



# St Lazarus Charitable Trust Newsletter

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*In this issue:*

*From the Chairman*

*EMMS electives*

*TLM – 30 years of partnership*


*Rufiji Leprosy Trust*

*The Vidiyal Trust*

*And finally...*

## From the Chairman

Welcome to the fourth edition of the SLCT newsletter, which is timed to coincide with World Leprosy Day (28 January) We are delighted to be able to share with you reports from several of the charities which your generous donations have been supporting over the past year and hope these will inspire you to still greater efforts in 2018!



It is important that we continue to expand the range of leprosy related projects we support and in order to do this we need Commanderies and all Members to support the Trust financially. As World Leprosy Day approaches it is hoped that all will consider a regular monthly or annual donation. Standing Order and Gift Aid forms are available from the Grants Secretary ([ewsecretary@gmail.com](mailto:ewsecretary@gmail.com)). Several Commanderies are doing excellent work in targeting leprosy related projects especially Wales and King Offa, who have raised a donation of £ 1,500 to support EMMS. This is all excellent news.

## EMMS electives

The St Lazarus Charitable Trust has been working with EMMS International since 2014, supporting young medical students undertaking elective placements in leprosy-affected countries. We were delighted to welcome their Development Officer, Alison Steele, and 3 students to speak to members of the Order at the Liverpool Investiture in October.

Alison writes:

‘It was a pleasure to bring bursary winners and the Order together, and enable Emma Bean, Judith Clarke, and Andrew Duncan to share their experiences of what being on elective was like. Emma and Judith are currently in their final year studying for a Medicine degree at the University of Glasgow, and Andrew is now working as a doctor at Ninewells Hospital in Dundee.

‘They all painted a fantastic picture of how unforgettable their electives were; Emma spent her elective at Anandaban Leprosy Hospital in Nepal. By a happy coincidence, one of the Order members present had been a doctor at the same hospital and so he and Emma swapped stories! Judith was at Makunda Leprosy Hospital in India for her elective, and she witnessed the amazing work all of the hospital staff do with the limited resources they have at their disposal. Andrew

told a similar story of how resourceful Nkhoma Mission Hospital was in Malawi. He was able to complement his colleagues' knowledge of particular illnesses, and learnt a great deal from his time at this busy mission hospital.



*L to R: David Powell KCLJ (Chair SLCT), Alison Steele, Dr Andrew Duncan, Emma Bean, Judith Clarke, Dr David Knox CLJ*

'We at EMMS International are very keen to bring the Order closer to the fantastic work that they are supporting, so more presentations have been, and will hopefully continue to be, organised over the coming months. Many thanks to the St Lazarus Charitable Trust for inviting us down to Liverpool.'

### **TLM – 30 years of partnership**

The Trustees were pleased to welcome Vicki Davison and Andrew Ellis from TLM (The Leprosy Mission) to their recent meeting. Their presentation reflected on the long relationship between our two organisations and painted an inspiring picture of all that had been achieved so far.

They reminded us that TLM works in 11 countries in Africa and Asia, covering a population of some 305 million people. The Trust has supported 5 different projects over the years, most recently the provision of a phaeoemulsifier to Premananda Hospital in Kolkata, as reported in the previous edition of this newsletter.

Several of the Trustees will be joining Vicki and Andrew on a trip to India later this year and are looking forward to seeing in action some of the projects we have supported, including the Rainbow Children's Home and the Bankura Snehalaya.

## Rufiji Leprosy Trust



Sarah Feather, Co-Chair and Trustee of the Rufiji Leprosy Trust, one of the charities we have been supporting during 2017, writes:

In October I visited Kindwitwi village in Tanzania to see the various projects the Rufiji Leprosy Trust supports. As you are aware, the St. Lazarus Charitable Trust is supporting the work of the shoemaker Saluum and also providing funding for food for the villagers who are so affected by leprosy that they are unable to support themselves. Saluum is kept very busy visiting outlying villages, making and repairing bespoke shoes for people affected by leprosy.

The picture shows villagers collecting their weekly food allowance. Some of those supported are now in their eighties and have been in Kindwiwti since the 1950's. Chatting to them they said how much things had changed since they first arrived, especially with respect to the stigma they experienced in the past. They say they are now comfortable to travel to the nearby town, something they would have avoided in years gone by.'

## The Vidiyal Trust

We have also received a fascinating and detailed report of the activities of the past year from Canon Pat Atkinson and The Vidiyal Trust. It is too long for us to reproduce here, but please do not hesitate to get in touch if you would like to be sent a copy.

Canon Pat tells us that the Trust's work continues to move forward, assisted by the grants received from the St Lazarus Charitable Trust. One of the highlights this year has been the inauguration of a smallholding, which will greatly assist the finances of the Trust as well as providing food supplies, and work and training opportunities. Medical care for leprosy sufferers and the provision of healthy food are vital and the recently purchased new ambulance/transport vehicles are proving a real asset in this work.

Canon Pat sums up the work of Vidiyal in the words of a new hymn:

*Go to the hungry, to those who have nothing  
Go where the farmlands are empty and bare  
Go where my sheep are rejected and lost  
I dined with sinners and reached out to lepers  
Go and do likewise and not count the cost*

## And finally...

A date for your diaries:

We are pleased to announce that a chamber concert will be held at St Paul's

Chairman:  
David Powell KCLJ  
Hon. Treasurer:  
Jonathan Prichard  
KCLJ  
Clerk:  
Dame Val Hiscock DCLJ

Knightsbridge on Tuesday 12 June, 2018, to raise money for the St Lazarus Charitable Trust. We are very grateful to The Revd Alan Gyle for allowing us the use of this church, with its splendid musical tradition, for this event. The concert will feature music by Rachmaninov, Schubert (the E flat piano trio) and the forgotten Derbyshire composer, Roger Sacheverell Coke (his "Elegiac" trio, inspired by Rachmaninov). The pianist will be the talented Simon Callaghan who recorded the 3 extant piano concertos by Coke for Hyperion, recently released as a CD in Hyperion's "Romantic Piano Concerto" series and which reached No. 3 in the Classical Charts. The violinist and cellist will be announced shortly.