

Mercy Mission Welfare Society

Trustees Report and Accounts for the year ending 31st March 2019

Reference and Administrative Information

Name of Charity: Mercy Mission Welfare Society

Charity Registration Number: 1088750

Principal Address: 46, Malthouse Lane, Earlswood, Solihull, West Midlands, B94 5RY

Charity Trustees: Paul Campion (Chair) Resigned November 2018,
Stephen Collett,
Jonathan Hibbs,
Andrew Raine (Secretary),
Pamela Raine,
Andrew Simpkins appointed Chair November 2018

Treasurer: Anthony Lancaster

Independent Examiner: Ian English

Structure, Governance and Management

The Mission is governed by the Trust Deed dated 26th February 2001. Trustees are appointed by a resolution of trustees passed at a special meeting called for this purpose. There shall be at least 3 trustees, and the trustees shall hold at least 2 ordinary meetings every year.

Trustees are encouraged to be familiar with the range of activities associated with Mercy Mission Welfare Society (MMWS). All the current trustees have visited the MMWS campus in, Vizianagaram, Andhra Pradesh and have first-hand experience of the work in India.

There is an awareness of additional support networks for Mercy Mission Welfare Society based in USA and in New Zealand.

The trustees have adopted basic policies to ensure good practise governance management in the principal areas of the charity.

Objectives and Activities

The objectives of the Mercy Mission Welfare Society are as follows:

- To propagate the Christian faith, knowledge, practise and understanding in the designated area of Andhra Pradesh, India.
- To relieve poverty, sickness, distress by the provision of food, shelter, clothing and medical care.
- To advance education of the public, particularly children.
- To support the organisational base in India in its aim to become self-sufficient.

The Trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on a range of issues particularly: public benefit, safeguarding duties and Due Diligence, Monitoring and Verification of End Use of Charitable Funds. Public benefit is clearly demonstrated in the range of services provided by Mercy Mission Welfare Society, especially in the provision of a home for orphaned or neglected children and the provision of education to these and other children. Regular visits to the Indian campus by Trustees and examination of the Indian charity's annual accounts provide a level of monitoring and due diligence for the use of charitable funds.

Achievements and Performance from funds donated through the UK charity

2018 marked the 20th anniversary of the start of Mercy Mission work in India. This was celebrated at an event in Shirley UK in September 2018. This was attended by Dr Charly Tom, founder and Director of the Indian charity, together with some of his family and some 150 supporters and interested parties.

The activities of the mission were reviewed with Dr Tom by the trustees during his visit to UK and 2 visits to the Indian charity were made by 3 trustees during the year including the secretary and current Chair to confirm first hand progress on the ground.

The 4.3 acre rice field acquired last year was in full production during the year and has yielded two rice harvests and one of lentils. This provides a measure of sustainability to the campus and hostels in particular with the provision of one third of the staple foods. This protects the mission from risks of lack of foreign funding, exchange rate fluctuation and price inflation. The rice field project was strengthened during the year by UK funding for a well to ensure good crop yield and provision of agricultural equipment funded by our sister New Zealand charity.

Trustee visits during the year confirmed the children's hostels, English medium school and seminary continue to flourish. Approximately 130 children and young people continue to receive good pastoral care and education to senior level and a significant number proceed to further education or vocational training. The campus is well organised and managed with appropriate national and local government registrations and oversight. The staff and teachers are well chosen and equipped to provide an appropriate level of care to meet the children's pastoral, mental and emotional needs

Development of the campus in the Mengdani Valley in Andhra Pradesh was nearing completion in March 2019 and has subsequently opened with 25 school children and 20 bible college students as the first intake.

The trustees are satisfied the charitable funds provided have been well spent for public benefit and that due diligence has been exercised in monitoring and verification of their end use.

Risks

There is a continuing risk to the work of MMWS in India due to the central government's crackdown on foreign funded charities. In the Vizianagaram region only a few charities have received government approval to receive foreign funding, of which MMWS India is one. However, it could still face increasing pressure in this area. The paddy fields project now in place is a good mitigation. More land to increase production would be of further benefit. Recent news is that visits to the campus from UK trustees and supporters are coming under increased scrutiny and restrictions by local police as the region is not a designated tourist area.

Progress in India funded independently

Mercy Mission English Medium School continues to flourish. It is self-financing and provides education for the hostel children and provides a small profit to support other areas of the mission. Pupil numbers are now 700 and examination results are very good. This gives MMWS a good standing in the local community.

Other sources of direct funding to India are from New Zealand and USA.

Financial Review

Principal sources of income to Mercy Mission UK are through sponsorship of the children in the Mission home and donations to the general work of Mercy Mission in India, most of which is donated on a regular basis together with specific appeals where appropriate. General donations have increased slightly to £52,000 allowing a general support to India of £56,000. In addition, a donation of £15,000 of restricted funds was received for the Mendangi village school. Over the year the Sterling Rupee exchange rate has fluctuated by about +/- 4% ending the year little changed.

The charity continues to use a more cost-effective route using a Money Service Business for transferring funds to India which is now working well and reducing bank charges and using on-line banking with required security to improve administration.

Safeguarding

MMWS UK does not work directly with vulnerable children and young adults. When visits by trustees or groups sponsored by the charity are made to the Indian campus, contact with vulnerable children and young adults is overseen by local staff. We have updated our visits policy to cover the safeguarding aspects of these visits. The Charity funds MMWS India which clearly does work with vulnerable children and young adults. The trustees are aware of MMWS India's safeguarding measures which are in line with national requirements.

Signed

Andrew Simpkins

14 January 2020

Chair of Trustees



Independent examiner's report on the accounts

Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

**Report to the trustees/
members of**

Charity Name
Mercy Mission Welfare Society

**On accounts for the year
ended**

31 March 2019

**Charity no
(if any)**

1088750

Set out on pages

5- 6

**Respective
responsibilities of
trustees and examiner**

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 (the Charities Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the Charities Act,
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission (under section 145(5)(b) of the Charities Act, and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

**Basis of independent
examiner's statement**

My examination was carried out in accordance with 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 the 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 Charities Act; and
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities 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.

Signed:

Date:

14th Jan 2020


Name:

Ian English

**Relevant professional
qualification(s) or body:**

Address:

38 Sambourne Road, Solihull, B91 2SA

 CHARITY COMMISSION FOR ENGLAND AND WALES	Charity Name		No (if any)		CC16a
	Mercy Mission Welfare Society		1088750		
	Receipts and payments accounts				
	For the period from	Period start date	To	Period end date	
		01/04/2018		31/03/2019	
Section A Receipts and payments					
	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Endowment funds	Total funds	Last year
	to the nearest £	to the nearest £	to the nearest £	to the nearest £	to the nearest £
A1 Receipts					
Sponsorship & Donations	45,117		-	45,117	48,040
Gift Aid	6,961	-	-	6,961	7,295
Paddyfield Appeal	-	1,317	-	1,317	3,951
Village school Appeal	-	15,000	-	15,000	18,000
	-		-	-	-
	-		-	-	-
	-		-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total (Gross income for AR)	52,078	16,317	-	68,395	77,286
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).					
	-	-	-	-	
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	52,078	16,317	-	68,395	77,286
A3 Payments					
Funding sent to MMWS India	56,720		-	56,720	48,320
Paddy Field Funding to India			-	-	53,000
Village school Funding to India		15,000	-	15,000	18,000
Banks Charges	534	53	-	587	446
Website expenses	295	-	-	295	-
Other expenses	70	-	-	70	100
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	57,619	15,053	-	72,672	119,866
A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)					
	-	-	-	-	
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total payments	57,619	15,053	-	72,672	119,866
Net of receipts/(payments)	- 5,541	1,264	-	- 4,277	- 42,580
A5 Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	8,022	1,983	-	10,005	52,585
Cash funds this year end	2,481	3,247	-	5,728	10,005

Section B Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B1 Cash funds	Bank a/c no. 1	-	-	-
	Bank a/c no. 2		3,247	-
	Bank a/c no.3	2,481	-	-
	Total cash funds	2,481	3,247	-
	(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))	OK	OK	OK
	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B2 Other monetary assets		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
B3 Investment assets			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
	Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
B5 Liabilities			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	
Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees	Signature	Print Name	Date of approval	
	signed	A Simpkins	14/01/2020	
		Chair of Trustees		