

Friends of Burundi Annual Report 2008-9 & Financial Statement

Registered Charity No. 1117715

This has been a year of steady activity.

Governance

The Trustees remain as: Keith Anderson, William Challis, Hugh James and Andrew Maclay.

The Committee were all re-elected at the Annual General Meeting, with the addition of Roger and Miranda Bowen (One to attend):

Chairman: William Challis, Secretary: Hugh James, Treasurer: Keith Anderson, Assistant Secretaries: Pam Brooks and Sue Finlayson, Other Committee members: Roger/Miranda Bowen, Pat Brooks, Georgette Butera, Alison Gill and Andrew Maclay

Meetings of the Trustees

The Trustees met at the time of the annual meeting, on 29 November, 2008. They also held a 55 minute telephone conference call on 29 June 2009. The main matter discussed were the allocation of donations.

They also communicated regularly by e-mail with all the Trustees copied into the message.

Meetings of the Committee

The committee received minutes of the Trustees telephone conference and met as a group on 29 November, 2008 prior to the 2008 annual meeting. The committee approved the 2007-8 annual report and the financial statement for the same period which had been circulated by e-mail prior to the meeting

The Annual General Meeting

This was held at 2.0pm on Saturday 29 November 2008 during the CMS Mid-Africa Region Conference at the Swanwick Conference Centre, Derbyshire.

Present: Three trustees five committee members, 22 members, four people requesting membership and seven non-members.

The current officers were re-elected, together with the existing committee and Roger or Miranda Bowen.

The annual report for 2007-8 and the financial statement for the same period had been circulated by e-mail prior to the meeting. Questions were answered on them.

Reports were received from the following people who had visited or were involved with work in Burundi:

- i. Jane Hill: CORD (Christian Outreach Relief and Development), Rutana, Burundi.
CORD is a Christian based QANGO that has worked in relief situations throughout the world and which now has development projects in Burundi. Jane gave details of the work.
- ii. Peter Sanders : Bethesda Project, Muyinga
Peter runs Kepplewray, an Outward Bound Centre, near Broughton in Cumbria, combining facilities for impaired and non-impaired people. At the invitation of bishop Eraste of Muyinga Diocese Stephen and Lucy McIlhenny will set up a project with a similar vision in his diocese in conjunction with Eraste. They described the plans.
- iii. Geoffrey and Georgette Butera: Herridge Technical School, Karusi
Herridge School which opened in September 2007 now has 80 children. However, finance has been difficult recently but they have been encouraged by visits and support from the UK.
- iv. Jane and Ralph Hangar of the African Pastors Fellowship spoke of the lack of literature for Burundi pastors. CEPRODILLIC has translated Swahili commentaries into kirundi and is now encouraging local writers.

Alison Gill, Bujumbura, spoke of her visit to Burundi with YWAM. She spoke of her plans (now materialised) to go to Burundi long-term in January 2009. She spoke of the reconciliation ministry she feels called to.

- v. Roger and Miranda Bowen had led the Burundi Encounter trip to Matana. It was a rewarding time. They asked for prayer for Archbishop Bernard at the peacekeeping meeting in Kigali.
- vi. Sally Botteley spoke about Francois and Theo who started Rema Ministries while still refugees, but they now live in Burundi. This support reconciliation and the return of refugees. They asked for prayer that returning Pastors will be accepted as equals .

William Challis mentioned the possibility of funding this work from a FoB donation

Other meetings.

We had hoped to co-host a meeting about Burundi with some other group. Unfortunately, this has not proved possible.

Communication with Members.

As previously, electronic communication with our members has been at the heart of our activities. Our website, (www.friendsofburundi.org.uk), has been updated regularly with news from the Anglican Church and several of its Dioceses and with news of Friends of Burundi and others who have spent time working in Burundi.

Donations.

As before, each member was invited to nominate good causes in Burundi for support. These were discussed by the trustees and the grants made are detailed in the financial statement.

The largest donation was towards a project to help re-establish refugees in the diocese of Musinga.

The nomination papers for the next round of donations have already been sent out to members.

Contact by Friends of Burundi members with Burundi.

Pat and Pam Brooks and Joan Botterill

they again visited Burundi in January 2009. Pat did Bible teaching at Buye and Matana, while Pam worked with the Mothers' Union and distributed reading spectacles to people whose eyesight had deteriorated through age and were unable to read otherwise..

Alison Gill.

Alison Gill is now working in Burundi, hoping to be involved with reconciliation ministries. She is currently improving her French and learning Kirundi.

Hilary Warner

Was invited by the Anglican Church in Burundi to run a 3-day trauma healing training workshop in September for around 25 church leaders in the capital, Bujumbura,

Steve and Lucy McIlhenny

hope to fly to Burundi to inaugurate the Keppleway style Bethesda project in November this year.

Reading spectacles.

A generous donation to Friends of Burundi allowed us to purchase about 1000 simple reading spectacles. These were transported with Pat and Pam Brooks and distributed (see above) to the needy poor who were unable to read due to old age lack of ocular accommodation.

Recession

As the prolonged recession continues in Britain, many charities have seen donations fall. Poor countries are already badly hit and it is important that we continue to support the needs of the poorest.

2009 Annual General Meeting

The Next Annual General Meeting will take place at 2:15 PM on Friday 28 November 2009 in the Mulberry Room at the High Leigh conference centre, Hoddesdon, Hertfordshire.

William Challis (Chairman)
Hugh James (Secretary)

2 November 2009

Friends of Burundi

Annual Financial Report to 30th. September 2009

This is our third financial report since we received charity status from the Charities Commission. For tax recovery purposes we end our financial year on 30th. September. On September 30th 2009 we had a bank balance of £1,143.75 and £2,104.71 deposited with the Charities Aid Foundation which has earned £45.94 interest. This leaves a net balance this coming year of £3,248.46 (rounded down to £3,200) available for distribution to other projects in Burundi. During the 08/09 year we gave away grants totalling £4,188.14.

Currently charities are receiving derisory interest from the banks -in our case 0.2 of 1%. It does not seem right that charities should be forced in this way to support the failed banking system. Interest for this coming year is not likely to exceed £5 -a drop of £40.

Since 1st. October 2008 50 people have paid a membership subscription -37 of whom paid by standing orders from their banks. As our year starts on 1st. October I am ready to receive subscriptions & donations for 2009/10 from those who have not yet signed a bank standing order. This year we have reclaimed a total of £610.23 Gift Aid tax from the Inland Revenue.

The summary of income and expenditure to 30th September 2009 is as follows (2007/8 figures in brackets):-

Income		Expenditure	
Cash at bank 30.09.08	£343.14 (£2,360.00)	Reading glasses for Burundi	*£938.14 (£970.00)**
Cash on deposit “	£3,059.82 -	Muyinga Diocese -prison	£120.00 (£400.00)
Donations including glasses	£2,883.52 (£2,477.86)	“ “ -Bible School	£400.00
Gift Aid tax reclaim	£610.23 (£766.32)	REMA Ministries	£380.00
Interest from CAF deposit	£45.94 (£59.82)	Herridge School project	£350.00 (£400.00)
Subscriptions	£530.00 (£570.00)	Kayanza FFH Goat project	£500.00 (£900.00)***
		Muyinga Refugee project	£1,400.00
		Arlette Rurihafi Burundi elective	£100.00 (£91.35)****
		Information Commission sub	£35.00 (£35.00)
		CAF transfer charges	£1.05 (£34.69)
		CAF deposit 30.09.09 c/fwd	£2,104.71 (£3,059.82)
		Cash at bank “ “	<u>£1,143.75</u> (<u>£343.14</u>)
	<hr style="width: 20%; margin-left: 0;"/>		
	£7,472.65 (£6,234.00)		£7,472.65 (£6,234.00)
	<hr style="width: 20%; margin-left: 0;"/>		
Credit balance at 01.10.09 CAF	£2,104.71		
Cash at bank	£1,143.75		

* Designated gift by the donor ** Three designated gifts in 07/08

*** Other gifts in 07/08 ****Southampton meeting cost in 07/08

Keith B. Anderson, Hon. Treasurer & Trustee, St. Luke's Day, 18 October, 2009