

## CHRISTADELPHIAN MEAL-A-DAY FUND

Bro/Sis.....

### Welcome ...

..... to our first 2008 newsletter. Included in this edition is a summary of the Christadelphian Meal a Day Fund (CMaD)'s 2007 financial position, an update on our work and operations, details of recent grants made by the Fund, feedback reports on a number of projects we are involved with, and news of our new DVD ! Read on!

### NEWS

#### Kenya's political unrest

We are relieved, and grateful to our Heavenly Father, to report that all the children, staff, projects and facilities CMaD has in Kenya emerged entirely unscathed in the civil unrest there following the national election of late December 2007. Thank you to those who thought about these vulnerable people, who prayed for them and got in touch with us to enquire as to their welfare. Both a trustee's visit to Kenya in February and the CBM pastoral visit at Easter had to be postponed but, DV we expect to visit in June.

But there are long term consequences - people are much more insecure and the price of all foods and other basic necessities have increased very steeply – in the case of maize by 75% already. We are aware of this and will take the steps necessary to ensure that everyone we support there is looked after as before and will not fear for the future.

#### The true cost of living

You will have read about how market prices for essential foodstuffs are increasing throughout the world, due to increased global demand for food and the curious effects of biofuel production in the rich West.

We need to remember that what is an inconvenient or stressful 'cost of living' increase for most of us is simply devastating for many millions living in marginal circumstances throughout the world, who simply do not have any reserves of income to pay higher prices even for basic commodities like rice, maize or vegetables. Their only 'choice' is to eat less, and less often - or not eat at all. Malnutrition or outright starvation is expected to increase over the next few months, which will become for them the true cost of living.

With your continued financial support we will do everything we can to alleviate that suffering in the communities where we work today.

### Our UK Address

Christadelphian Meal-A-Day Fund  
PO BOX 1178  
BRISTOL  
BS39 4WT  
UK

### E-mail Updates

Remember that you can choose to receive more regular updates on CMaD activity by registering your request at [info@meal-a-day.org](mailto:info@meal-a-day.org) including 'email news' in the subject line. Please tell us your name and ecclesia. You can later unsubscribe from these bulletins if they do not work for you.

### Project Reports

#### New Children's Home in Kamakuwya, Kenya

Significant funding for this new project has been agreed by CMaD, working with CBM UK and Agape in Action (Canada), and plans readied for construction of suitable accommodation to house 60 children, plus house parents. Construction has been delayed by the civil unrest in the country referred to in the news section, but we expect it to have started by the time this is published. We will provide an update on progress in future editions.



#### Candu Crèche, Eastern Cape, South Africa

In the rural Eastern Cape of South Africa, south of Umtata, is a village called Candu, where there is a very dynamic little Christadelphian ecclesia. The brothers and sisters there have established a crèche that provides free day care and a meal to around 50 children from the local community, allowing their parents to work and support themselves. It also provides much needed employment to the teachers, a number of whom are members of Candu ecclesia. CMaD provided £1000 towards food costs in 2006/7 and has provided more than £2000 to pay for food and teachers' salaries for 2007/8.

More project reports on page 3.

## New DVD on CMaD's Work

### Pursuing the Second Great Commandment: Love thy neighbour as thyself

We are delighted to announce the release of a DVD documentary on the work of the Fund. Using footage of a visit to our projects in Kenya, it runs for 35 minutes and explains how CMaD is changing lives, and how it fits in beside the work of the Bible Mission. The message is both powerful and very moving. It is suitable for internal audiences, families and interested friends who understand a little about the Christadelphian organisation.

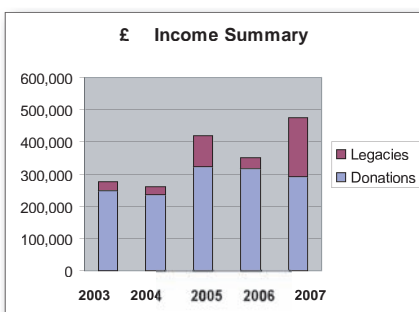
A free copy of the DVD has been sent to all UK ecclesias with this newsletter. Ask to borrow your ecclesia's copy or, better still, encourage an ecclesial evening to view it together. It can be presented by a UK CMaD committee member if you wish, who will be able to answer questions and discuss the Fund's work with the ecclesia. Contact Bro Gordon Dawes in the first instance to arrange ([gordon.dawes@talk21.com](mailto:gordon.dawes@talk21.com)).

You can also buy a copy for yourself – please send a cheque, payable to Christadelphian Meal a Day for £5.00 (includes postage and packing and a contribution to CMaD) to Mr and Mrs J Manktelow, Cold Change Cottage, Inglestone Common, Badminton, Glos GL9 1BZ, UK.

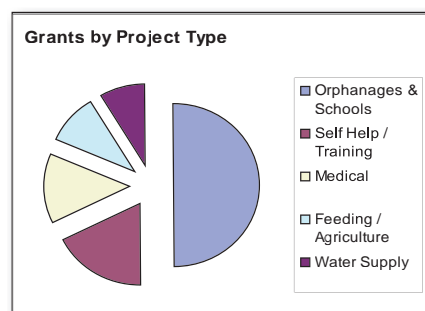
Our thanks go to Bro Steve Johnson (Bloomington, US) and the Williamsburg Christadelphian Foundation for producing and funding the DVD, and to Bro Alan Sutton (Mumbles) and CBM (UK) for making the arrangements and funding the visit in country.

## Annual Financial Report 2007

Total income for 2007 amounted to over £490,000, a record amount for the Fund. This was in part due to one especially generous legacy. We are very grateful for all donations, large or small and the ongoing response of the brotherhood to the work of the fund is truly gratifying.

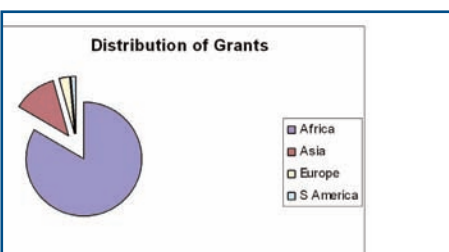


That said, you can see from the first graph that our donations other than legacies are trending DOWNWARDS – we urgently need your help to reverse this. We are increasing our spend year on year, in good faith that the money will continue to come in. We cannot, of course, rely on legacies! Please consider a regular standing order to the Fund, and ask your ecclesia to increase its collections for CMaD.



### How have we used the money entrusted to us?

Management of the Fund accounted for just 1.6% of total income in 2007; 1.1% on essential travel costs, and 0.4% on fundraising. The latter is kept low because most of the publicity is done on a voluntary basis. Visits to projects are important to ensure – and reassure – that the money you give is being used wisely and honestly to the benefit of the whole community.



Grants paid amounted to almost £311,000, and the charts show the geographical distribution and project type.

### What about ongoing projects such as the orphanages?

The Charities Commission now require us to provide in our current accounts for following year commitments, hence the Fund has to hold

over a provision of £199,000 (40% of current year income !!!) for 2008. Remember though that this covers only one year, so to keep the work going in the future your continuing support is vital.

## Working with CBM

A close working relationship with the CBM organisations around the world is important to us, and helps CMaD to identify areas of need and opportunity to work in the communities around ecclesias. CBM workers and linkmen are often the eyes and ears through which CMaD can identify, support and maintain projects on the ground. We are grateful to CBM teams for their work in support of our mission, and ask them to continue to identify where CMaD can help further.

CBM UK has asked us to take over full financial and operational responsibility for a number of projects that have previously been shared, to leave CBM free to concentrate on its prime task of preaching the Good News abroad and supporting overseas ecclesias and the welfare of brethren and sisters there. We have agreed to this.

So, over the next year or so, CMaD will become wholly responsible for the following:

- Christadelphian Blind and Handicapped School, Cameroon
- Benakuma School, Cameroon
- Meal a Day Academy, Monrovia, Liberia
- Freetown School, Sierra Leone
- Bujumbura School, Burundi

We are taking on the full financial cost of running these projects from CBM in faith, knowing that our donors and supporters will welcome this sensible realignment and will provide the increased financial income we will need to sustain them. You will see some of the costs in the projects list on page 4.

## What CMaD seeks to do

We have revised and simplified our 'mission statement':

Our intent is, as a practical witness to our faith, to share the blessings we receive from God with those who are in real need in the less developed parts of the world.

We seek to facilitate self-sufficiency and self-worth through sustainable, 'down to earth' local projects which:

- ◆ help to overcome the effects of hunger, disease, disability, destitution and homelessness.
- ◆ promote agriculture, clean water, basic health care and education.
- ◆ encourage sharing, learning and service to others.

## Africaid's WhizzKids United, South Africa

HIV/AIDS continues to ravage much of Africa. It is thought that 1 in 10 South Africans is HIV positive and the disease continues to spread. People often have the knowledge about HIV prevention but don't have the skills to put that knowledge into good use and protect themselves from HIV. Africaid's WhizzKids United is an exciting initiative designed to provide children with life skills and education about HIV prevention through the medium of football. This approach has been very successful and Africaid's experience has been that children aged 12 - 15 have found this style of teaching to be very engaging and are able to



remember the lessons learnt without getting bored!

WhizzKids United was developed and is run by Bro. Marcus McGilvray, who is a specialist HIV nurse. Marcus says, "I'd often wanted to be a missionary but knew I didn't have the skills needed – however, I knew that I was good at understanding and meeting the needs of fellow human beings and helping them gain purpose in life with respect, dignity and confidence".

The week-long course is held in schools and is made up of 10 x 2 hour sessions, each addressing a different aspect of football and life. Twelve boys and twelve girls engage in professional football training exercises. After each exercise they are brought back together around a flipchart on the field where the lessons from the training are interactively applied to life and to HIV prevention. The children are asked questions such as: To score a goal in football you have to beat the defenders and the goalkeeper but what obstacles do you have to overcome in life to achieve your goals? How do you prevent HIV infection becoming your biggest obstacle in life?

Ongoing support, e.g. counselling, is available to all the children going through the programme. All the teachers at each school receive HIV prevention training and young WhizzKids are encouraged to go on and train their peers in Africaid's life skills through Africaid's Peer Education programme.

So far, over 3000 children have been through the programme. CMaD has provided £30000 over a 2 year period towards enabling this exciting programme to continue.



## Tibetan Refugees in Nepal



The Chinese treatment of the Tibetan people has been much in the news recently. However the situation is not new. In 1949-50 Communist China began its occupation of Tibet. Since then more than a sixth of the Tibetan Population have died. Hundreds of thousands of refugees have fled over the border into Nepal and India. These are poor people fleeing to countries that have huge poverty problems themselves. For many years CMaD has been working through Trekaid to finance specific projects to aid Tibetans in refugee camps in Nepal. These camps are not transit camps but have become permanent homes. These people have nowhere else to go and receive no support from the Nepalese government.

Last year we funded the medical care in four camps, and gave aid to supplement nutrition to the elderly, a group who are particularly vulnerable. We helped repair several refugee homes, whose walls were literally falling down and roofs were leaking. We were able to respond to an urgent request to repair the toilet block in one camp, which was endangering the health of those living nearby. We continue to fund two nursery school teachers and their assistants in two camps. This not only means children are receiving an education but it allows their mothers to go out and work to obtain much needed income for the family. Last year we also completed funding of a waste management programme in two camps, a project we had started funding in 2004. We also continue to fund a project manager, a Tibetan refugee herself, who helps oversee the running of the camps, assessing and responding to need. Our continuing commitment enables longer term projects to be undertaken with accompanying benefits.

## Gift Certificates!

**Are you wondering how you can mark an occasion, with a thoughtful and ethical 'gift' ?**

Now you can make a donation to CMaD's work, as a memento of their occasion. Either we can send the certificate to them, if you give us the name and address in good time, or we'll send it to you for you to present. Write to bro Paul Collier at the address on page 4.

CHRISTADELPHIAN MEAL-A-DAY FUND	
To	<b>GIFT CERTIFICATE</b> A donation has been given to the Christadelphian Meal-a-Day Fund on your behalf.  <small>Our mission is to share the blessings from God with those in less developed parts of the world who have food, healthcare &amp; related needs. Many thanks for supporting Meal-a-Day in this. Registered charity no: 326265 www.meal-a-day.org</small>
From	
Date	

VOUCHER

## Other recent examples of projects supported

### Children (feeding and education)

Bogota	Colombia S America	£1500	to feed street children
Kokotoni	Kenya	£8100	to fund nursery school 2008
Nalondo	Kenya	£20500	to fund School for the Physically Handicapped 2008
Timboni	Kenya	£56000	to fund and feed Children's Home 2008
Freetown	Sierra Leone	£5450	for sanitation and new equipment at Freetown CMaD School
Kenema	Sierra Leone	£13500	to fund school for 2008 (plus adult literacy/health education for village)
Durban	South Africa	£2700	for meals for preschool children attending nursery in squatter camp

### Water

Ulumbi	Kenya	£500	for a large rainwater tank
Candu	South Africa	£300	to enlarge village dam
Kirukura	Uganda	£15000	towards clean water for village

### Other education and training

Bukavu	DR Congo	£120	for tools for carpentry training
Tamala	Ghana	£10000	for skills and business training
Wanjamma	Sierra Leone	£800	for adult literacy, health education and development programme in village

### Medical projects

Sight Savers	Guinea Bissau	£3000	to fund river blindness treatment
Fistula Hospital	Ethiopia	£5000	to fund treatment and rehabilitation
Bansang Hospital	Gambia	£3600	to equip female medical ward
Karonga	Malawi	£7000	to support people with HIV/AIDS
Mbengui	Cameroon	£12000	to support operations and rehab at the Blind and Handicapped School, and to train in making and fitting calipers
Wanjamma	Sierra Leone	£3500	for sanitation facilities for whole village

## CMaD Committee Updates:

### CMaD Asia Pacific

CMaD now has a full Committee in Australia, responsible for the Asia Pacific Region.

**Secretary:** Bro Ian Hyndman (Beechworth, Victoria) email: i.hyndman@bigpond.net.au  
**Treasurer:** Sis Meagan Reeve (Dandenong, Victoria) email: blossom@reevegroup.com.au  
**Publicity:** Bro Martin Catchlove (Melbourne, Victoria) email: mecatchlove@hotmail.com

This committee has developed a network of CMaD representatives in other states of Australia, and in New Zealand, to extend knowledge of the work of the Fund. It is starting to expand CMaD's work in Asia Pacific countries, and we welcome them to the work.

### CMaD of the Americas

We are working to develop a third CMaD Committee to cover the Americas. We hope to be able to announce the full membership of this in the next few months. The new Treasurer is Bro Casey Opitz (Richmond Chapel) : (email : the5wahoos@embarq-mail.com ) to whom dollar contributions can be sent.

In time these three committees, working together, will increase awareness of CMaD activities and share fundraising around the world, while becoming responsible for projects in their region.

### UK Committee

We welcome Sis Liz Lucas (Torquay) as a new trustee. We recently said goodbye to Bro John and Sis Gill Manktelow (Bristol, Downend) who retired from the Committee after an amazing 19 years of selfless service to the work of the Fund. We are very grateful to them for their application, practicality and love, and are thankful that they will continue to serve our merchandising and distribution service!

### UK Donations to:

Brother Paul Collier  
 Colvase House,  
 Widegates,  
 Looe,  
 Cornwall  
 PL13 1QA

### CHRISTADELPHIAN MEAL-A-DAY FUND Bankers Order

*Please cut the form at this line and send to Bro Paul Collier as above.*

Please pay Christadelphian Meal-A-Day (Account No. 60688576 at Barclays Bank plc (20.33.83) 18 Southgate Street Gloucester GL1 2DJ)

The sum of: £ \_\_\_\_\_ Words \_\_\_\_\_ Annually/monthly (please delete period not applicable), commencing on \_\_\_\_\_ (Date of first payment) Until further notice or until \_\_\_\_\_ (date of final payment) Your full name: (Mr/Mrs/Miss/Ms) \_\_\_\_\_

Your address: \_\_\_\_\_ Post Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Title of Bank/Building Society: \_\_\_\_\_ Account No: \_\_\_\_\_ Sort Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Bank Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Post code: \_\_\_\_\_ Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

### CHRISTADELPHIAN MEAL-A-DAY FUND Gift Aid Declaration

*Charity Registration No. 326265*

Full Name of Donor: \_\_\_\_\_ Address of Donor: \_\_\_\_\_

All donations I make from the date of this Declaration, until I notify you otherwise, are to be treated as Gift Aid Donations. Please note you must pay an amount of Income Tax and/or Capital Gains Tax equal to the amount CMaD will reclaim on your donation.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

