



Links

The Magazine of the Scottish Episcopal Church Mission Association

Vol. 92

Autumn 2013



Pig farming in Malawi supports a parish..

Links

Contents

New Projects 3-4



News from Volunteers 5-6



Bequests and Obituaries 7-8



Diocesan Reports 8-9

Accounts 10

Information 11



...from the SECMA Office

This last few months the office has been very blessed with visits from notable people from all over the world.

Mary Mutebe, the current Headmistress of the Bishop Kivengere School in Uganda, (see opposite page) came, accompanied by Liz Trill. Mary is lively company and told us fascinating stories, as well as helping us to develop a better understanding of the details of the water project.

One of our Overseas Correspondents made a brief visit during one of his rare trips to the UK. He was busy finding computer hardware to help protect and simplify his work. It was good to finally put a face to the name.

By the time you read this, SECMA will have had a visit from the Director of the Raphael Centre (the HIV support service in Grahamstown, South Africa) that SECMA have supported in the past and are once again supporting this year.

The end of October will see a visit from a member of the Delhi Brotherhood Society. He is visiting supporters all over the Southern England, but is coming all the way up to Edinburgh just to see SECMA.

To be honest, there are so many new things going on that they have completely overflowed this magazine, and may overflow the next magazine as well! It's good to be busy and to be a witness to God's grace in the world.

Hilary

Front page: Building pig sties for a piggery project in rural Malawi. Photo: Cecilia Stephens

...from our Convener

Dear Friends,
Many are praying for God's Kingdom and God's Will to be done on earth, and in praying the words of the Lord's Prayer, we commit ourselves to God as part of His Kingdom for the carrying out of God's Will on earth. In Luke 9 v.1-6 Jesus gives the disciples their mission, and sends them out to proclaim the kingdom of God and to heal.

That is our mission, and we too have been given power and authority over all demons and to cure diseases. Only through Christ can we do this, and a Roman Catholic monk in Dundee said that saying the Lord's Prayer with all our heart and mind and soul is enough; evil is exorcised and God's Kingdom is proclaimed on earth as in heaven.

The power and authority of Jesus is revealed to the disciples in the rest of Luke 9, which ends with Jesus' call to follow Him.

Two people who have followed Christ through many years of faithful service to SECMA are Ivor Guild and Rosemary Eddy.

The Committee marked Ivor's 50 years of service as Legal Adviser at the Central Committee Meeting in June, thanking him for his contribution over the years. Ivor then felt that the time had come to retire, and the Committee wished him a long and happy retirement. Ivor's continuity of service and dedication to SECMA is exemplary and much valued: we wish Ivor contentment and joy.

Rosemary Eddy served as Vice-Convener of SECMA since 2005, and her service and commitment are appreciated very much.

Rosemary continues as Diocesan Representative for Brechin, taking over this role from me, while Mrs Judy Robinson has taken over from Rosemary as Diocesan Correspondent, and the Committee welcomed Judy to her first Central Committee meeting.

Miss Joy Blakeney accepted the invitation to take over as Vice-Convener, and the Committee was delighted to welcome Joy to serve in this role. Joy has worked enthusiastically as Correspondent for the Diocese of Argyll and the Isles since 1991, and continues to support and encourage the Church Representatives there, as well as keeping in regular touch with Hilary and the SECMA Office.

SECMA is still looking and praying for a new Treasurer to take over from Alan Hall, and for someone to help with setting up a website. Please keep listening, and contact Hilary if you hear of anyone who might wish to help SECMA in this way .

To all supporters, thank you! May God Guide and Bless us in our work for His Kingdom on earth. As in Heaven, God reigns. Let His praise be always on our lips, his words in our mind, his peace our heart, his love in our eyes, his strength in our hands.

May God bless us and go with us in our journey as disciples.

Vanessa Stark,
Convener

PUBLISHER

Scottish Episcopal
Church Mission
Association
21 Grosvenor Crescent
Edinburgh
EH12 5EE
0131 225 6357

EDITOR

Hilary Blyth

PRINTERS

McGilvray

NEW PROJECTS

Bishop Kivengere High School for Girls, Muyebe, Uganda

Our mission partner, Liz Trall, who spends six months of the year in Uganda, brought this project to our attention. Liz is especially fond of Bishop Kivengere School as she was headmistress there when the school opened nearly forty years ago.

The school has a problem with its water supply, which is essential with 1,200 girls living in a boarding school. Their water supply was installed 25 years



Girls being girls—Bishop Kivengere school Photo A Beaton

ago (by UNICEF) who tapped a spring high on the hill behind them and piped the water down the hill for several miles. The water system was made from galvanised iron piping and the school has a corrugated iron reservoir tank to even out

the demand for water. The constant leaks from this tank have softened the ground underneath its base of steel beams and the tank has started to tilt and will eventually fall onto the school playing field. Rusty sludge settles in the pipes



and reduces the flow rate, and many of the standpipes in the village are broken or leaking.

Often, there simply isn't enough water for everybody, (the system was built to supply a few hundred people, but now the population of the school and village totals 14,000 people) and people go back to drinking river water, with all the risks that brings.

Replacing the whole system, from the spring to the village, and increasing the amount of water collected from the



The water tank (above) and the corrosion. Photo A Beaton

spring, is a huge project for which a major donor is being sought. In Uganda, projects like these are not undertaken by the council or the Water Board, but by the Diocesan Water Department.

However, the School is keen to replace the tank and associated pipes on its own land ready for the 40th anniversary of the school in 2014. This stops the loss of water from leaks, removes the dangerous tank and means that the school and village are



Photo A Beaton

ready to benefit when the remainder of the upgrade is completed. SECMA has donated £1,000 and further generous donations have been received from other sources in the UK. With the help

of Alasdair Beaton of Edinburgh Rotary Club, who went to Muyebe to survey the system, it has been decided to replace the galvanised tank with one made from local bricks (cheap and fairly strong) but lined with rigid high density polyethylene plastic (HDPE). The tank will stand on a concrete plinth, and should be trouble free for many years. All the school's piping will be replaced with standard HDPE pipes.

If it seems strange that such large tanks are not built into the ground, consider this. Liz explained that Uganda might have Internet connections and computers, but there are no mechanical diggers in rural Uganda. All foundations have to be dug by hand, and cutting into the bedrock with picks and shovels is almost impossible.

Lunzu Parish Piggery, Malawi

This project arose from the personal contact that Cecilia Stephens (Edinburgh Diocesan Correspondent) has with the Diocese of Southern Malawi.

The applicant, Father John Ngoma, is a recently qualified priest who runs a new rural parish with four outstations. The parish finds that a large amount of its income goes



John Ngomas's ordination
Photo: C Stephens

on paying the quota. In the summer, everybody is short of money until the crops can be harvested. The parish's welfare projects have to be put "on-hold". As in many rural areas, there is also a need to diversify the sources of income to prevent total loss should one crop fail.

A few years ago a neighbouring parish used a donation from an Anglican church in Peterborough to start piggery project. This worked well, producing both piglets for fattening and for sale, and the project quickly became self-funding. There were human

benefits too, employment, an income for the church and protein in the parishioners' diet, and improved pig welfare.

Father John was keen to see these benefits in his own parish and applied for a grant of £625 to allow him to start the project.

Pigs are common animals in rural Malawi, but most are the small native breeds of pigs. They are allowed to roam freely and as a result gain weight slowly and have small litters. Their owners do not make much profit from them. One of the aims of the Parish Piggery is to improve pig-rearing methods, and hopefully to start to control pig diseases.

The first task is the construction of the pig sties (kholas) with



Malawian mixed breed pigs. Photo MU Malawi

locally-made bricks. Once built, they will buy four young sows and a boar, all crossbreeds of local animals and imported European animals. These will be the basis of their stock. They have calculated that feed will have to be bought this year, but subsequently they hope to have crops of maize and soya available for the pigs. A mature sow can have two litters a year and litters often consist of ten or more piglets. Potentially, this project could produce eighty piglets in the first eighteen months.

The local Veterinary Officer will be involved right from the start giving advice about pig housing, food and disease prevention. In fact, the standard pattern for a breeding khola gives each pig ten square metres of space. From the point of view of freedom of movement and fresh air, these pigs look as if they will have better conditions than many European pigs.

A vital part of the project will be learning good husbandry and hygiene. Keeping the project's animals apart from other farmers' wandering pigs is a vital part of management as African swine fever is rife in the area, and, at the moment, untreatable.

Thyme Farm for a Bedouin Settlement, West Bank

At SECMA's summer Central Committee meeting, the committee had hoped to hear about the Rev'd Donald Reid's recent visit to Palestine. Unfortunately, this was ultimately impossible. Instead, at Rev'd Reid's suggestion, we gave a gift of seeds sufficient to sow half of a thyme farm, which is being set up in the Bedouin village of Umm Al Khair in the South Hebron Hills.

The thyme farm is small (only about three football pitches in size) but thyme can be picked and picked again. It is a staple ingredient in middle-eastern cookery and commands a good price. The farm aims to provide work and an income for a community that is unable to continue its traditional occupation of herding.

Umm Al Khair is in Palestine's "Area C" and so it is designated as an illegal settlement. No building permits are granted, and any structure built is liable to be demolished at any time. Often this happens without the owners even being permitted to retrieve their belongings. Increasingly, owners are being charged the cost of the demolition, plunging them into impossible debt.

The village has no mains water, electricity or school, although an Australian charity has set up a kindergarten there. The profits from the thyme farm will help to support



The village of Umm al Khair is only metres from the new Israeli settlement of Karneil. Photo by kind permission of Leichhardt Friends of Hebron—who founded the kindergarten.

the kindergarten. The people of Umm al Khair have few options. They could try again to get their village officially recognised, or submit and be moved into one of the official townships set aside for the Bedouin. There may be water and electricity, but there is little work. The plots of land offered are deemed too small for the Bedouin's very large families. Bedouin culture and spirituality depend on being on the land in which their ancestors are buried.

The "Praver Plan" legislation, currently progressing through the Israeli Knesset (where there is no Bedouin representation) aims to displace the remaining 30,000 Palestinian Bedouins and confiscate over 200,000 acres of land.

VOLUNTEERS

Every year, SECMA makes small grants towards the expenses of volunteers who are travelling overseas to work for the benefit of others. These are the reports of two young people who have done just that.

One year in South Africa

"I knew I would be going to work in a children's home with abused children but their lives and past experiences are so much worse than I ever could have imagined.

The Durbanville home cares for to 160 girls of all ages. Heather chose to work specifically with the older girls. Towards the end of her time in South Africa, Heather wrote "I have stopped doing dayshift and now and am back on nightshift with my older girls, working five days a week from 9pm until 7am, waking them up in the morning and making breakfast. But now it is the school holidays so I go at 7pm and just enjoy the evenings with the girls, playing games or just sitting on their beds chatting about girly things all night!

After working with these girls for 10 months we have built up a really strong relationship and I feel I have earned their respect. In the beginning the girls were disinterested in me. I'm so glad I made the effort 10 months ago because it has really paid off. The girls trust me and many of them have told me about their problems and home situations. It is nice to know that they feel comfortable enough with me to tell me their deepest and most private problems.

I knew I would be going to work in a children's home with abused children but most of their lives and past experiences are much worse than I ever could have imagined.

It is hard to know what to say to a 14 year old girl who was raped by her father but I think it would be difficult for anyone of any age. I will never forget the stories I have heard from the girls. The experience has increased my gratitude for my own family.

For the last three months now I have been working with the main social worker. I have started a "basic-skills session" three days a week to follow on from their therapy session. It

is always the same five girls, who just happen to be the five most troubled. I have roped in other volunteers to help and the session is starting to go well. The aim is to practice basic skills and give the girls some individual attention.

Some times we cook; this usually ends badly because they are complete beginners, but it's the trying that counts! We also play silly games, but even this can be difficult. Some of the girls have such poor attention spans that even at 19 years old they can't play a simple game. It can be frustrating and disheartening, but I know I cannot take it personally and I know that they do enjoy

their time on the programme. It was really nice being told by one of the girls that she really enjoys it and she is very thankful!

I hope a new volunteer will continue to work with these girls, but it does seem that most volunteers want to work with the younger children.

Out of all the girls in the children's home I was closest to "M", a girl of 14. We have got on well right from the beginning and she is just like a sister to me. We are very close and while I know she will be very upset when I leave, I am grateful for her friendship. She has changed

the way I think.

About a week after I get home I will head to the Isle of Coll for the last time to complete a debriefing course with Project Trust. It will be good to see the other volunteers again and to get my certificate for my 12 months volunteering overseas.

I am so grateful to everyone who helped me get here because it's been the best year of my life. Lots of other volunteers at other projects around South Africa left early and went home months ago. It seems a shame that they didn't make the most of their opportunity. I think this is an amazing project and the volunteers become valuable members of staff and learn a great deal."

Heather Mann



Heather and friends : Photo H Mann

Four weeks in Nepal

“On Monday the 24th of June, I embarked on a month-long expedition to Nepal along with eleven other students and three teachers from Johnstone High School. The journey took nearly two days, and we found Kathmandu crowded and chaotic. However, we were delighted to discover that the food was delicious—we had momos, a kind of dumpling which is a speciality in the region.

The next part of our journey was a trek, starting from the city of Pokhara. Our two Sherpas, Amrit and Ganesh guided us all the way up hill to the fabulous viewpoint of Poonhill. We walked for seven hours a day for five days to reach the summit. The trek was both physically and mentally challenging. We had to adjust to increasing breathlessness and tiredness as we climbed to an altitude of 3,210 metres. We experienced torrential monsoon rain, exhaustion and leeches. It was common to take your boot off after a day’s hike to find your socks soaked in blood and bites up your legs. Reaching Poonhill was an amazing moment. Although it was cloudy, breaks in the clouds allowed us to see Dhaulagiri, the seventh highest peak in the world at a staggering 8,167 metres. Descending back to Pokhara was much easier.



Dhaulagiri massif, Nepal

After the trek, it was time for the project phase of our expedition. Yeshi, the head teacher at the school/orphanage arranged to drive us up from Pokhara to the school. We were greeted by a group of older children who helped us carry our bags for the last mile along a rough track. Waiting for us in the building were 110 kids with big grins, jumping around and chasing after us. We were welcomed with open arms and a lunch of Tibetan bread and potatoes.

The first day at the orphanage we played with the children and gave them some individual attention. We had brought skipping ropes and footballs. That afternoon we sat down with Yeshi and planned how we were going to paint the classrooms. It was exciting knowing we could transform the bare concrete walls with bursts of colour. We decided on a theme of bright yellow and turquoise with a map of the world for one of the rooms.

Morning in the orphanage begins with exercises before prayer at 7 o’clock. It was a humbling experience to watch the children

praying before their breakfast, and we were grateful to have the opportunity to share with them. The school has five classes, starting with children from six to years of age.

Our group also had two hours teaching with each class per day to help improve their English (all the national exams in Nepal are in English). We taught the children about Scotland and they taught us about Nepal; their national bird (the Danphe), national flower (the Rhododendron) and their flag. We taught the children to sing “Flower of Scotland” and to dance the “Gay Gordons” and the “Canadian barn dance”. The children loved the singing and dancing as music is a large part of their culture.

In the afternoons we painted the classrooms whilst the children studied. The map of the world we painted attracted the attention of all the children and staff over the week. It took around five hours each day to complete the classrooms but left us with a feeling of achievement.

On our last evening the school held a thank-you party for us. We watched some traditional Nepalese dancing and this gave us the chance to hand over the teddy bears we brought over as well as the £1000 we had raised as a gift to the school. The chef made us some more momos, whilst we watched a documentary on the tragic lives of Tibetan refugees. It was a very emotional night. The documentary highlighted the suffering of the many Tibetans who have fled their homeland. I was left shocked and overwhelmed with sadness. However, we wanted to end the night on a cheerful note so we followed the dinner with a ceilidh. The children showed off the Scottish dances that they had learned.

We were heartbroken to be leaving but we all had a great time with the children who were so enthusiastic in everything we did.

Our World Challenge Experience was certainly challenging, but also an incredible journey both in terms of distance travelled and self-discovery. I learned valuable skills such as leadership, teamwork, self-motivation, communication and confidence. I felt that both the children and the staff of the orphanage really valued our presence. I have learnt a lot about myself and other people, built some great relationships and how discovered how enjoyable and satisfying it can be to work as a team. This was a great opportunity to “give something back” (mostly time and attention) to children who have very little.”

Lauren Johnston

Editor’s note : Lauren’s report was very detailed, but was sadly much longer than the magazine has space for. If you would like to read it in full, please apply to the Secretary for a copy.

The Catherine Simister Bequest

As you will see from the accounts on page 11, SECMA received an extraordinarily generous bequest of £67,500 in December 2012. This was followed early in 2013 an amount from the residue of the estate (which will appear in 2013's accounts) giving the astonishingly generous total of about £90,000. The bequest came from the estate of Mrs Catherine Simister of Kirkcudbright, and came completely 'out of the blue'.

Catherine Simister was the widow of the Rev'd Charles Arnold Simister. The Rev'd Gerald Mungavin recalls 'Arnie', as he was known, from when they were both training for the ministry.

"Arnie came out of the army at the end of the war. I remember he had a medal for bravery – but it wasn't something he let everyone know. He was a very quiet man, and rather reserved. He lived, with all the other students, in Forbes House, which was in those days home to all the theology students. He was several years senior to me."

Reverend Simister served as Rector of Greyfriars, Kirkcudbright from 1963 until his retirement in 1984. He married Catherine late in life and they had no children.

Both of the Simisters had an abiding concern with the relief of poverty—in the most practical way possible. They did a lot of quiet, individual work with the poor of Glasgow and would go up to Glasgow and walk around the Barras, looking for people who needed help.

Catherine is remembered as a 'down-to-earth sort of lady', who did all the things a Rector's wife usually gets to do and was always ready to help anyone in time of trouble.

SECMA's plans for the money are to use £50,000 to add to our reserves. As interest rates are low at the moment, this enables SECMA to meet all office expenses from investment income, ensuring that all other donations are used for overseas work. £15,000 was used immediately to send extra grants to all projects who had received donations in 2012 (except where the project was completed).

SECMA has established a separate fund with £25,000 of the bequest, to be known as the **Catherine Simister Fund**. This will be spent "for the relief of poverty" over the coming years, allowing us to be more generous to deserving projects.

My thanks to the Rev'd Cutler, current incumbent of Kirkcudbright and to the Rev'd Gerald Mungavin for sharing their memories of this exceptional couple. Ed.

OBITUARIES



Father Ian Weathrall, OBE, BAC 1922-2013

Father Ian Weathrall of the Delhi Brotherhood Society (Brotherhood of the Ascended Christ (BAC)) died on 30th April 2013 at the age of 91. He gave 62 years of service to the Christians of Delhi, and was head of the Brotherhood from 1969-1988 and again from 2004 until his death. He had been one of SECMA's longest standing overseas contacts, and often made a point of visiting Jinty, the previous SECMA secretary, on his way to his holiday in Iona.

Father Weathrall was born in England, but spent time in Scotland and India as a child, as his father was an Officer in the Indian Army.

He returned to India as a young man during the Second World War, when he served with the 16th Punjab regiment. After the war, he trained as a priest in the UK, but waited only to serve his curacy in Southampton before heading back to India. He joined the Brotherhood in 1951.

The Brotherhood he joined was an organisation for British priests in India, and he was the last British priest to do so. The Brothers kept a monastic rule and served as priests for Delhi's Anglican Churches. Under Father Weathrall's leadership, the Delhi Brotherhood now has an entirely Indian membership.

When he was Vicar of St James's Church in Old Delhi, he became used to the sight of lepers waiting at the church gate to beg from the congregation. Once, the lepers approached Father Ian, revealing that they were Christians and asking for burial for one of their group. After that, special services were held in the church for the lepers, and the Brotherhood started to offer practical help. This became a permanent ministry for the Brotherhood, expanding gradually to include their current work with deprived women, children, those living on the streets and the elderly.

Father Weathrall was involved in the formation of the Church of North India in 1970 (the amalgamation of the Anglican, Methodist, Baptist and many other protestant denominations) and he was part of a team that wrote the CNI services. He didn't always get his own way and it was his ability to lay aside his own feelings and seek a compromise that was reasonable for all that was a shining example of ecumenism.

He acted as priest for the High Commission and the expatriate community in Delhi, particularly on Remembrance Day. He received the Queen, the Prince of Wales and two Archbishops at Brotherhood House.

His OBE was granted in 1975.

Katharine Lindsay-MacDougall, 1915 –2013



The Central Committee were saddened to hear of the death of Katharine Lindsay-MacDougall.

Miss Lindsay-MacDougall was the Diocesan Representative for Argyll and the Isles from 1975 to 1991, and was Convener from 1981 to 1985.

She was, in fact, the last convener of the CWMA, and under her guidance

the decision to admit men to membership and to found SECMA was made.

Miss Lindsay-MacDougall studied history at Oxford, and gained a doctorate by studying Tudor letter books. For a while, she taught history at Benenden School in Kent, but left at the outbreak of WWII. During the war, she worked first with the War Office (attempting to mislead German bombers), and then joined the WRNS in 1941, serving throughout the UK. After the war ended she went to Ceylon as officer in charge of the welfare of former POW's.

In 1946 she became Curator of Manuscripts at the National Maritime Museum, and set about cataloguing the entire collection. She catalogued Nelson's private papers, and, recognising their importance to naval historians, arranged for them to be published. However, the Senior Keeper of the Collection insisted that his name appear as editor, not hers, a matter that wasn't put right until 2005. Affronted, she resigned and spent the next 5 years teaching in Northern Rhodesia (Zambia) and acting as Inspector of Education for Anglican schools there. She returned to Benenden and taught there until 1972 when deteriorating eye sight forced her retirement.

Miss Lindsay-MacDougall spent the remaining forty years of her life in the dower house of her family home in Argyll, and it was at this stage of her life that her experience overseas and her great desire to help found an outlet as Diocesan Representative for SECMA.

Joy Blakeney writes:-

"In personal tribute, I recall her visiting my mother at her home on the Isle of Seil. They were both enthusiastic gardeners. On that occasion she was accompanied by her niece Anne (at the time when we were both deciding on future paths in life). I remember clearly how enthusiastic, positive and encouraging a person she was. Also, how modest and unassuming. Sadly, once she retired, I was working in Edinburgh and thus we rarely met again."

DIOCESAN REPORTS

Aberdeen and Orkney

I am happy to announce that Oscar Kelly has accepted the position of SECMA Correspondent in Lerwick, Shetland. Having graduated from Aberdeen University (Congratulations!), Oscar recently relocated to the Shetland Isles where he is a member of St. Magnus Episcopal Church. Since returning to the Islands Oscar has been busy searching for full time employment, and within he past few days he has found a job. Oscar is a very friendly character who is well liked where ever he goes. He has a great fondness and respect for the Nuns living and working on the Isle of Fetlar, where he is a regular visitor.

Please keep Oscar in your prayers, and ask that he be given the opportunity to begin the work of fundraising for SECMA and implementing some of his very interesting plans. We wish him every success. By the time these magazines reach our readers we will soon be making preparations for Christmas. May I express my sincere thanks to all in the diocese who support SECMA and wish everyone a blessed Christmas in advance

Annette Everard.

Argyll and the Isles

As I write this, (not at Moss Croft but in Edinburgh) I am having a 'crash course' in inactivity and dependence! Following total ankle replacement surgery, I have to be totally non-weight bearing on my left leg for 6 weeks and patiently sit with my legs up to allow healing and prevent swelling.

Thus I may not have my finger 'back on the pulse' as regards SECMA in Argyll and the Isles until the end of October or November.

However, early indications have been encouraging, with new Congregational Correspondents settling in and some cheques for funds raised arriving in advance of the Annual Returns in November. Understandably, this year's St. Columba celebrations have brought many people to Iona and Argyll in general over the summer—many visiting St John's Cathedral as they pass through Oban. May they return in the future!

Joy Blakeney

Brechin

We have had some changes in Central Committee and Brechin diocesan personnel since the last magazine. I have retired as Vice Convener and Joy Blakeney of Argyll and the Isles was elected to take this role. I have enjoyed being on the Business Committee and hope that Joy will also enjoy the role. Her enthusiasm for SECMA will be an asset and I wish her well. Vanessa Stark remains the Provincial Convener but has handed over her duties as Diocesan Representative for Brechin to Mrs Judith (Judy) Robinson. Judy is no stranger to our members as she has been a keen supporter at all diocesan events for some time. Vanessa lives in the St. Andrews diocese and now worships there too, but will participate in activities in both Dioceses. We thank her most warmly for her contribution over the years and assure her that she will always be welcome. Indeed, Vanessa spoke at our Summer Gathering on 28th August, telling us about her visit to Calcutta and Darjeeling with others from St Andrew's diocese and showing some wonderful pictures.

The Rt. Rev. Nigel Peyton, Bishop of Brechin was our speaker at the Annual fundraising lunch on Wednesday 27th February 2013 at St Mary

Magdalene's Church, Dundee. He gave us an entertaining talk about his recent visits to Brechin's Companion dioceses of Iowa and Swaziland. Bishop Nigel and his wife, Anne, travelled widely in Iowa which is a farming state in the Mid-West of the United States of America. He spoke warmly of the hospitality received across the state and demonstrated the presentation of a 'Star Quilt' from the Native Indian Episcopal Church congregation. Not long after his return from USA, Bishop Nigel was present at the consecration of the Rev'd Ellinah Wamukoya as Bishop of Swaziland. Truly a cause for great celebration.

Our Quiet Day was held later than usual this year on 27th June at Holy Trinity Monifieth. We joined the congregation for their weekday Eucharist celebrated by the Rev'd Angela Hughes. After coffee, the Dean, the Very Rev'd Francis Bridger took as his theme "God's call to all of us". This was particularly appropriate as it preceded the ordination as deacon of a chaplain at St Paul's Cathedral that week. We considered our own vocations for ministry, whether lay or ordained and how we might discern our way forward. There was time for reflection on various Bible readings to help us to answer what we might be called or renewed to do in our own lives. In October we hope to enjoy music from the Ferryport fiddlers who are becoming a regular feature of our programme.

The support of all our Correspondents and members is much appreciated. In particular, we are most grateful to Jackie Hogarth, her husband, Peter and the people of St Mary and St Peter, Montrose for their generous donations totalling £80.10 for SECMA's funds.

Rosemary Eddy

Edinburgh

The main Diocesan event since our last report was our Annual LINKS afternoon on June 18th held at St James Penicuik. After hearing from Hilary, our Provincial Secretary, about the funding projects agreed at the Central Committee, the meeting focussed on Ethiopia and Uganda. Returned volunteer Caroline Whyte spoke about her placement building houses with "Habitat for Humanity" in Ethiopia. She explained how the team of overseas volunteers worked on house construction alongside the local people who had been selected by their local community to benefit from them. We then heard from Liz Traill about the Muyebe Gravity Flow Scheme and its impact on the community of the Bishop Kivengere Girls' School at Kabale; and about some of the wider issues facing communities in Uganda. We are very grateful to our speakers, especially Caroline who travelled over from the West Coast, and to St. James' church, Penicuik for the use of their Church hall.

By the time you read this, our main fundraising event, the annual Coffee Morning and sale, will have been held on 5th October at Christ Church Morningside—we hope will we have seen you there.

Cecilia Stephens and Janet Goody

Glasgow and Galloway

I would like to thank the many members in Glasgow and Galloway who continue to fundraise for SECMA and are very generous in their giving in what is a difficult time for many, financially.

Margaret and I interviewed Lauren Johnston from Lochwinnoch who, as well as completing her studies has worked tirelessly in arranging fund-raising events in order to raise money for the school trip to Nepal in June 2013. This trip was to be partly a physical challenge, partly working for an orphanage and partly a chance to see the Nepal itself. SECMA were kind enough to give Lauren a small grant towards the cost of the trip and I hope you will have read about her adventures. Lauren hopes to study medicine and I am sure the experience she will gain on this trip will be beneficial in her future career.

Julia Izatt

Moray Ross and Caithness

As I sit here tapping away at the laptop on a bright, breezy morning in Inverness, I only have to lift my eyes a little to see one of nature's wonders. Glittering, sparkling and dancing in the sunlight is a magnificent spider's web. Last week our cleaning lady swept away a similar web so she could clean the window. The web is over a foot across, but if the supporting threads to the window frames are included, the whole structure measures some four feet by thirty inches. And it was all rebuilt within two days! The spider sitting at the centre, waiting for his (or her - I'm not well up in arachnid science!) mid-morning snack to arrive, looks identical to the previous builder. The sheer scale of the construction, its symmetry and beauty and resilience, are breathtaking, as is the persistence of the builder.

For 2000 years the Builder of the Church has done similar rebuilding work when the Church has been apparently destroyed and scattered in many places. But the resilience of the Church can never be in doubt. Nobody has ever been able to wipe it out. At this moment, the 2000 year old Church in Syria (it was over 10% of the population before the civil war) is under enormous pressure, as is that in Egypt and elsewhere. Individual Christians brothers and sisters there and around the world need our help as never before

Hence the need for rebuilding SECMA in this Diocese. In the next edition of Links we hope to be able to report some progress. We need to encourage congregations to look outwards to see the needs of our brothers and sisters around the world. And to act on what we see.

Looking up again, the spider's eleven legs have arrived. He is busy tucking in. A bit of damage has been done to his web, but I have no doubt that after his meal he will set about repairs. This small creature has so much to teach us. How much more does the Designer and Builder of the web, a world-wide one, that we inhabit want us to care for those parts that are broken. We pray we can go some way towards that in SECMA in this Diocese. The prayer must include rebuilding our own web.

Peter Mosley

St. Andrews, Dunkeld and Dunblane

I have just returned from a trip south where I joined the Royal School of Church Music's Summer School. I had the opportunity to sing in York Minster, to sing for Vespers at Ampleforth Abbey and to perform a plainsong mass in the ruins of Rievaulx Abbey.

I am looking forward to hearing Vanessa Stark, the SECMA Convener, talk about her visit to the diocese of Calcutta earlier this year when she visits St Kessog's Fellowship, Auchterarder, on the 1st November. If you would like to attend that event please let me know in advance. My thanks as always to our faithful supporters.

Dorothy Iball

ACCOUNTS

The following financial statements have been extracted from the accounts of the Scottish Episcopal Church Mission Association for the year to 31st December 2012, which have been examined by a duly qualified Chartered Accountant, approved by the Central Committee on the 13th June 2013, and filed with OSCR. A copy of the full accounts may be obtained from the SECMA Provincial secretary at 21 Grosvenor Crescent, Edinburgh, EH12 5EE.

RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT for the year ended 31st December 2012

	Unrestricted	Unrestricted Designated	2012 Total	2011 Total
	£	£	£	£
RECEIPTS				
Redemption of Investment	6,631	-	6,631	-
Subscription, donation and tax reclaimed	9,808	-	9,808	10,622
Legacy	67,500	-	67,500	-
Investment Income	7,394	647	8,041	7,930
Total Receipts	91,333	647	91,980	18,252
PAYMENTS				
Charitable activities	22,005	270	22,275	10,942
Support costs relating to Charitable activities	9,582	-	9,582	9,588
Purchase of Standard Life AAA Fund	7,965	-	7,965	-
Investment in SEC Unit Trust Pool	50,000	-	50,000	-
Total Payments	89,552	270	89,822	20,530
Net Payments for the year	1,781	377	2,158	-1,978
Transfers	377	-377	-	-
Net movement in bank and cash	2,158	-	2,158	-1,978

STATEMENT OF BALANCES as at 31st December 2012

	Unrestricted	Unrestricted Designated	2012 Total	2011 Total
	£	£	£	£
Investments (at market value)	217,442	14,572	232,014	164,183
Cash at bank and in hand				
Balance at beginning of year	15,379	-	15,379	17,357
Net payments (receipts) for year	2,158	-	2,158	(1,978)
Balance at end of year	17,537	-	17,537	15,379
being:-				
Charities Aid Foundation Account	3,437	-	3,437	5,433
Bank of Scotland Treasurers Account	14,061	-	14,061	9,938
Cash in hand	39	-	39	8
Net Assets	234,979	14,572	249,551	180

Approved by members of the Business Committee and signed on their behalf by Alan Hall FCA, Treasurer

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

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

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 be-
tween 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.**