

HOSPITALLER REPORT FOR THE GRAND PRIORY OF ENGLAND AND WALES 2018

Background

The hospitaller work undertaken by the Grand Priory of England and Wales is achieved primarily through grants made by the St Lazarus Charitable Trust - <http://www.stlazaruscharitabletrust.org.uk/> - to which members make payments either by regular individual donations or from the proceeds of money raised at local level through a variety of fundraising activities of individual Commanderies. The following Report will firstly delineate the achievements of the Trust followed by outlining the activities of the individual Commanderies of the Grand Priory of England and Wales.

The landing page of the Trust's webpage alluded to above describes the Trust's vision as being active in the prevention and alleviation of leprosy world-wide. Based on this vision their mission is described as helping and supporting those in need, especially those suffering from leprosy or similar diseases and secondly to begin to change the public perception of leprosy in England and Wales.

Achievement and Performance of the Trust

During the year ended 31 December 2018 the Trust distributed **£72,382**. The Trustees approved, or continued, the following grants from general funds:

EMMS International (formerly the Edinburgh Medical Missionary Society): £13,500 to support medical electives (1st of three grants)

TLM (The Leprosy Mission): £28,913 for the Bankura Vocational Training Centre (1st of three).

Many leprosy-affected people are unable to work, and those who can are denied opportunities because the stigma around this disease is so extreme. Abandoned by their families and communities, people affected by leprosy are left with no choice but to beg on the streets to survive. Vocational training is one of The Leprosy Mission's answers to this problem. Every year, young people affected by leprosy and disability are taught the skills they need to earn a living, rather than beg for one. The Leprosy Mission runs six vocational training centres in India, one of which is in Bankura, West Bengal. The picture below shows the Mercy Home garden with residents learning skills they can utilise to earn a living.



The Rufiji Leprosy Trust: £8,300 for general work at Kindwitwi Village and Leprosy Care Centre, Tanzania (2nd of three).

This grant will help the trust to provide the most vulnerable villagers with food for the next three years and ensure they receive appropriate footwear to minimise risks of developing further disability. Foot ulcerations and tissue breakdown are a real issue for people suffering from leprosy. The picture below illustrates patients having their foot problems treated and dressed. Simple shoes and sandals help prevent foot tissue breakdown and reduce the need for more severe interventions as illustrated here.



SSAFA (The Armed Forces Charity): £500 for general funds.

The charity provides lifelong support to serving men and women and veterans from the British Armed Forces and their families or dependents.

The trustees also additionally approved the following grants from restricted Commandery Funds:

For the years 2019/2020 the trustees made further commitments totalling **£105,283** to The Rufiji Leprosy Trust (£8,300 in 2019); EMMS (£17,500 in 2019 and £20,000 in 2020); TLM (£29,081 in 2019 and £30,402 in 2020).

In November 2018, the chair of the Trust, Chev. David Powell and the Treasurer, Chev. Jonathan Prichard, joined a tour of TLM projects in northern India which had been supported through the Trust. It was an opportunity to see the life-enhancing work funded by the Trust as well as contribute to ensuring that the Trust's gifts were being put to good use. One of the projects supported by the Trust was supplying a phacoemulsifier. The technique of phacoemulsification involves cataract surgery in which the eye's internal lens is emulsified with an ultrasonic handpiece and aspirated from the eye. The picture below shows David Powell examining a potential patient with the phacoemulsifier.



The Trust has also appointed a Trust Manager Professor Robert L Ashford. The Trust manager's remit is primarily twofold. First, to liaise with the Commanderies with a view to encouraging donations to the Trust by local fundraising events and by individual members making regular donations by standing order. Secondly to develop direct relationships with the charities supported by the Trust – as described above – and to facilitate communications between the two.

ACTIVITIES OF INDIVIDUAL COMMANDERIES

ARAGON

- DebRa (Dystrophic Epidermolysis Bullosa Research Association) - £1,250*
- LEPRRA - £750*
- Royal British Legion - £500*
- The Isabel Hospice - £52

AVALON

- St Lazarus Charitable Trust (unrestricted) - £750
- CHICKS - Country Holidays for Inner City Kids (provides free, week long respite breaks for disadvantaged children in the UK) - £300

- Shelter Box (National Charity providing emergency shelter and tools for families robbed of their homes by disaster) - £300
- Chernobyl Children's Lifeline (National UK Charity founded in 1992 to raise money to support the children of Belarus and Ukraine, whose lives will be forever affected by the aftermath of the Chernobyl nuclear disaster in April 1986) - £300
- SSAFA (The Armed Forces Charity) Devon - £100

CUMBRIA

- The Manchester Children's Hospital - £819*

KING OFFA

- EMMS INTERNATIONAL (medical elective) - £1,500*
- The Leprosy Mission - £500*
- Nepal Leprosy Trust - £250*

LONDON & WESTMINSTER

- CLAAS (Centre for Legal Aid, Assistance and Settlement – a Christian charity dedicated to helping persecuted Christians in Pakistan), - £500*
- LEPRAs - £500*

MERSEY

- EMMS INTERNATIONAL (medical elective) - £1,500*
- Maggie's Cancer Support Centre, Clatterbridge - £250
- Woodlands Hospice, Liverpool - £1,000
- Willowbrook Hospice, Liverpool - £500
- Marie Curie Hospice, Liverpool - £250

ROSE D'OR

- St Lazarus Charitable Trust (unrestricted) - £250
- Wet Wheels, Hamble (Charity providing water-based activity experiences for disabled people) - £350
- St Andrew's Church, Hamble - £100

SUSSEX

- STEP (UK) (a development charity committed to working alongside young people and their families in the Kurdish region of Iraq; by providing a safe environment and offering education, social welfare, health advice and support STEP brings hope to the children of displaced Christian families, enables

them to reach their full potential and empowers them to help others do the same), - £1,000*

- Kidney Research UK - £500*
- The 9 Sussex Hospices - £2,250
- [St Wilfrid's, Chichester; St Wilfrid's Eastbourne; St Catherine's; St Peter & St James; St Michael's; St Barnabas House; Chestnut Tree House; Martlet's Hospice; Earl Mountbatten Hospice - £250 each]
- St Margaret's Hospice, Yeovil - £500 (approx.) gifts in kind, donated to Hospice Shop.

WALES

- St Lazarus Charitable Trust (unrestricted) £1000
- The Leprosy Mission - £2,700*
- Samburu Trust, Kenya (telemedicine) - £700*
- Medical elective - £1,500*
- Orbis Flying Eye Hospital (Ethiopia 20yrs Appeal) - £1000*
- Army Benevolent Fund (The Soldiers' Charity) - £1,000*
- Aid to the Church in Need (Syrian Refugee Appeal) - £3,200*

*Given via The St Lazarus Charitable Trust

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