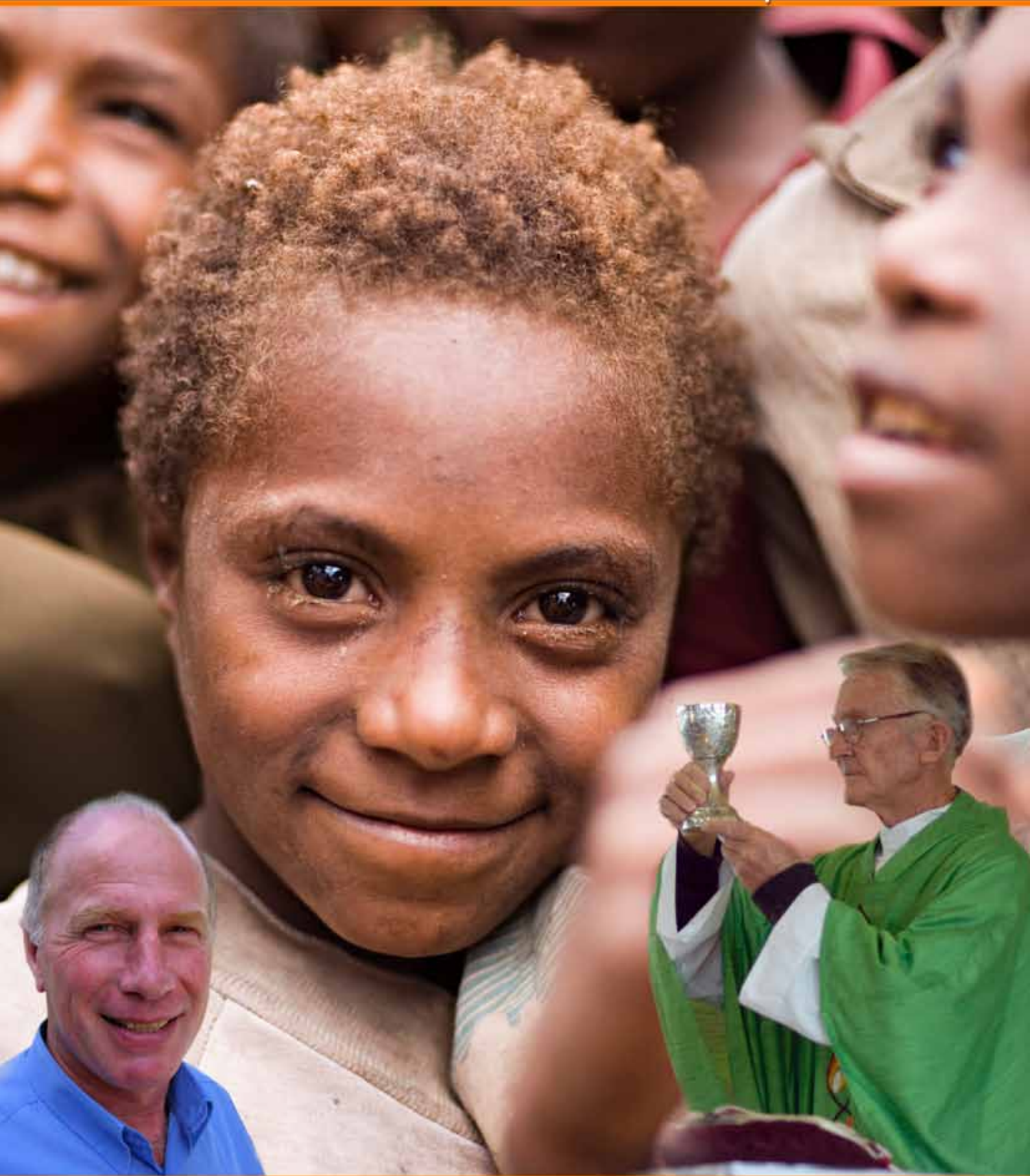


Melbourne Overseas Missions

Annual Report 2009



He who is *generous* will be blessed

Proverbs 22:9



The Archdiocese of Melbourne

My Greetings to you all,

In June 2009, The Holy Father, Benedict XVI, proclaimed a *Year for Priests* on the 150th Anniversary of John Mary Vianney, the patron saint of Parish Priests. This year of prayerful reflection aims to deepen our appreciation for the gift of Priesthood, for without it we would have no Eucharist and no mission for the Church.

The Holy Father reminds us of the great works of St. John Vianney and the human reality of his Priesthood:

(He) knew how to "live" actively within the entire territory of his parish: he regularly visited the sick and families, organized popular missions and patronal feasts, collected and managed funds for charitable and missionary works, embellished and furnished his parish church, cared for the orphans and teachers of the "Providence" (an institute he founded); provided for the education of children; founded confraternities and enlisted lay persons to work at his side. (Letter from the Holy Father proclaiming a Year for Priests, 16 June 2009).

We are all encouraged to share in this Mission of the Church. The work of Melbourne Overseas Missions reflects this spirit, with its history of generous support to developing countries, especially in Papua New Guinea and Peru. Health education and development have produced significant outcomes for over 40 years, but it has also been the blossoming of faith and vocations, especially to the priesthood, for which we are most proud.

Contributions to the Annual Appeal have made possible these blessings, and I thank all involved in this work.

Like St. John Vianney, we are constantly being called to bring Christ to others. Please continue to support the Melbourne Overseas Missions through its charitable works.

I ask especially that you pray for the Priests, religious and lay missionaries who work generously for the Missions throughout the world on behalf of the Archdiocese of Melbourne.

Yours sincerely in Christ,

Denis J Hart.
ARCHBISHOP OF MELBOURNE



Jack Purcell (1922 – 2009)

Treasurer (Hon) Melbourne Overseas Missions

Jack Purcell joined the Australian Army in June 1941 at the age of almost 19. He served in the Army until January 1947. During these five and a half years he spent a considerable amount of time stationed in Milne Bay, Papua New Guinea and was also stationed at Lae. It was at Milne Bay that the Japanese were first beaten on land by Australian troops and RAAF forces. On return to Australia, he completed an officer training course at Puckapunyal and was commissioned as a Lieutenant.

After discharge from the army, having completed an accountancy course, Jack was appointed to the Commonwealth Audit Office as an Inspector Grade 1 where he worked until his retirement in September 1982.

At the age of 60, and at the invitation of Archbishop Little, Jack accepted the position of Honorary Treasurer for the Melbourne Overseas Missions. In this role Jack produced all the financial statements and audit data until his death in June 2009.

Jack is survived by his six children and eleven grandchildren. Melbourne Overseas Missions is extremely grateful for Jack's twenty seven years of dedicated support and technical expertise. He will be sadly missed by all.

A big Thank you, Thank you from Peru

Fr Joe Ruys is a Melbourne Diocesan priest working with the Columban Fathers in Lima and writes about the opening of the new medical centre in Peru.

Fr Joe Ruys was parish priest at Holy Child in Dallas, Victoria for 14 years. In 2007, he volunteered to undertake missionary work with the Columbans in Lima, Peru, in an area where roads are dirt and dust tracks and there is about 40% unemployment. People 'squat' on land that has no water, electricity or sewerage. Two or three generations of family live in the same house which may be just a single room. Many people suffer from illness and have little or no access to medical attention or medicines.

In July 2008 a parcel of land was donated to the 'pueblo' where Fr Joe works. A medical centre has been constructed on this land through the financial support of Melbourne Overseas Missions and others.

A group of eight women have committed themselves to manage voluntarily the chemist dispensary, receive clients, keep the centre clean and maintain a small garden. They were presented with official jackets and are the face of the centre. They manage all the day to day matters of the centre. It is inspiring to witness the co-operation of these women from the three areas of the pueblo working together to promote a health program for their neighbours.

The project is up and running. It is humble and needs much more development but the people themselves, through their generosity and enthusiasm, are providing hope for their neighbours.



Above and left: Fr Joe Ruys with his parishioners in Peru.
Below: volunteers at the recently completed medical centre.



Excerpt from letter from Sr Fran Boston - Botswana



Early in the year I started working with a group of 12 women on bead making, block moulding and home gardens. All the women in the group are unemployed with 3-6 children and most are HIV positive. Gradually each project is taking shape, though we still have a long way to go to make them all viable. The bead making is under the umbrella of an organisation called 'MOTHERS FOR ALL'. This group provides the training, some basic equipment and helps market the items, necklaces, bracelets and earrings. The bead making is generating a lot of enthusiasm but for the women to receive a steady income we have to acquire more outlets. The home gardens are beginning to provide fresh vegetables for their families.

Blessings, Sr Fran Boston, o.s.u.

Left: Craft classes for the unemployed women in Botswana.



40 Years of Service

Kevin and Shirley Blake (Melbourne Overseas Mission's Secretary and Appeal Director, respectively) received their "Member of the Order of Australia" medals in September 2008 in recognition for their services to the Melbourne Overseas Missions over the last 40 years.



Spotlight On Papua New Guinea

What has happened with aid sent to Papua New Guinea? Some \$ 165,647.00 of aid has been directed to the Missions at Araimiri, Bema and Kanabea in the past 12 months. It has been used to train teachers in AIDS education, build accommodation for teachers and nurses, fund the literacy programs, buy teaching equipment, send medical personnel into the hospital and provide a lay missionary to fix the hydro electric scheme and provide building expertise.

Excerpts from the report of the medical team who visited Kanabea (below) gives us a hint of the issues faced in running a medical facility in a remote area of Papua New Guinea.



Visit to Kanabea with doctors

In order to address a decline in medical service at Kanabea, John Ward invited a medical team to join him on a flight from Melbourne to the Highlands of Papua New Guinea.

There has only been intermittent medical attention for patients at Kanabea - even Health Extension Officers have been in short supply. Currently the Officer in Charge is a Registered Nurse (RN), about a dozen local PNG health staff and Sr Dorothy, of St Joseph of Cluny, who runs the dispensary and the HIV/AIDS program.

There is no vehicular access to Kanabea so the mission and health centre are serviced by air. Weather conditions at Kanabea can be hazardous for aviation, with cloud covering the area for much of the day and sometimes for weeks at a time. Hence there is uncertainty regarding access for medical evacuations and delivery of medical supplies.

There was a general expectation that we had come to do "major operations" although given the lack of sterilization facilities this was deemed inadvisable. We did, however, do a few minor procedures in the course of a week.

Altogether there were 37 patients identified as needing investigations and/or referral elsewhere, many relating to childhood diseases, including one of arthritis of the hip in a 17 year old. We recorded 122 musculoskeletal cases, 80 gastrointestinal, 64 respiratory, 43 genitourinary, 25 central nervous system, 14 skin/eye, 12 other complaints. There were 28 people identified as possible TB cases, requiring further investigation and/or treatment. Many of the suspected TB cases came from the village of Komako, which appears to be a focus of TB infection.

Malnutrition and anaemia are quite prevalent but were not documented due to constraints of time and because there are so many malnourished children

that parents do not consider it to be abnormal! Time did not permit a perusal of records to check on weight for age and infant mortality but both malnutrition and infant mortality rates (327/1000 amongst children of the Anga region, which includes the Kamea people) have been reported as amongst the highest in PNG. Recent climatological events seem to have made the region even colder and wetter resulting in reduced food crops, particularly sweet potato, which has adversely affected general health.

The majority of the staff at Kanabea Health Centre are dedicated and doing a good job. TB, HIV/AIDS, STD's, malnutrition and malaria must remain high on the agenda for prevention and control to improve health outcomes in Kanabea and district.



Young Donations From PNG

\$25,000 of aid has gone directly to Nimowa Island in the Louisiade Archipelago of Papua New Guinea to fund the Marine ambulance project of Fr Tony Young. The letter from Fr Tony makes interesting reading- here are the people of PNG offering support for the Victorian bushfire victims even though they have very little themselves:

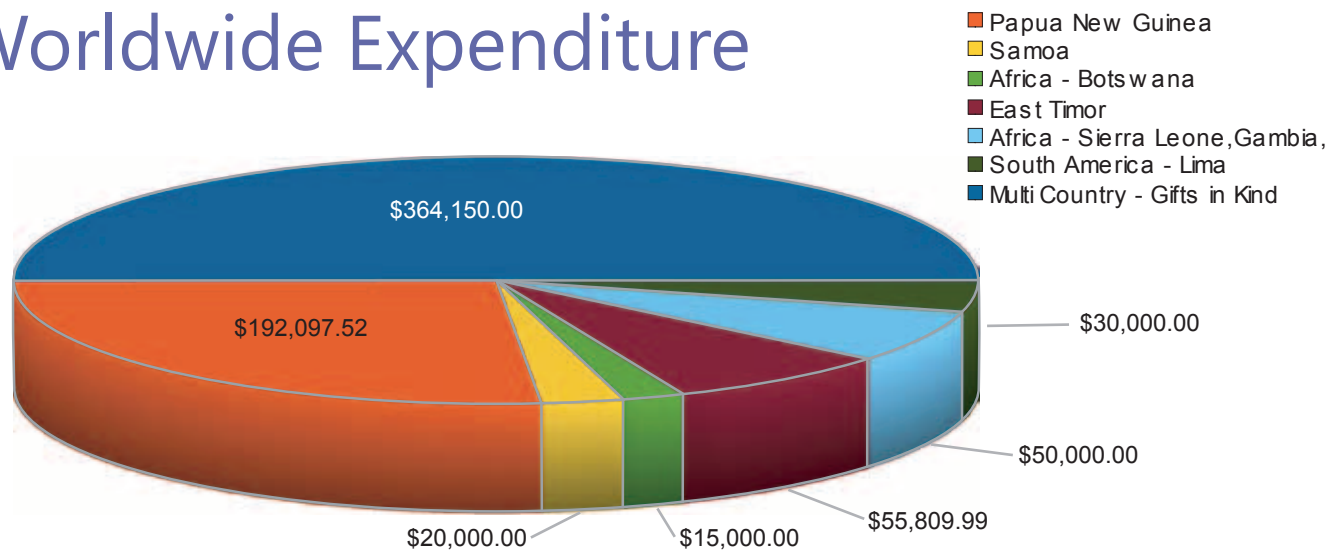
"... A couple months after the [Australian] fires - it takes some time for overseas news to disseminate over PNG bush radio - somebody told me there was going to be a meeting of people from the communities around Nimowa. Meetings are common place events for us, so I didn't take much notice, until I heard it was to discuss fundraising for the victims of the Victorian bushfires. This was one of many tragedies that get reported on the radio, so I asked: "why fundraising for this particular group of suffering people?"

The answer was that they felt that the people of Australia had done a lot for PNG, and for them locally, so they were going to raise funds as an expression of gratitude. This they did, not only around Nimowa, but on other islands also. \$300 was raised by the communities around Nimowa. It represents a generous effort from people whose average annual income I estimate to be around \$1000 a year, or less."

Fr Tony's family is from Glen Iris Parish. He was instrumental in establishing a marine ambulance. This received major funding from Melbourne and Sydney people and is for service amongst the islands of the Louise Aid Archipelago of PNG.

Images from top: Sewing classes in Bema; a Kamea local working on the Hydro electric scheme's ongoing maintenance; Fr James Morova welcomes lay missionary, Simon Darlow, visitors and supplies at the Kanabea airstrip.

Worldwide Expenditure



Goods In Kind

Ever wondered what it means when you read our annual report and it refers to “goods in kind”? Melbourne Overseas Missions works with St Paul’s Overseas Aid in sending boxes of goods such as medical items, clothing, blankets, used computers, school books, sewing machines and materials to Papua New Guinea, Nigeria and many other places around the world for use in primary and secondary schools. Whilst the goods are donated, they must be shipped from Melbourne before they can be taken to their final destinations.

The responses to the parcels speak for themselves:

“You have a way of touching lives and making them brighter - Just wanted to let you know how much your kindness is appreciated.”

“Recently we had a few premature babies born in our Health Centre and also little ones need much care and warm things, so the parcel arrived with all the goods at the right time. The good God really cares for us!”

“Dear Friends, Thank you very much for sending books, exercise books and all kinds of surprises to make the children happy.”

“Thank you very much again for the parcel that you sent us. It came on time just after the cyclone which devastated our little town. The children and folks were very appreciative of what they received. They are just the right clothes for our climate. Our sincere gratitude and appreciation for all that your group is doing.”

“We are really very glad for this package. It helped much out mamas, young girls and children. They are the ones much deprived especially in terms of clothing. Our parish is far from town. They have to walk for four days.”

“Our school here is only for elementary prep and primary (from Grade 3 to Grade 8). Most of our students are coming from the bush. Anything you can spare for them is highly appreciated. We distribute it to the ones who need most.”



“I am happy and thankful to you for the gifts you send for our Parishes. They came right on time one week before Christmas. I could distribute the clothes to the needy and children. The small articles like soap and tennis balls were very useful for the children. They really enjoyed receiving them. I really thank you for your great concern for the people.”



Samoa Tsunami - eyewitness account

Fr Nick Castelyns, the Parish Priest of Salelologa, writes to give us an eyewitness account of the Tsunami from September 2009.

The quake struck at 6:50am. My legs began to shake; I thought I was having a seizure. I then realized it was an earth tremor; we get plenty of them here.

It was the longest and strongest earthquake we had ever experienced.

When Fr Pselio returned we talked about the earthquake, not yet knowing it was 8.3 on the Richter scale. Sitting down for Morning Prayer; before the end of the first psalm, the sirens began to wail the Tsunami warning. Looking out over the sea, the waters inside the reef were broiling and then suddenly receding fast. To see it happening was rather frightening.

Local residents fled to the

evacuation centre in the hills. The all clear came after 11am. The Parish House survived - the wave had petered out with 10 metres to spare.

In the aftermath, MOM donations have been greatly received. So many families have expressed their appreciation and were deeply touched by the generosity of the Australian people. We were able to assist 46 families with donations - specifically from the people of Highett parish. This year you have brought much joy to suffering people.

Salelologa is a village district at the east end of Savai'i island in Samoa. Fr Nick Castelyns is the former Parish Priest of North Brunswick (VIC) and Brooklyn Park (SA).



Above: Lalomanu - looking east 10 December 2005
Below: Lalomanu - looking east 2 October 2009



We walk by faith - Pakistan

Fr Robert McCulloch has been a missionary in Pakistan since 1978. He writes:

Some years ago while visiting back in Australia from Pakistan, I heard a new hymn being sung at Mass in a parish. It began "We walk by faith..." I cannot remember any more of it, but these few words are continually in my mind in Pakistan.



Pakistani women have a trained attendant during childbirth so there are so many neonatal and maternal deaths. Many international aid and women's groups propose abortion as the solution. Catholics in Pakistan have a better solution.

I am chairman of St. Elizabeth Hospital in Hyderabad, to which a School of Midwifery for 60 young women is attached. This year, 18 midwives graduated and have gone as compassionate medical carers to different parts of Pakistan. We receive no funding for the School of Midwifery from the Pakistani government. I have approached international aid groups, including the United Nations. They reply that, this does not fall within their agenda for the care of women.

So we walk by faith.....

Just two days before I heard of the anti-Christian attacks in the Punjab [these occurred in July - August], I received the good news from the Catholic Centre of Academic Excellence which I had started in Hyderabad for gifted and talented Catholic boys who are socially, culturally and economically disadvantaged due to anti-Christian religious discrimination. Our first group of nine boys who sat for the government matriculation examination received extraordinary results.

Many people said that "it can't be done", "you are setting expectations that are too high for this sort of boy", "where will the money come from?", "how will you get the staff?". We walked by faith when we started, and with lots of hope and trust. No group of Catholic boys in Pakistan has ever achieved this sort of results!

The medical situation in Pakistan is a disaster for the poor. Just 23% of



Melbourne Overseas Missions Fund Inc. ABN No 21 755 961 164

Chair: **Archbishop of Melbourne:**
Most Rev Denis Hart DD

Address: Cardinal Knox Centre,
383 Albert Street,
East Melbourne VIC 3002

Mail: PO Box 146
East Melbourne VIC 8002

Public Contact: Kevin Blake (Secretary)

Phone: (03) 9926 5677,
(03) 9337 5760

Fax: (03) 9926 5617,
(03) 9331 3613

Email: secretary@mom.org.au

Web Site: www.mom.org.au

Number of Staff: Full Time: 1
Part Time: 11 (Volunteer Organisation)

History: MOM is a humanitarian organisation staffed by volunteers, founded in 1968, to provide assistance to developing countries as an outreach of the Catholic Church community in the Archdiocese of Melbourne.

Membership: Members are appointed by the Archbishop of Melbourne and include persons from church agencies, individuals and 201 parish priests.

Funding Sources: Annual appeal held on second Sunday in December in all parishes of the Archdiocese of Melbourne.

Tax Deductibility: Annual appeal held on second Sunday in December in all parishes of the Archdiocese of Melbourne.

Focus of Work: MOM concentrates on Kamea people in the remote mountain villages of the Gulf province Papua New Guinea as well as the poor in Lima Peru. MOM personnel are located at a face-to-face level with villages and espouse principles based on a Christian motivation of commitment to the poor with strong objectives of gender equality, encouragement, self-help and self-reliance including development of local project management and localisation of staffing.

Country of Regional Focus of Program Activities: Papua New Guinea and Pacific Islands, Peru, Africa, India, Philippines, East Timor and Pakistan.

Educational & Resources: Information on MOM history, objectives and activities is available from the secretary. Pamphlets and general information is promulgated through parish priests to parishioners throughout the Archdiocese of Melbourne.

Linkages and Affiliations: Partnership is developed with local indigenous people.

Regular Publications: Annual Report.

General: MOM strives to improve the poor through education programs covering literacy, health, hygiene, agriculture, cottage industry and small business cooperatives.

ACFID Code of Conduct: MOM is a signatory to the Australian Council For International Development Code of Conduct. This Code requires members to meet high standards of corporate governance, public accountability and financial management. Code of conduct information can be obtained on ACFID's website: www.acfid.asn.au or by email: acfid@acfid.asn.au



Committee Members

Chair: Most Rev Denis Hart DD.
Archbishop of Melbourne

Vice Chair: Mons. Les Tomlinson
Vicar General of the
Archdiocese of Melbourne

CEO & Public Officer: Mr Peter Moore
DipT(Prim), BEd, Grad Cert(RE), MRE.
Committee member since 1995

Secretary: Mr Kevin Blake AM ME RMIT. MIE (Aust)
(Retired) committee member since 1969

Treasurer: Mr Jack Purcell Qualified Accountant AASA
(Retired) committee member since 1982

Privacy Officer: Sr. Valerie O'Donnell SJC,
Congregation Leader Missionary Sisters
of St Joseph of Cluny.

Members: Very Rev Noel Connolly SSC. BA STL MBS,
Regional Director
St Columban's Mission Society.

Mrs Pat Robertson, Administrator of
St Paul's Overseas Aid.

Mrs Shirley Blake AM, Appeal Director,
committee member since 1980.

NOTE: An audited full financial statement is available on request to the secretary, Melbourne Overseas Missions.

Additional information and reports are available on the MOM web site or by Email to secretary@mom.org.au

Income Statement for the year ended 30 November 2009

	2009	2008
	\$	\$
REVENUE		
Donations and Gifts	614,354	812,457
Legacies and bequests	145,878	15,000
Grants		
AusAid	-	-
Other Australian	-	-
Other Overseas	-	-
Investment Income	37,033	68,391
Sundry Income	25	-
TOTAL REVENUE	797,290	895,848
DISBURSEMENTS		
Overseas Projects		
Funds to overseas projects	725,610	846,384
Other project costs	-	-
Domestic projects	-	-
Community Education	3,292	6,220
Fundraising costs		
Public	3,293	6,221
Government and Multilaterals	-	-
Administration	9,962	9,686
TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS	742,157	868,511
Excess of Revenue over disbursements (shortfall) from continuing operations	55,133	27,337

Balance sheet for the Year ended 30 November 2009

	2009	2008
	\$	\$
ASSETS		
<i>Current Assets</i>		
Cash	901,530	843,845
Other Assets	2,467	4,975
<i>Non-Current Assets</i>		
Property, plant and equipment	17,431	17,431
TOTAL ASSETS	921,428	866,251
LIABILITIES		
<i>Current Liabilities</i>		
Trade and other payables	-	-
Provisions	17,366	17,322
<i>Non-Current Liabilities</i>		
Payables	-	-
Other	-	-
TOTAL LIABILITIES	17,366	17,322
NET ASSETS	904,062	848,929
EQUITY		
Reserves	-	-
Funds available for future use	904,062	848,929
TOTAL EQUITY	904,062	848,929

INDEPENDENT AUDIT REPORT

To the members of Melbourne Overseas Missions Fund

SCOPE

We have audited the summarised financial report of Melbourne Overseas Missions Fund for the year ended 30th November 2009 in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards.

AUDIT OPINION

In our opinion, the information reported in the summarised financial report is consistent with the annual statutory financial report from which it is derived and upon which we expressed an unqualified audit opinion in our report to the members dated 4th March 2010. For a better understanding of the scope of our audit this report should be read in conjunction with our audit report on the annual statutory financial report.

**CHAUNDY & HENRY
CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS**



**P W SELKRIG
PARTNER**

Dated 4th March 2010

For the full audit report, financial statements and notes, please contact:

**Melbourne Overseas Missions Fund Inc.
Cardinal Knox Centre, PO Box 146
East Melbourne, Victoria 8002**

Note 2 (a):

During the financial year, the St. Paul's Overseas Aid Fund (OAF) Committee packed and forwarded to Mission Stations a total of 442 boxes (2008: 464 boxes) each weighing an average of 16 kgs and valued as \$318,240 (2008: \$371,200). The boxes contained various items of medical supplies such as wound dressings and bandages, soap, sheets, blankets and clothing. Apart from the above, Melbourne Overseas Missions (MOM) sent 11 boxes of donated goods to the Arimiri school (PNG) to the value of \$910.

Purpose:

To encourage self help and self reliance through education programs of literacy, gender equality, human rights, health, hygiene, agriculture, cottage industry and small business cooperatives.

No single appeal, grant or other form of fund raising for a designated purpose, generated more than 10% of total income for the financial year ended 30 November 2009.

TABLE OF CASH MOVEMENTS FOR DESIGNATED PURPOSES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 NOVEMBER 2009

DETAILS	ANNUAL APPEAL SPECIAL DONATIONS	TOTALS
Cash available at beginning of year	843,845	843,845
Cash received during year	478,140	478,140
Cash disbursed during the year	420,455	420,455
Cash available at end of year	901,530	901,530

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 NOVEMBER 2009

DETAILS	RETAINED EARNINGS	RESERVES	TOTAL
Balance as at 1 st December 2008	848,929		848,929
Excess of income over expenses	55,133		55,133
Amount transferred to/from reserves	0	0	0
Balance as at 30 th November 2009	904,062		904,062