisations' website – [www.bellarysupportgroup.org](http://www.bellarysupportgroup.org). In the year under review, two Bulletins were published in July and December 2016 and the website has continued to be regularly updated and promoted as an important communication tool.

### **Public benefit statement**

The Trustees consider that they have complied with their duty under the Charities Act and guidance published by the Charity Commission to have due regard to public benefit.

*Signed by:*                    *Peter Gibson ..... date .....*

*Owen Mayes ..... date .....*

*Jennifer Lewis.....date.....*

*Terence Wilcox.....date.....*

*Brian Skinner ..... date .....*

# STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2017

(Figures for the year ended 30 June 2016 in brackets)

<b>Balance at 1 July 2016</b> (held in CAF Bank accounts)	<b>£43,898.85</b>	<b>(£30,998.04)</b>
<b>Receipts during the year</b>		
Standing Orders <sup>1</sup>	£ 4,321.88	(£ 4,852.16)
One-off gifts from individuals <sup>2</sup>	£ 1,725.00	(£ 2,350.00)
St Marks Church	£ 650.00	(£ 750.00)
Seedfield Trust	£ 1,250.00	(£ .00)
Tax reclaimed (Gift Aid) <sup>4</sup>	£ .00	(£ 1,522.54)
Bank interest <sup>5</sup>	£ 48.66	(£ 102.61)
Generation Trust <sup>6</sup>	£ 20,000.00	(£ 15,000.00)
<b>Total receipts</b>	<b>£ 27,995.54</b>	<b>(£ 24,577.31)</b>
<b>Payments during the year</b>		
Total sent to KND <sup>7</sup>	£ 10,895.34	(£ 11,616.50)
Bank charges <sup>8</sup>	£ 100.00	(£ 60.00)
<b>Total payments</b>	<b>£ 10,995.34</b>	<b>(£ 11,676.50)</b>
<b>Balance at 30 June 2017 (held in CAF Bank accounts)</b>	<b>£ 60,899.05</b>	<b>(£ 43,898.85)</b>
Restricted Funds	£ 35,000.00	(£15,000.00)
Unrestricted Funds	£ 25,899.05	(£28,895.85)

## NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

- 1 This includes payments by monthly, quarterly or annual Standing Order.
- 2 Donations by cheque or cash or by bank transfer or through Stewardship Services Ltd.
- 3 St Mark's contributed £750 to assist the rebuilding of Halvi church. The balance was met locally.
- 4 There was no Gift Aid claim due to a required change of trustees.
- 5 The CAF Cash account paid 0% interest.. The CAF Platinum Account currently pays interest at 0.20%.
- 6 The Generation Trust made a substantial donation to help to secure the long-term future for the Halvi hostel.
- 7 Three payments were made during the year, all to the Church of South India Karnataka Northern Diocese, to assist with running costs of Halvi plus repairs and replacements as well as medical costs  
  
Through the year, the exchange rate has varied between 82 and 73 rupees to the pound.  
  
The diocese is holding the sum of £1,000, intended for roof repairs to the Jubilee Primary School in Bellary, pending further consideration of the future of the school.
8. The bank has charged £20 for each of the 3 payments and now charges a£5 monthly account fee totalling £40 for this year.

# Independent examiner's report to the trustees of

## Bellary Support Group

(Registered Charity number 1095365)

I report on the accounts of the Trust for the year ended 30 June 2017, which are set out on the attached sheet.

### Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees considered 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;
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act; and
- to 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 Commission. 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 consideration 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 no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair view' and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

### 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 requirements:

- to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act; and
- to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Act

have not been met; or

(2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Name: STUART M. McVEIGH ACMA (Retired)

Address: 16 BEWICK GRANGE HARROGATE HG1 2FA

Date: 29/10/17