



Links

The Magazine of the Scottish Episcopal Church Mission Association

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Links

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..from the Secretary

Writing this edition of *Links* has brought two thoughts to mind.

Some things change very slowly. If you read the article on the History of SECMA (page 7) you will see that this organisation (among others) sent hymn books and liturgies to the new Christians in Africa and India. They were all in English, along with the western music. In some churches in Africa and India, these hymns are still sung today. More than a century later, one of our overseas contacts works to encouraging the writing of praise songs in the local language and style of music. Similarly, another continues to help the people of Nigeria learn to read in their own languages for the first time.

On the other hand, developing countries can develop very fast indeed. SECMA have supported the Mary Tindall Kilasimandry in Daraina, Madagascar, since 1999. At that time, it was vital accommodation for girls who had to stay away from home to access education. Now, just 13 years later, schools have sprung up across the area, and are more accessible. Currently, no girls are staying in the hostel – life has moved on, and the hostel has become redundant.

The Right Reverend Simon Oliver and the hostel's board of management are seeking a good use for the building, which is sturdy, and in an excellent location.

Hilary Blyth

Front Cover: The end of the school day at one of the seven educational centres across Kolkata supported by the Cathedral Relief Service.
Photo Vanessa Stark.

...from our Convener

Dear Friends,

Over the years, SECMA's members and friends have supported many projects overseas. All of the projects have been visited or recommended by church members, so that there is a 'living link' which is maintained by contact and correspondence. It is a source of great joy to be able to visit a project, or to receive a visit from someone bringing news, and to see or hear the difference that our support is making. It is a way in which we God's Love can transform the lives of others and of ourselves.

Recently I visited the Diocese of Calcutta with a group from the Diocese of St Andrews. The two Dioceses have established a Companion Link, building on a long-established relationship with the Church in Scotland dating from East India Trading Company times.

We stayed in a guest house in the compound of one of the Victorian churches, across the road from 'The Mother House', the Convent founded by Mother Teresa for those who joined her in caring for the poorest of the poor, who are called 'The Missionaries of Charity'. We visited the Mother House and saw the small nun's room, an exhibition about her life and call, her tomb in the old refectory and the chapel next to it. Mother Teresa had no intention of founding a new Order, but heard a Call from the Virgin Mary to look after the helpless and the destitute who had flocked to Calcutta as a result of the Bengal famine. She received a vision of Christ in these people, Christ hanging on the Cross saying 'I Thirst'.

All the people were, and still are cared for with the same dignity, regardless of nationality, caste, religion, disease or disability, because they are recognised as part of Christ's Body, and the daily devotion to Christ extends from prayer and worship to caring for His suffering ones in the streets.

A visit to the Home for Abandoned Babies was equally moving. Visitors are taken by the hand by one or more of the children and led to the playground, where adults are encouraged to play, to receive hugs and attention from the children. The roles are reversed and the children in their neediness give so much love that many choose to adopt a child from there.

We Christians, God's Children by adoption, are privileged to be invited to draw closer to Christ by being led by one of His little ones young or old into a new relationship of sharing love, bread and company. Every day Christ calls out "I thirst". Thank you to those who respond to the opportunities to pray and to serve Christ's people given by SECMA. May God continue to bring delight and new life through enjoyment of His Presence in those brought low by age and adversity.

Vanessa Stark

Deadline for contributions for the next edition of LINKS
Tuesday 3rd September, please.

New Projects

Path lighting at Bishop Barham University College,

SECMA's mission partner, Liz Traill, made us aware of some of the difficulties of moving around after dark in rural Africa. Liz is the Environment Consultant for the Bishop Barham University College (BBUC), near Kigale in South-Western Uganda. When night falls in Uganda, it falls very fast and unless the moon is out, the night is pitch black.

Those students who are lucky enough to go University in Uganda tend to be highly motivated. Virtually all of the students spend the evening in the library studying. They only leave when the library closes at 10pm. The same problem reoccurs every morning, as the dining halls open for breakfast before the sun rises, in time for prayers at 8 am.



The start of the path—Photo BBUC

BBUC has a small campus in a rural setting. Generally, the female students have lodgings within the perimeter fence of the college. The male students live in private hostels which have been built in amongst the fields. Five of these hostels are accessed by one narrow, slippery and uneven footpath. The path snakes between boundary hedges and along crop margins.

In the dry season, the path is rough, but passable in daylight. In the wet season it becomes very slippery, and after dark, negotiating the footpath is difficult.

Injuries, although minor so far, occur regularly, particularly in

the rainy season. Occasionally, students have been attacked in the dark.

SECMA was able to give BBUC £600 which paid for the installation of the security lights, poles and all the electrical wiring by a team of contractors.

The work was done quickly and efficiently. There was even a small amount of money left over, which the College intends to use to upgrade the surface of the path.



Electricity poles and lights installed.
Photo BBUC

Relief for refugees, Diocese of Kinkiizi, Uganda

SECMA was made aware of the plight of refugees arriving at the Ugandan border via a link between St. Peter's, Nyakinoni in Kinkiizi Diocese and Christ Church in Falkirk.

The Right Reverend Dan Zoreka of Kinkiizi Diocese became aware that the Ugandan Government's transit camp in Matanda was filling up with refugees fleeing from violence in the east of the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC). Those arriving were mainly women, children and the elderly.

The Matanda Transit Camp had been empty since 2003 when the civil war in the DRC ended. Since then, most of the DRC has been politically stable, if not very safe. However, situation in the eastern part of the DRC, near the frontiers with Uganda and Rwanda, has remained unstable and very dangerous. Armed militias have continued to fight between themselves for territory and men. The government of the DRC has failed to quell these militias, not least because and has not been paid for some time.

It is not surprising then, that the army has problems with men deserting. In fact, it seems that in the early months of 2012, a particularly large number of soldiers deserted and formed a new rebel militia known by the name of M23. As this new group began to carve out its own territory, they came into conflict with other militias, sparking off a fresh wave of violence.



One of the student hostels: Photo BBUC

The militias' reputations are dreadful. At the best, they are careless about who gets killed in the crossfire. The worst will massacre entire villages. Understandably, most of the refugees left home in a great hurry, with only the clothes that they wore. Some arrived at the border by the truck load, but most had walked for days and were already unwell with malaria, skin infections, coughs and colds.



Arriving by truck : Photo IRIN

Some women fled before they could gather all the family together. Others had seen their husbands killed and their sons captured. The Diocesan Secretary of Kinkiizi was sent to start counselling sessions.

The exact numbers of refugees who came was difficult to judge. It was thought that initially there were about 600+ people in the transit camp, but hundreds of people were found sheltering in the local churches and health clinics. Hundreds more stayed close to the border, anxious to return home the moment it was safe. In fact, across the whole length of the border more than 47,000 refugees were initially registered. Uganda was already host (in other camps) to 81,000 refugees from the DRC's previous outbreak of violence in 2008.

Although water had been laid to the camp (giving an inadequate ration of two litres per person, per day), there were only three portable toilets, and the camp had no stockpiles of food or clothing, and very little shelter. Despite the fact that the camp is a government facility, Bishop Dan, had learned from his predecessors experience with refugees in 2003 and 2008, and feared that official help might take weeks to arrive.

Bishop Dan wrote:

"As a church, we cannot sit back and relax when God's people are suffering. We have the compassion at least to help them. We are appealing to our Christians to support them by giving clothes but this is not enough.

We are therefore bringing this to the attention of all our partners, friends and well-wishers so that they can help us as a Diocese to assist the refugees."

The Bishop went on to list the necessities that the refugees needed: food, clothing, bedding, medicines, Jerry cans (for carrying water) and soap. He was particularly concerned about the lack of health care. One new-born baby had already died and, with many expectant mothers amongst the refugees, there was a risk of more deaths. With inadequate sanitation, there was also a significant risk of an outbreak of cholera or dysentery .

With the aid generous donations from individuals and churches all over the world, as well as a £500 grant from SECMA, Kinkiizi Diocese was able to buy and distribute all sorts of necessary items from bed covers (the days might look sunny and warm, but the nights are cold) soap, spare clothes, footballs and pots and pans.



Crossing the Ugandan Border July 2012: Photo : Voice of America

Matanda is only a transit camp. Some refugees were intent on returning home to the DRC as soon as they dared. Others had seen enough violence to last them a life time. Those refugees who were intent on staying in Uganda were taken to permanent camps with better facilities as soon as possible.

In the long run, many of the refugees will request to stay in Uganda, which is peaceful and stable. They have to wait until



Church worker giving out packets of soap Photo: Kinkiizi Diocese they can be given a grant of land. This can take a few years, as the Ugandan countryside is already a dense patchwork of tiny farms. An email from Bishop Dan in January 2013 said that the numbers of refugees in Matanda camp were down to about 600 people, although conditions there had not improved.

Audio-visual equipment for the Reproductive and Child Health Centre, Ghana

SECMA was contacted by Mrs Anne Pankhurst, formerly of the Provincial Overseas Committee. Mrs Pankhurst forwarded a request from a public health nurse in Ghana, Mrs Elizabeth Bain Doodu.

Mrs Bain Doodu requested funding for some audio-visual equipment that would enable her to show health promotion films in her clinic, particularly targeting hygiene, HIV prevention and contraception.

In her application, Mrs Bain Doodu noted:-

"I do enjoy my work, which involves promoting good health in both women and children, but the lack of teaching aids (projectors and computers) militates against our efforts in providing education to the reproductive age group."



Waiting in the clinic. Photo: Elizabeth Bain Doodu

Showing films and slide shows is a proven method of enhancing health education, and people are more likely to retain and act on advice presented in this way.

If this works well in the UK, where many of us admit to watching far too much television, imagine how well it works in Ghana, where 80% of the population see no television at all throughout the year. Mrs Bain Doodu expects that more women will come just to see the films .

Mrs Bain Doodu requested funding for a laptop computer, a digital projector and a television. Thanks to a very generous bequest, received late in 2012, we were able to make a grant of £1000 towards the cost of the equipment.

News from Old Projects

Tiffany Child Care Centre, Iraq

The Tiffany Centre is a day care centre for young Christian children whose families have been internally displaced in Iraq.

Although Iraq is now considered to be fairly quiet, there are still sporadic outbreaks of violence, which are almost entirely (according to the Internal Displacement Monitoring Centre) directed at Christians. It is thought that about half of Iraq's 1.4 million Christians have already left their homes.

Generally they move from the cities to the quieter rural areas, where Christianity is better tolerated, but sometimes they just go somewhere where they are not known, and their non-attendance at the mosque won't be remarked upon. We received the following report from our contact who visits the Tiffany project regularly.

"The general situation in the centre is very stable; this is a relative term, keeping in mind that the country still has high levels of instability overall.

The government education office for this area has limited the Centre to 50 children, and has demanded that the staff follow specific rules; such as having to serve rice or chicken once a week. However, based on the monthly fee (per child) of 100,000 Iraqi Dinar (£54), this doesn't leave much money to do other things.

We have particular problems with big electricity bills, (about £600 per month). Our team are doing all they can to reduce electricity use, as the costs are crippling. With a limited income and high levels of expense, the centre continues to make the most of what it has and is working hard to make life as pleasant as possible for the children, who have been traumatised by the difficult circumstances of war and personal loss.

In general, the children are very happy and are learning more each week about the Christian faith. The staff team will need to address the waiting list issue (currently there are 70 on the waiting list). Please pray that the local education office will allow them to increase the numbers of children cared for.

We are determined to make Christmas in the centre a very happy experience for the children ."

December 2012

The Convener travels...

SECMA's Convener, Vanessa Stark visited Calcutta Diocese with a party from St. Andrews diocese in January this year. This is the first of her reports.

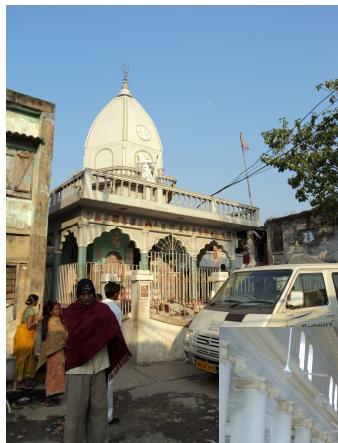
"Calcutta - a city which was the capital of India under the British, until 1911.

A city of smog, noise, grime and smells, places holy to all of India's faiths, the River Hooghly and its jute mills, most now derelict.

There are grand crumbling villas from the Victorian era, rattling rickety trams dating from 1905.

Whole families live on the streets, and a huge new construction site near the airport destined to be the 'Wall Street', the new financial district of Calcutta. The construction workers have little in the way of safety equipment, and use bamboo scaffolding.

It is a city in which it is hard to be alone. Thronging with people, traffic jams, horns sounding, feral dogs barking, cows and crows scavenging, long freight trains hooting through the small hours of the night.



Street and temple:
Photo V Stark



Bishops' College Chapel
Calcutta: Photo V Stark.

There are many boarding schools, the most prestigious of them founded by Scottish missionaries, and three beautiful colleges"

Vanessa Stark



Scottish Church College, Calcutta: Photo V Stark

History of SECMA

In November 1875, the Board of Foreign Missions of the Scottish Episcopal Church resolved that

'....a Ladies' Committee should be formed in connection with the Board for the purpose of obtaining funds and circulating information through Diocesan and Congregational Ladies' Committees, and for the purpose of forming and aiding Working Parties."

The first meeting was held in the house of the Rt. Rev'd Henry Cotterill, Bishop of Edinburgh, who had an interest in mission. The ladies who had been invited to the meeting formed the first committee, with Anna Cotterill (the Bishop's wife) as the first Convener, and Miss Adela Dundas as the first Secretary. The organisation's original name was the **Christian Women's Association**, becoming the **Christian Women's Missionary Association** in 1922.

For the first three-quarters of a century, the organisation's work was largely of a practical nature. By this time, there were many young Scottish Priests serving with the Anglican Church in Africa and India. Often they had oversight of a large area, containing many orphanages and schools, as well as several churches.

For the first 50 years, the CW(M)A mainly supported three areas of mission. These were:-

- ◆ the Diocese of St John's, Kaffraria (now the Transkai), in South Africa,
- ◆ Chandra Mission, India (now Chandrapur) in the Diocese of Calcutta, where the Bishop of Calcutta had invited the Scottish Episcopal Church to be responsible for mission for the whole area.
- ◆ The Diocese of British Columbia, Canada. British Columbia was, at that time, in the middle of a gold rush. It was a violent and lawless place and was, perhaps, as much in need of the Word as anywhere could be.

The priests in these areas would send lists of needed items. We have a record of one clergyman asking for five hundred printed cotton dresses (various sizes), five hundred shirts and moleskin trousers (again, in various sizes), socks, belts, cotton tapes and jumpers as well as thousands of sewing needles, thread and thousands of yards of plain calico to teach the girls to sew their own clothes.

There were also urgent demands for altar frontals, fair linen and vestments as well as prayer books and hymnals (and all of these were, of course, in English).

Some of these requests came from young priests who were clearly close to the end of their tether, with many demands on their time and little in the way of support.

Cloth and wool for the requested garments were bought in bulk, or were welcome as a donation. Garments were pre-cut with standardised patterns by the cutting-out department in Edinburgh, and the work was parcelled out amongst the work parties in churches across Scotland.

On the whole, the clothes were made up competently, although it has to be said that there were occasional issues with standards of work, and poor work was liable to be returned for unpicking and correction!

It is also recorded that their products were appreciated, and that some of the African women thought tweed petticoats were "better than skins".

Within a month or so the goods requested, along with whatever extras were on hand (from newspapers and magazines to tobacco, sweets and Magic Lanterns and slides), were returned to Edinburgh for packing.

Packing parties were held at our premises in West Rose Street, Edinburgh, and were occasions of great merriment. One lady supervised them single-handed for nearly fifty years.

The goods were sewn up into waterproof canvas bales. These bales had to survive long journeys, first by sea and finally by local boats, that brought the bales up-river to the mission stations. The arrival of a bale of goods always caused great excitement.

The Diocesan Correspondents and Representatives, had a difficult task. They were involved in keeping the working parties always busy, organising collection of the work and maintaining the morale of their diocese by organising displays of work and tea parties. Often, this involved travelling for miles—on foot, or by bicycle and being out in all weathers.

The Diocesan Correspondents other function was, as now, to collect the membership fees. In 1875, these were set at half a crown, or one shilling for a 'poor member'.

With the start of the Second World War, cloth and wool became scarce, and were eventually rationed. With no materials to use, the working parties stopped. After a short while, shipping became impossible too. All efforts were redirected towards the war.

At the end of the war, it was clear that the CWMA needed to reflect the changed world. Work parties could not resume, as cloth was still rationed, and in many ways, the camaraderie of the work parties had been the glue that made the CWMA stick together.

Eventually, distribution of resources became again the remit of the Central Committee. Our continued use of the word "Links"

now reflects that, as far as possible, we require there to be a personal link with each project that we take on—that either one of the Committee has visited personally, or that they know and trust someone who is running it.

In 1987, the name changed to the **Scottish Episcopal Church Mission Association**. Men were admitted as formal members for the first time, although many had been supporters in various ways for many years.

Today SECMA has branches in many Episcopal congregations. Its purpose is still to raise funds for overseas needs. The Central Committee, with members from all dioceses, still considers requests for money, and tries to distribute funds in the most appropriate way. We consider that money is

"well spent if it makes a practical difference to the day-to-day living of families and whole communities, and their ability to function independently."

he practical side of finding projects and raising money to support them is, of course, only part of SECMA's activities. The Constitution of SECMA states our aims: 'To stimulate awareness of the worldwide partnership of Christians in their mission under God to build his kingdom, and to unite members of the church throughout Scotland in prayer and service for the worldwide church.'

Some things have changed, but the importance of prayer remains.

Alan Hall, Hon. Treasurer



The Central Committee of the CWMA on the occasion of their centenary in 1975. They are:

Mrs Weeks (Convenor), Mrs Pike (Vice Convenor), Mr Guild and Mrs Williams (joint Hon. Treasurers), Jean Strachan (secretary), Mrs Foster and Miss Clubb (Aberdeen), Miss Lindsay-MacDougall and Mrs Copland (Argyll), Mrs Mantle (absent) and Mrs Greig (Brechin), Mrs Pike and Miss McNaught (absent) (Edinburgh), Mrs Reader and Mrs Noble (Glasgow), Mrs Hamilton (Moray) and Miss Pilkington and Mrs Rusk (St Andrews).

Aberdeen and Orkney

I would like to welcome Jenny Cruickshank as the new Diocesan Correspondent for Aberdeen. Together, we hope to organise events later in the year.

Annette Everard

Argyll and the Isles

Our sincere thanks and good wishes go with Mrs Leslie Longstaff as she leaves Islay, and her role of Congregational Correspondent at St Margaret's. Her support of SECMA over the last seven years is much appreciated. We welcome Mrs Mary Broughton as her successor. At St. Columba's on Skye, there is the need for a kind volunteer to be the new Church Correspondent. As 2013 is the 1450th anniversary of St. Columba's arrival on Iona, this diocese may be welcoming many pilgrims this year who have come to celebrate his life and work. If you are one of them I hope you will have a memorable and happy time in Argyll and the Isles.

Joy Blakeney

Brechin

Our last report concluded with our visit to Stonehaven, but this was not our last gathering for 2012. We again welcomed the Ferryport Fiddlers, this time to St John the Baptist in Dundee, for a well-attended Musical Afternoon in October. We are looking forward to our fundraising lunch in February. The Rt. Rev'd Nigel Peyton, Bishop of Brechin, is to speak about his recent visits to our Companion Dioceses, Iowa and Swaziland. Future events will follow our annual pattern of a Quiet Day, Summer Event and a Musical Afternoon. Details to follow!

I wish to express my thanks to all our members for their support and to encourage them to tell more people about the work of SECMA and get them involved! We are again grateful to the Church of the Holy Rood, Camoustie, this time to the Woman's Guild who gave who gave us a donation from their funds.

Rosemary Eddy

Edinburgh

The main diocesan event since our last report was an autumn coffee morning and sale, held at Christ Church Morningside. This raised a grand total of £790 (including £130 in donations). We say a big "thank you" to all who contributed, ran stalls or supported the sale. We also thank Christ Church for use of the hall, and to their team who made the coffee. This year our Annual Meeting will take place on **Tuesday 18th June**. If you have an idea for a speaker or theme you would like to explore at this event, please contact me through the SECMA office. The coffee morning will be on **Saturday 5th October**. As I processed the annual returns for 2012 I heard of the changes in congregational representation, some through death, (may they rest in peace) and others feeling ready to hand-over after long service. So we thank them and welcome the new representatives. Special thanks are due to those who organised fund raising events for SECMA. Edinburgh diocese already has two volunteers abroad, and we were pleased to offer a small grant to Verity Falconer from Kelso. Verity has trained in child development, and has already set off to serve two separate four-week placements in orphanages in southern Africa.

Cecilia Stephens

Glasgow and Galloway

I would like to thank all members in the Glasgow & Galloway diocese for their on-going support, whether it is by subscription to the LINKS magazine or by donations from coffee mornings, church mission giving or one off donations. All monies given are very much appreciated and as you can see from the articles in the magazine, they are put to good use.

Margaret Mungavin received letters from Sister Martha at the Orthodox School in Bethany. Sister Martha is extremely grateful for even the smallest amount of money and she asks that we remember the staff, children and families in our prayers as life there is extremely difficult for them all. Margaret also received Christmas greetings from The Jerusalem Princess Basma Centre for Disabled Children. Mrs Majaj the Chief Executive wants to pass on the thanks of the Board members, children and staff for SECMA's contribution which will go towards the on-going work of the hospital which cares for children with special needs. They too live in a region in political turmoil and also ask for our prayers.

Julia Izatt

Moray

There has been little progress in SECMA in this northern Diocese recently. Much of this is due to the current domestic arrangements, as we have several grandchildren staying with us at the moment. As result, there has been little news filtering through in either direction over the dark months of the year.

We had a visit over Christmas and the New Year from our daughter Hilary Gunning, husband Paul, and their four children—making the house very full indeed. It threw up a problem for missionary families which I had not encountered before. The eldest boy, Peter, wants to work off-shore. There is no possibility of employment in Namibia, as Namibians always take priority. So he has had to leave the only home he has known in order to make his way in the world. This is a problem I did not envisage. I don't think many reading this would have thought of this kind of problem which must be faced by many long-term missionary families. Please pray for Peter in Inverness, away from his family, and from the friends he has grown up with. Also for his sister Caitlin at University in Cape Town, and for the rest of the family in Windhoek as they get used to being a much smaller family.

Peter Mosley

St Andrews, Dunkeld and Dunblane

We would like to thank the parishioners of St. Mary's, Newport, for donating £200 from the proceeds from their Advent Coffee Morning. Our thanks to all the congregations for their donations too.

Dorothy Iball

Prayer Diary

Prayer: Compassionate Lord you heard the cry of those in need, you saw their woundedness and healed with love. Help us to reach out to all who suffer in any way. Guide us to be generous and journey with those who work amongst the needy in the wider world. Teach us compassion and to work for mission, always honouring your Holy Name. Amen. *The Rev'd Denise Herbert*

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| <p>1 SECMA
Pray for SECMA, for our supporters, for wisdom for our committees and for our Convener and Vice Convener.</p> <p>2 Flooding
Mozambique, the Seychelles, Malawi and Pakistan have all been affected by severe floods in the past few months. Pray for all those who have lost their homes, land and livelihoods.</p> <p>3 Volunteers overseas
Pray for people who have gone overseas on short term mission, for their safety and for their safe return.</p> <p>4 St Saviour's Church, Riga, Latvia
Please pray for the congregation of St. Saviours church, Riga, as they struggle to continue vital outreach programmes in difficult financial times.</p> <p>5 Holy Cross School, Grahamstown, South Africa
Pray for the children and staff of the school. Pray that every child in every country might have the gift of education.</p> <p>6 James
Pray for James as he continues to work with local groups to produce primers for beginners reading their own language.</p> <p>7 Julie
Please pray for Julie, that she receive the necessary funds to travel and work to the glory of God.</p> <p>8 Liz
Pray for Liz as she acts as "go between" and adviser in Uganda.</p> <p>9 Refugees
Please pray for all who are refugees, whether they are sheltering from floods in their own country, have been forced to go abroad by the fear of violence, or have been born as refugees and know no other home.</p> <p>10 Zimbabwe
Give thanks that the Anglican Churches have been returned to their rightful owners, Pray that other injustices may be redressed.</p> <p>11 Provincial Overseas Committee
Please pray for the work of the Provincial Overseas Committee, for the work they do and the grants they make.</p> <p>12 Persecuted Christians
Please pray for our brothers and sisters in Christ in the Middle East and Pakistan, who can lose their jobs, their safety and their lives as a result of following Christ.</p> <p>13 Pray for the People of Myanmar (Burma)
Poverty can be so severe in Myanmar that families cannot feed all their children. Pray for all Christians there, and for the children of Agape House.</p> <p>14 Malawi
Pray for the people of Malawi and give thanks for those bringing education to girls at the Encongolweni High School</p> <p>15 Orthodox School for Girls, Bethany
Please pray for the Russian Orthodox sisters that run the school, and for the safety of their staff and pupils.</p> | <p>16 Princess Basma Centre for Disabled Children, Jerusalem
Please remember the staff, students, parents and patients of the Princess Basma Centre.</p> <p>17 Uthan project, India
Primary education in India should be free and available to all, but many children still miss out. Please pray for Rev'd Santra and his school in rural Orissa.</p> <p>18 Diocese of Zanzibar
Please pray for the Diocese of Zanzibar, for the continuation of their link with the Diocese of Argyll, and for their programme of outreach to poor families.</p> <p>19 Diocese of Lesotho
Please pray for the Diocese of Lesotho, for Adam, their Bishop and for the women that have benefitted from an educational grant from SECMA</p> <p>21 St Francis' Hospital, Katete, Zambia
Please pray for the patients and staff of St. Francis' hospital, and for all hospitals, clinics and health workers in Africa.</p> <p>22 Delhi Brotherhood
Pray for the brothers and the orphans, street children and elderly that they serve. Please pray particularly for the repose of Father Ian Weatherall.</p> <p>23 Ahli Arab
Please pray for the staff of the Ahli Arab Hospital. They lost their main funding from the United Nations Relief and Works agency for Palestine last year. Private funding is now urgently needed to keep the hospital running.</p> <p>24 Raphael Centre, Grahamstown, South Africa
Pray for the centre, the HIV victims that it serves.</p> <p>25 Fistula hospitals
Please pray for the fistula hospitals throughout Africa, and for the safety of women in labour throughout the world.</p> <p>26 Clean water
Give thanks for the ability to turn on a tap and receive clean water. Please pray for all those whose lives are made difficult by having to carry water, or by having too little.</p> <p>27 Kenya
Please pray for the Christians affected by religious violence in Kenya, and particularly for those in the city of Garissa.</p> <p>28 Kindness and generosity
Thank God for all those who devote even a small part of their time and energy to making someone else's situation better.</p> <p>29 Hilary and Paul
Please pray for Paul and Hilary as they continue their work teaching God's word.</p> <p>30 The Order of the Holy Paraclete
Pray for the prioress, for all the Sisters and particularly for their work with girls in Ghana.</p> <p>31 Diocese of Calcutta
Please pray for the Diocese of Calcutta, for their Bishop, and for their many outreach projects..</p> |
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SECMA Contact Details

The SECMA Provincial Secretary maintains a part time office at

**21 Grosvenor Crescent
EDINBURGH
EH12 5EE**

Which is open from 10 am—2pm on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday

Telephone number 0131 225 6357
Email secma@live.co.uk

Please feel free to call in, write, telephone or email if you would like to contact SECMA.

We are actively seeking
-new contacts overseas
-new projects abroad
-new volunteers that we can assist with a travel grant
-new members
-new supporting churches

Volunteer for SECMA

Scottish Episcopal Church Mission Association

Honorary Treasurer

We are seeking an Honorary Treasurer to join our Board of Trustees.

The post involves three morning meetings per year in Edinburgh (near Haymarket), preparation of accounts in compliance with OSCR and making payments to our projects overseas.

You would have experience as a fully qualified accountant or would have held a similar position.

A full job description can be obtained from and informal enquiries directed to:-

The SECMA Provincial Secretary,
Mrs Hilary Blyth, Tue-Thu, 10am - 2pm
0131 225 6357 or by email at secma@live.co.uk

JOIN SECMA

Anybody who supports our aims and objectives may join SECMA.

An Individual membership is £5 per annum.

A group of members (for instance a church congregation) may join for a minimum donation of £25.

Individual members receive two copies of LINKS per year,

Membership groups receive 10 copies twice a year to share between them.

We need to know:-

Your name, your address and, if appropriate, the church or organisation that is subscribing

And then apply to :-

The SECMA Provincial Secretary
21 Grosvenor Crescent
Edinburgh
EH12 5EE

Cheques may be made payable to "SECMA".

VOLUNTEER TRAVEL GRANTS

SECMA gives small travel grants to Christian volunteers going overseas for short periods of time?

Over the last few years we have supported Christians (both young and the "somewhat older") who have visited the Middle east, Africa, Eastern Europe and South America to take part in

Medical student electives
House/school building projects
VSO
Working in orphanages
Working in hospitals

The application process involves a short application form, two references and a short, informal interview arranged as far as possible to your convenience.

To start the process, contact the SECMA office in the first place.

A report is required on your return, which may be published in LINKS