



St Lazarus Charitable Trust Newsletter

NO 3: MAY 16, 2018

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From the Chairman

Welcome to the third edition of the SLCT Newsletter. It was excellent to see so many of the Order at the Investiture in London at the end of April. Included in this edition is news of some of our more recent initiatives. In 2016 the World Health Organisation launched the Global Leprosy Strategy 2016 – 2020 “Accelerating towards a leprosy free world”. Today there are over 5 million sufferers of this disease and over 80% of these cases are found in five countries; India, Indonesia, Burma, Brazil and Nigeria. The SLCT can help to make a difference in this strategy. Our resources are, of course, limited but I am hopeful that we can raise even more to support the eradication of leprosy and offer cure and relief to those already suffering. In this edition we give details of the grants your charity made in 2016.

Fundraising is an essential part of our raison d’être. Last year we had the dinner at the House of Lords preside over by our Grand Prior. Later, I was especially touched to receive a one-off donation of some six thousand pounds. This year a fund raising dinner was held in March and some £ 5,000 was raised. Forty or so members make a monthly contribution to the Charity and some an occasional one-off donation. If you do not already do so would you consider so doing? Also please would you consider leaving the SLCT a legacy in your will? The more funds your Trust receives the more it can contribute to the worldwide work of Leprosy relief.

David Powell KCLJ

Job opportunity – Trust Manager

The St Lazarus Charitable Trust is seeking to appoint a part-time volunteer manager to focus on developing working relationships with client charities and beneficiaries and deepening the understanding of the Trust’s work with members of the Order in England & Wales.

Remuneration: Agreed expenses

Commitment: Equivalent to two days per month

Location: Home based

Line Manager: Trust Chairman

Job Description: On application to Dame Val Hiscock DCLJ at

val@lawfordpark.co.uk

Grants 2016

During the year ended 31 December 2016, the Trust made the following grants:

The Leprosy Mission £12,000 (single grant, paid in 2017) – to purchase a phaeoemulsifier for Premananda Hospital, Kolkata

EMMS International £15,000 (second of three grants) – provisions and support of medical electives

LEPRA £4,300 (second of two grants) - support for a mobile tracing unit in India

Vidiyal Trust £3,000 (second of three grants) – to support Canon Pat

Atkinsons's work with leprosy sufferers in India

Promise Nepal £4,250 (single grant) – to help refurbish the clinic premises of the Bombay Leprosy Project in Maharashtra State, India

Rufiji Leprosy Trust £8,300 (first of three grants, paid in 2017) – supporting people affected by leprosy in the Rufiji area of Tanzania

Commandery grants via the Trust

Aragon – £1,000 to DebRA

London & Westminster - £1,000 to MORE (Mission of Rural Egypt)

Sussex – £1,000 to Sussex hospices

Wales - £1,500 for a medical elective

Unrestricted donations

Avalon Charitable Trust - £500

Cumbria - £500

London & Westminster - £85

John of Gaunt - £3,000

Wales - £1,000

EMMS student bursaries

EMMS International is one of the charities currently being supported by the Trust and we were pleased to receive this update from Alison Steele, who manages the bursary scheme:

'We had a large number of applications again for this bursary round, almost 40 in total, and we have now chosen two recipients of £1,000 bursaries – both of whom are heading to hospitals that specialise in treating and supporting those living with leprosy.

Emma is heading to Nepal in July to work at the Anandaban Leprosy Hospital, and Judith is going to India in July to work with Makunda Christian Leprosy Hospital. They both wrote very strong applications, and were identified by our external assessors as excellent candidates for the bursaries - I was pleased to share your focus on leprosy eradication with them, and let them know just how much we would look forward to hearing back on their experiences on elective.

We will also make a further nine awards of £500 to students who have been put forward by our assessors as worthy candidates; they are going to as diverse places as Malawi, Uganda, Papua New Guinea and more!

Telemedicine and more

The Commander of Wales, Chev. David Woolf K LJ, has kindly shared news of his Commandery's recent charitable activities

The emergency Samburu appeal set up by our Commandery, which was triggered in response to some dermatological telemedicine data forwarded from drought stricken Kenya to Mr Daniel Morris CMLJ, has raised £1800 !!!

The appeal is now closed to enable our Receiver, Peter Hughes KLJ, to process the donations via the St Lazarus Trust and trigger the transfer of the monies to the Samburu Trust. This has been an amazing response from a Christian Order of Chivalry, and has demonstrated a commitment in the Commandery to the Lenten ideal of almsgiving to alleviate the plight and suffering others. Thank you to all of you who have given so generously to this, and our other causes. I am sure that Daniel will say a few words at our AGM about how the monies raised are to be spent in Samburu.

The Commandery has also sent a donation to the Cathedral School Llandaff (CSL) help them in their support of an orphanage project in Belarus. Sixth Form students from CSL will be travelling to Belarus this summer and will present to the orphanage a gift from the Commandery.

And finally...

In case you didn't spot it back in January, the BBC website contains a report on a fascinating piece of research into the medieval spread of leprosy, which attributes its rapid spread across Europe from its origins in ancient China, India and Egypt to religious pilgrims travelling to foreign shrines. You can find the article at <http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/science-environment-38748911?SThisFB> – well worth a look!

**The St Lazarus
Charitable Trust**
Registered charity
no 286918

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