

**African Mission
Annual Report
2009-2010**

The Aims of African Mission are “To fight disease and poverty in Africa by supporting educational & medical projects. “

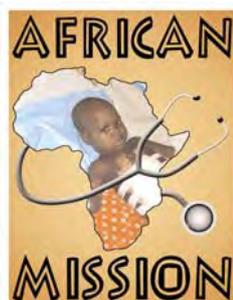
Background: African Mission was started in 2003 to support the work of Dr Ray Towey MB ChB FRCA. Dr Towey left his post as a Consultant Anaesthetist in Guys Hospital, London to work in Africa and for the last 17 years has dedicated his life to the improvement of health care for the poor in Africa. He has worked as an Anaesthetist in rural hospitals in Nigeria and Tanzania and has spent the last eight years in St Mary’s Hospital, Gulu, Uganda, training medical and nurse students in the safe administration of anaesthetics. He has also helped upgrade Intensive Care Units (ICUs) in both Tanzania and Uganda. African Mission raised the funds needed to buy the necessary ICU equipment and continues to support Dr Towey with medical equipment or training materials when the need arises.

On visiting the projects supported by the charity and being aware of the extreme poverty in Africa, Nannette Ffrench, who began the charity, decided to expand the work of African Mission. In July 2009 following a visit to Zimbabwe by Nannette & Dr Towey, African Mission decided to support three new projects based in Zimbabwe. The projects are (1) Fatima Mission (2) Fatima High School and (3) St Patrick’s Hospital. After a follow up visit by Nannette & Paddy Boyle to Zimbabwe in January 2010, Paddy offered his services as an Administrator. His offer was accepted and from March 2010 he became African Mission first employee and part time Administrator.

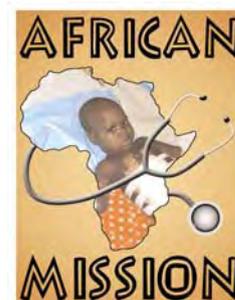
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African Mission Trustees: Nannette Ffrench, Tony Charlton & Pat Flood



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Dr Ray Towey

Dr Towey has been working as an Anaesthetist in Uganda at St Mary's Hospital Lacor, Gulu since 2002 and this has involved teaching medical students since the Medical School opened 6 years ago. St Mary's is a large church hospital in a remote rural area of Northern Uganda. It has 500 beds, 3 operating theatres and an Intensive Care Unit with 8 beds. It is a teaching hospital for Nurses and Laboratory Technicians and it is attached to Gulu University Medical School.

The majority of the patients are the rural poor and can come from up to 70 miles away. African Mission has provided Dr Towey with medical equipment consisting of oxygen concentrators, monitoring equipment, ventilators, laryngoscopes and intravenous catheters. We have also provided text books for training and drugs when needed.

One of the drugs which African Mission has bought for Dr Towey in order to treat Tetanus is Magnesium Sulphate. Tetanus is one of several serious illnesses which can kill if left untreated. In fact the mortality rate for those untreated is 95%. As the tetanus spore can be found in cow faeces it can get into the blood stream very easily especially through an open wound.

Adult patients treated with Magnesium Sulphate have a 50% chance of survival, whilst children have an 80% survival rate. Unfortunately babies under 1 month old only have a 13% survival rate.

How we have helped to date:

- Provided medical equipment
- Provided books for training
- Provided drugs

What we hope to do in the future:

- Continue to do all of the above
- Respond to needs highlighted by Dr Towey



St Mary's
Hospital

Case study



"This man was bitten by a snake and was admitted to St Mary's Hospital ICU in a very critical condition. The poison of snakes paralyses the muscles and the man could hardly breathe. We were able to put him on a ventilator and after 2 days his condition improved very much.

The donations we have received for monitors, oxygen concentrators and ventilators made us able to give him life saving treatment.

He is a farmer and has 6 children. Snakes are not the natural enemies of humans, they only bite if they are

accidentally trodden on. I thank our donors for making it possible for us to be able to give treatment to this man that made a difference". Dr Ray Towey

FATIMA

Fatima Mission is a Franciscan run Mission in rural Zimbabwe. When Nannette and Paddy visited in January 2010 they were shown around Fatima Mission by the priest in charge, Fr Jeya, a Franciscan Friar who has been working on the Mission for the last eight years. It is 900 sq kms in size and has a number of primary schools, a secondary school (Fatima High School) and a clinic (Lubimbi Clinic) within its boundaries.



One of the primary schools, Dungu Primary School, has no windows, a dirt floor and wooden benches. When we visited it also had no books, writing material or pens. The school is in an extremely remote area, a two hour drive from the main road (the only tarmac road in the vicinity). The children are very poor, coming from the Tonga People, one of the poorest groups in Zimbabwe.

The vast majority of those living within Fatima Mission's boundaries are very poor. African Mission intends to work with Fatima Mission to improve the life chances of these people through the provision of new and improved educational and medical facilities. We envisage that this will take a number of years to achieve.

Dungu Primary School

How we have helped to date:

- Supplied Dungu Primary School with textbooks, exercise books, chalk & pens.
- Supplied school fees and uniforms for 187 orphan children.

What we are in the process of doing:

- Building a new double classroom. Work started in August 2010.

What we hope to do in the future:

- Build a new teachers cottage for 3 teachers.



MISSION

Blind project

A particularly vulnerable group living within Fatima Mission are those who are blind. Fr Jeya was very anxious that they should be given the opportunity of an education. In order for this to happen a number of problems had to be overcome. In addition to the problem of accommodation and school fees a new toilet block with flushing toilets was needed.

Fr Jeya kept us up to date on what was happening - *On February 13 (2010) I went to Lubimbi to collect three blind children from the same family and brought them to Fatima Mission on the 14th. They are kept in our Pastoral Centre. I have talked to Mr. Siwela, a blind Primary School teacher whom you met when you visited the mission last time, regarding teaching them. He agreed to give them some lessons. He is also giving them practical lessons besides their learning which includes how to use the new toilets, washing clothes and taking them outside. They are slowly gaining confidence in walking by themselves though they still need some form of assistance. The names of the three children are Collen ((24 years old), Oscar (6 years old) & Helen (18 year old).*

A month later another 19 year old brother joined his siblings. They are all receiving a practical as well as an academic education, are learning to play musical instruments and are very happy to be at the Pastoral Centre.



New toilet block

How we have helped to date:

- By funding the accommodation & education fees for the above four individuals.
- By funding a new toilet block, without which none of the above would have been possible.

What we hope to do in the future:

- Provide Lubimbi Clinic with medicines & bandages.
- Provide Lubimbi Clinic a new Waiting Room.
- Provide Lubimbi Clinic with two new wards, one male & one female.



Lubimbi Clinic & donkey ambulance.

Fatima High School

Fatima High School (FHS) is by Zimbabwean standards a good school. The level of education is similar to that of Secondary education here in the UK. Despite the lack of basic infrastructure e.g. broken windows and desks, one text book between 10–15 pupils, the pupils were all very industrious and keen to learn. It is our intention to build an ongoing relationship with Fatima High School and given adequate funding we hope to provide text books and any equipment necessary to provide a good standard of education.

Although it costs \$300 a term for Boarders to attend, 20% of the places are reserved for the local population. These are local children who have completed their primary education at the local primary school. Most of these are very poor children whose parents cannot afford to pay any fees. Quite a number of these poorer children are sponsored by the Catholic Sisters (the Franciscan Missionaries of Divine Motherhood) who work within Fatima Mission.

How we have helped to date:

- Provided textbooks for the following subjects – Geography & English
- Photocopier
- Data Projector
- Laptop
- DVDs for English literature

What we are in the process of doing:

- Providing Science textbooks
- Providing Science equipment
- Providing Classroom Boards x 20
- Providing costs of satellite broadband

What we hope to do in the future:

- Provide textbooks for remaining subjects (one subject at a time)
- Provide necessary equipment (to deliver a good standard of education)
- Consider sponsoring poor children whose parents cannot afford the school fees



Fatima High School

FHS students
sharing
a
textbook



**AFRICAN MISSION
09-10 Accounts**

Year ended
31st March 2010

Year ended
31st March 2009

Receipts

Donations	47854		30906
Interest received	46		55
	-----		-----
Total Receipts	47900		30961

Expenditure

Medical/educational			
Uganda	12316		22284
Zimbabwe	15486		
Shipping costs	456		1066
	-----		-----
	28258		23350
Administration			
Office costs	1762		541
Bank charges	58		232
Fundraising	374		
Travel	1969		
	-----		-----
	4163		773
Total expenditure	32421		24123
Receipts less expenditure	15479		6838

Statement of assets and liabilities

	Year ended 31st March 2010	Year ended 31st March 2009
Cash at bank	32206	16727
Debtors	-----	-----
	-----	-----
	32206	16727
Liabilities	-----	-----
	-----	-----
	32206	16727

A Charlton - Treasurer

St Patrick's Hospital

St Patrick's Hospital is on the outskirts of Hwange, a Colliery town in the North West of Zimbabwe. The nearest city is Bulawayo, 335 kms to the south. St Patrick's is the main hospital for Hwange's 45,000 population and surrounding rural area. *"Almost all those living in the rural area (approx.45,000 people) are living below the poverty line, officially classified as subsistence farmers. As a result of the challenging economic situation the people suffer particularly from nutritional deficiencies, malaria, communicable diseases and conditions related to pregnancy, childbirth and the newborn. The death rate of children under five has increased immensely over the past decade."* St Patrick's Annual Report 2009.

St Patrick's is an efficiently run and very clean 72 bed hospital but once gain lacking basic essentials such as mosquito mesh wiring for the windows (some of which needed replacing) and curtain railings between beds. As Malaria kills one million African children every year we decided to fund the mosquito mesh wiring immediately. We have also provided funding for the curtain railings and a much needed new incinerator. Once again we hope to have an ongoing relationship with St Patrick's and through the provision of necessary equipment (such as that mentioned above) help them provide a good standard of care for all their patients.

How we have helped to date:

- Replaced mosquito mesh wiring
- Replaced broken window panes
- Replaced curtain rails around beds

What we are in the process of doing:

- Building a new incinerator

What we hope to do in the future:

- Respond to need when funding allows



St Patrick's Hospital



Curtain rails being installed



Nannette meeting the Matron of St Patrick's

New mosquito mesh wiring (below)

