



**The Nick Webber Memorial Trust for Malawi
Trustees Report 2010**

Preamble

The Nick Webber Memorial Trust for Malawi was founded in November 2004 by the family and friends of Nick Webber, who had recently died in a road accident while working in Malawi as a Legal Aid solicitor on a pro bono basis. The Trust became recognised as a charity at law in England and Wales on 30 May 2005, which would have been Nick's 29th birthday. Had Nick lived longer, we know that he would have done much more good in the world. Our aim is to do some of that good in his name.

The registered objectives of the Trust are: The relief of poverty, hardship and distress and the relief of sickness, either generally or individually, among persons living in Malawi by the provision of financial assistance in obtaining goods, services or facilities, or at the discretion of the trustees by the provision of grants of money.

The charity also operates under the registered working name of: The Nick Webber Trust. The address of the charity is: 1 Apple Tree Walk, Climping, West Sussex, BN17 5QN

The website of the charity is at: www.nickwebbertrust.org.uk

This document contains the Trustees' financial report for the financial year 2009-10.

Structure, Governance, and Management

There are currently six Trustees: Pauline Webber (chair), Jane Abood, Christopher Holmes, Jonathan Webber, Mary Webber, Timothy Webber.

Trustees are appointed by a resolution of existing Trustees, of which there cannot be fewer than three. There is a Board of Advisers, to which appointments are made by the Trustees. There are currently sixteen members of the Board.

The operation of the Trust is governed by the Trust deed, to which one Supplemental has been made, an Ethos document, and a policy on the selection of partner organisations. A policy governing the adoption of education projects was adopted in July 2009. These can be downloaded from the Trust website, along with our annual reports.

Decisions are made by a majority of Trustees, with the Chair of Trustees having the casting vote in the case of an even split. Decisions are usually made at meetings, which are also attended by members of our Board of Advisers. There were two meetings in this financial year. Minutes of all

meetings are circulated to all Trustees and Advisers.

No project is adopted without first being thoroughly researched by Trustees and Advisers

Activities in the Financial Year 2009-2010

During this year we spent money on two ongoing projects and two new projects.

Fundraising

Most of the funds were raised through personal donations and proceeds of events organised in support of the Trust but not by the Trust itself. However, the Trust did organise three events that raised funds for the trust, the expenses of which were met by a trustee. These were a Genuinely Fun Five-a-side Football tournament, a thank you party in London for our supporters, and for the first time we also held a Garden Party in Sussex to thank our supporters, at which we ran a raffle and a bring-and-buy sale. We sold our own Christmas cards again, with the initial outlay covered and recouped from sales by one of the Trustees, and all profits going to the Trust.

Ongoing Projects

We continued our support of the Malawian health care charity Ndi Moyo by continuing to make “Nick’s Place” available rent-free for use by the Ndi Moyo clinic. In this financial year, “Nick’s Place” continued to be used extensively to house volunteers and trainees at the clinic.

We continued to pay a school support allowance for twenty-nine homeless children who could not be re-integrated into their families, through the Tikondane centre in Lilongwe. Twenty-six of these children were at state boarding schools. Two, both of whom we had supported the previous year, completed their MCSE to a sufficiently high standard to be admitted to further education training in IT, and we agreed to continue funding their studies as it would give them a chance to support themselves in the future. Another of the children had been taken out of school as she was not flourishing due to personal circumstances. We agreed to fund her instead through a tailoring apprenticeship. She has since successfully completed this and is now earning and living independently.

We continued our Bursary scheme for law undergraduates at the University of Malawi. The bursaries pay all tuition and maintenance costs for the undergraduate course. Our first student graduated during this year, and is now employed at the Legal Aid Department, where she has already been promoted to Senior Legal Aid Advocate. We were also supporting one student in each of the other three years of the undergraduate course. This year’s student was again selected by an interview with a representative of the Legal Aid Department, which administers the

Bursary money, and one of our Trustees .

We continued our scheme to sponsor students in the Usisya region, managed in Malawi by our UK-based partner organisation Temwa. Due to a difficulty with gaining accurate costings, the payment for the school year 2010 was delayed and as a result was not made during this financial year.

In September we completed our project with the villagers of Mbewa village in NkhotaKota district. In this project we financed the building of a two- classroom block at the village primary school, and equipped it with new desks and benches.

New Projects

An educational film charity, Purple Fields Productions, in conjunction with one of our project partners, Temwa, and a Malawi-based HIV/AIDS organisation, Yoneco, approached us for financial support for their project to make and distribute an educational film about HIV infection prevention in Malawi's main language of Chichewa and aimed at children. They needed £12000 to ensure that the project could go ahead. We offered to provide 50% of this if they could find another donor to match that amount. The project organisers succeeded in finding the other donor. The film was made during August 2009. Three thousand DVDs have since been manufactured and the project organisers are distributing and showing these all over Malawi. There were no further costs to us.

We received a proposal from Kochilira Community Day Secondary School for the construction of a science laboratory and a computer laboratory. The school has 500 students and at that time had only four classrooms. We were able to support the project and the first installment for the construction was paid in this financial year; it was completed in the following financial year, when the laboratories were opened by the Hon Theresa Mwale, Minister for Gender, Children and Community Development

These new projects were adopted in addition to, rather than instead of, a children's centre, which was agreed upon when the Trust was founded and upon which research is continuing.

Overheads

In pursuing its objects, the Trust makes no expenditure for travel, communication, staffing, office overheads, or other running costs. The costs incurred by the Genuinely Fun Five-a-side Football Tournament and public liability insurance were met by Trustees personally, as were the costs of the annual party and the printing of the Christmas cards. We continued to have

a page on the Justgiving website to assist donors, and the subscription for this too is met by a Trustee. This enables us to ensure that every penny donated is spent directly on our projects in Malawi.

The Trust would like to take this opportunity to express its gratitude to all who have supported it by making donations or by using their time and talents to further the objects of the Trust.

Risk Management

The Nick Webber Trust is aware that aid and development projects can have inadvertent negative side effects. To minimise this risk in the area of our education projects, we have adopted a policy on sourcing and assessing such projects, which must now derive from the democratic structure of Malawi or have beneficiaries within the government of Malawi's stated priority groups, and will be assessed along our general project selection guidelines of democratic accountability, community contribution, demonstrable impact, and long-term sustainability. This policy operates alongside our existing policy on the selection of partner organisations.

This financial year saw continued fluctuations in the value of Sterling against the Malawi Kwacha. This made transferring the correct amount of money difficult and for some projects additional "top up" payments were made in the following financial year to ensure that the projects received the promised amount in Malawi Kwacha.

Our strategy of retaining sufficient reserves to ensure that projects can be completed meant that we are able to absorb cost increases resulting from this fluctuation. To protect against any future such alterations in the financial landscape, we cost all of our projects, both new and existing, directly in Malawi Kwacha and make all agreements in that currency. We also ensure that our reserves can cover all of our commitments for three years into the future before making any new commitments, taking account of our basic income from standing orders on the assumption that this will not decrease by more than 10% per year. (This latter clause is a worst-case scenario measure; we in fact expect our standing order income to increase or remain the same year on year.)

Representatives of the Trust regularly visit Ndi Moyo clinic, the Tikondane centre, and the Legal Aid Department (which administers the funds for the Law Bursary scheme). One of the Trustees regularly checks the Legal Aid Department's accounts for the scholarship fund. Similarly, we keep in regular contact with UK officials of Temwa. A representative of the Trust paid several visits before, during, and after construction to our new partner, Kochilira Community Day Secondary School, and monitored all payments and receipts.

Financial Review

The Trust began the financial year with £51,178.80 in hand.

The total income for the year was £29,067.30, of which:

Donations received, including the proceeds of events organised by supporters, totaled £25,693.86

The Genuinely Fun Five-a-Side Football Tournament produced £1880 in entrance fees and sponsorship.

The raffle at our party in January produced £80

The Garden Party made a total of £724.40

Bank interest was £226.04

Profit from the sale of Christmas cards was £463

The Gift Aid claim was held over to the following financial year

Expenditure

The total expenditure for the year was £21,740.75:

Tikondane Centre school support allowances: £6128.75

Law Student Bursaries: £4580

Contribution to film project: £6000

First installment to buildings at Kochilira CDSS : £5032

Temwa school scholarships were paid in the following financial year.

Reserves

Reserves at end of financial year: £58,505.35

The total amount promised to projects until the end of 2013 is, MWK 15,517,980.00. That is £64,306 in today's exchange rate. (A further £16,464 is expected over this time from standing order income, following the rule outlined above.)

Declaration

The Trustees declare that they have approved the report set out above.

Signed on their behalf

Pauline Webber

(Chair of Trustees)

Date

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