



MELBOURNE OVERSEAS MISSIONS

# Annual Report 2014



*"One who is gracious to the poor lends to the LORD"*

Proverbs 19:17



# Archdiocese of *Melbourne*



Dear Friends,

Through the generosity of the Catholic parishioners and friends of the Archdiocese, Melbourne Overseas Missions has developed a rich history of providing health and community centres, hospitals, schools and airstrips for some of the poorest people in the world.

Last year, MOM distributed funds and goods to the value of \$735,000 to communities including those in Papua New Guinea, Peru, Botswana, Sierra Leone, Jerusalem and many more of the smaller Pacific countries. MOM has helped transform the lives of people in remote areas, where the poor are often forgotten by their own governments.

The generosity of the parishioners of the Archdiocese of Melbourne has provided both children and adults with opportunities for education and essential healthcare, often during a humanitarian crisis. In recent months, MOM has supported former Coburg resident, Sr. Ann Stevens, with funds to fight the spread of the Ebola virus in Sierra Leone. Children orphaned by the death of their parents are being helped to survive the world's deadliest outbreak of this virus. Sister Ann, who is Congregation Leader of the Cluny West Africa Community, is a qualified doctor and has been working in Sierra Leone for many years, often with the financial support of MOM.

Through its network of missionaries and friends in countries throughout the world, MOM has continued to embrace opportunities to change the lives of those who struggle to survive harsh living conditions and extreme poverty. Your support for Melbourne Overseas Missions Annual Appeal will enable one of the longest serving Archdiocesan agencies to continue its important work throughout our world. Please also pray for the generous volunteers serving in Melbourne and overseas.

Yours sincerely in Christ,

*+ Denis J. Rost*

ARCHBISHOP OF MELBOURNE



## Medical Projects - Pakistan

St Elizabeth Hospital, Pakistan, prides itself on being able to ensure the availability of free health care and medicine given with respect courtesy, compassion and competence. Thanks to the support of Melbourne Overseas missions, the hospital has been able to supply medicines in its Mobile Outreach Program and to offer improved medical and surgical care without increasing its charges.

The hospital also has a School of Midwifery for training midwives. They provide much needed medical assistance to mothers and infants. The hospital has been substantially renovated in recent years due to the work of Fr Robert McCulloch and others.



*Insert: Fr Robert McCulloch (second from left) pictured on a recent tour of St Elizabeth Hospital with (L-R) David Nowell (Cabrini Health), Rowena McNally (Catholic Health Australia chair), Terrill Massey (Chairman of St Elizabeth Hospital and Diocesan Executive Secretary), James Francis (Administrator) and Mr Eric Siraj (Infection Control Department).*



## Araimiri School - Gulf Province, PNG

To the people of Araimiri, education is especially important to the development of the community.



In last year's Annual Report, the Akapiru Project was pictured, showing the laying of foundations for a double classroom.

**Now, the construction of the community classrooms for the Literacy school has been completed.**

In his letter to MOM, Fr Heraido Bosquez SDB (parish priest of Mary Help of Christians Parish in Araimiri) speaks of the challenges that a lack of basic educational facilities posed in the development of the community.



Most parishioners of Akapiru are subsistence farmers - meaning that their main source of livelihood comes from their garden - and as such, they rely on this for their survival.

The development of the community into a more sustainable one is slowed by the lack of educational resources. This project hopes to ultimately aid in the development of the community into a more sustainable one is slowed by the lack of educational resources. This project hopes to ultimately aid in the community's sustainability and overall growth.



# Importance of Education in Jerusalem, Israel

The Sisters of Notre Dame de Sion believe that education is one of the main ingredients to the future of peace in the Middle East - that is, not only to conquer poverty but to achieve long term peaceful resolutions to many problems in the region.

Education is also highly valued by Palestinian families and many go to great lengths to support the education of their children.

That said, with very little support from other sources, parents are required to source their own means to sponsor their child's education. MOM has granted Notre Dame de Sion (in Jerusalem) \$30,000 for three consecutive years of student support of primary, secondary and tertiary students across several schools in Jerusalem. Through the establishment of the Education Fund, the Sisters of Notre Dame de Sion have engaged with local families to actively support their aspirations for quality education.



Sr Maureen Cusick NDS (the regional coordinator of Notre Dame de Sion) said, "This window of opportunity for education will contribute to the leadership capacity of the young people who will ultimately be the voice of peace in the future."

The Fund also supports a number of students at the Spanish Catholic School which is attended by children from the most marginalised members of the local community, including those who

cannot afford education, children coming from the nearby orphanage and children from homes in the old city.

Although education is highly valued by families in this community too, most cannot afford to pay school fees or are indebted by their struggle to pay them. For children in this situation, the help given to them makes the world of difference. A number of students supported by the Education Fund have now gone on to Bethlehem University and are excelling in their tertiary studies.

That said, entering university without prior use and skills in technology is problematic. More recently, the Catholic Community School has had the pleasure of introducing the use of Information and Communication Technology (ICT) into the curriculum (commencing in December 2014), allowing a large number of students to benefit from contemporary approaches learning and teaching.



# Recycling Life - Nigeria

The primary school community in Tincan, Lagos, Nigeria very much appreciates the arrival of sixty desks and chairs that have been shipped to Nigeria in addition to a container of computers, TVs, hospital beds and CD players to assist the poor. The tables and chairs were recycled from

The Holy Eucharist Primary School in East Malvern.

Below Left: The recycled hospital beds being put to good use in Nigeria. Main image and below right: Umuobiala Central School celebrating receiving their new desks and equipment.



*"Thank you for the clothes"*  
Bema, Papua New Guinea

Sacred Heart High School in Bema wishes a big thank you/sends their gratitude/ many thanks to *Sacre Coeur School in Glen Iris, Melbourne*, who donated new school uniforms through Melbourne Overseas Missions. Located in the mountains of the Gulf Province in Bema, Papua New Guinea, the school primarily educates children who come from the Kamea language group where the only

source of income is generated by a small amount of coffee growing. In these areas, there are no roads and so the students have to walk for many hours, sometimes even days, to get to school. **Nonetheless, the children were delighted to show off their new ensemble to the Kamea people!**





# Los Santos Arcangeles Lima, Peru

In the small, isolated community of Paraiso, people live in houses made of cardboard, planks and damp dirt floors. Although there is a fairly stable supply of low potency electricity and water every third day, there is no waste system.

This year, MOM assisted Fr Joe Ruys and the Parish of Los Santos Arangeles in a series of projects focused on increasing the availability of medical resources.

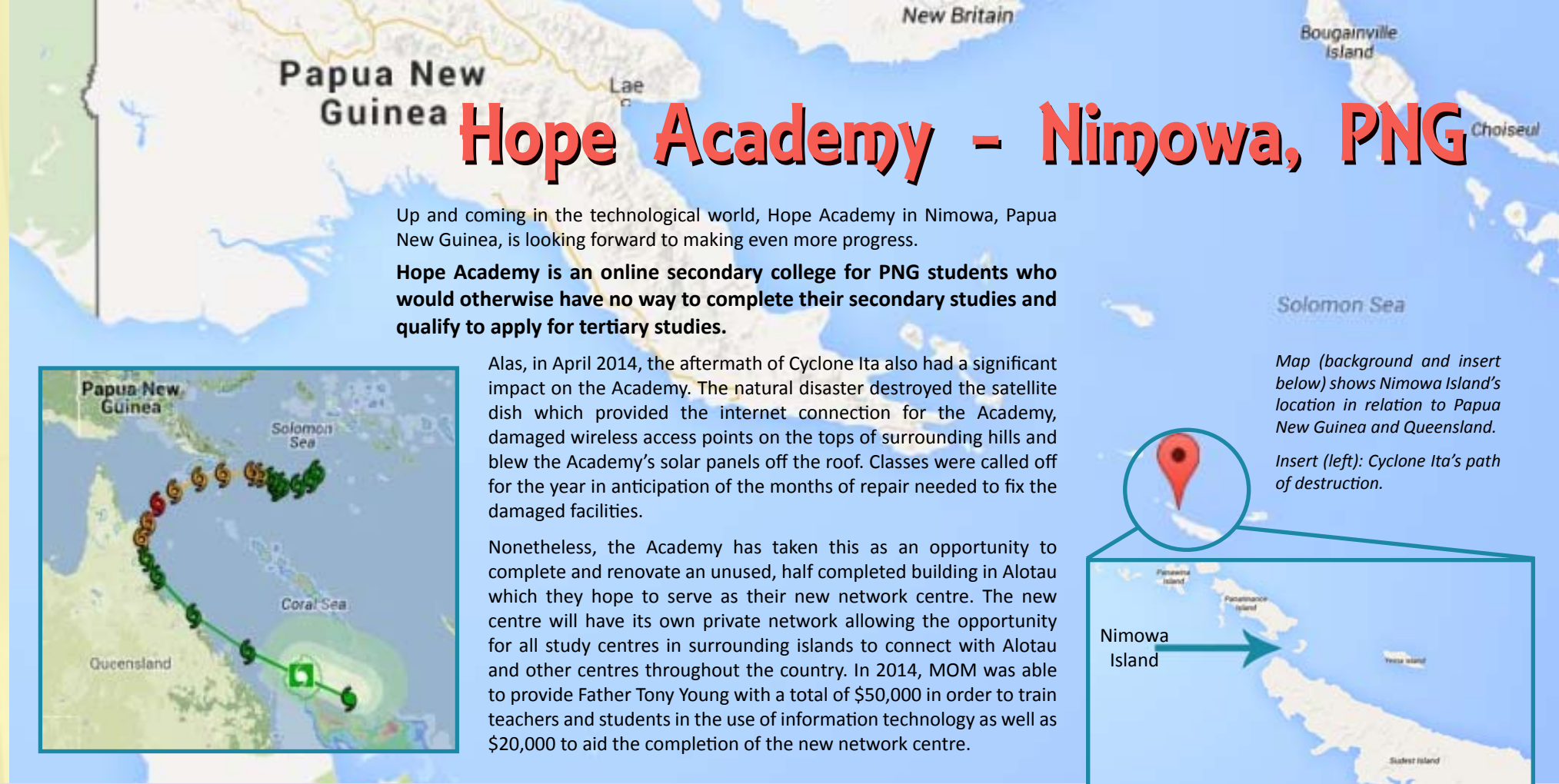
In recent years, with this support, the parish has been able to build and equip a simple medical centre owned by the Parish containing three general consultation rooms, a dental consultation room, a small pharmacy and a large waiting room. The waiting room is also used by the community as a chapel on Sundays, as well as a community and education room.

As the single most accessed parish service, the medical centre is a huge success and is already showing promising results. In addition to mothers bringing along their children for care (in a preventative manner) the centre also places great emphasis on registering all residents in the national health care program, without which they are virtually 'non-existent' people. This also entitles them to receive any government subsidized care at minimal cost.

The establishment of the centre has also provided the welcome opportunity for hospitals and universities to send students to the area for practical training.

*Left: Residents and centre medical staff attending a registration day for the national health care program.*

*Below: Paulina Chavez, the centre's Social Worker, is attending to a young mother in relation to being able to access the necessary health care for her family.*



# Hope Academy - Nimowa, PNG

Up and coming in the technological world, Hope Academy in Nimowa, Papua New Guinea, is looking forward to making even more progress.

**Hope Academy is an online secondary college for PNG students who would otherwise have no way to complete their secondary studies and qualify to apply for tertiary studies.**

Alas, in April 2014, the aftermath of Cyclone Ita also had a significant impact on the Academy. The natural disaster destroyed the satellite dish which provided the internet connection for the Academy, damaged wireless access points on the tops of surrounding hills and blew the Academy's solar panels off the roof. Classes were called off for the year in anticipation of the months of repair needed to fix the damaged facilities.

Nonetheless, the Academy has taken this as an opportunity to complete and renovate an unused, half completed building in Alotau which they hope to serve as their new network centre. The new centre will have its own private network allowing the opportunity for all study centres in surrounding islands to connect with Alotau and other centres throughout the country. In 2014, MOM was able to provide Father Tony Young with a total of \$50,000 in order to train teachers and students in the use of information technology as well as \$20,000 to aid the completion of the new network centre.



*Map (background and insert below) shows Nimowa Island's location in relation to Papua New Guinea and Queensland.*

*Insert (left): Cyclone Ita's path of destruction.*

# Kon Tum - Vietnam

Every child should have the opportunity to complete an education but for the children of Kontum and its surrounding regions, this can be difficult. The local government run school caters daily breakfast and lunch for approximately 400 children from surrounding tribes

in the region, some of whom walk two hours to attend the school each day. The nuns of Divine Providence visit families in villages and identify those who need help most and these students are given the opportunity to become 'boarders' for nine months of the year and receive

additional tutoring.

**This year, MOM supported the Kontum project, which now aims to increase its number of boarders up to 60 girls, as well as improve the small school library.**





# Creating Sustainable Projects, Botswana

In the last financial year, MOM donated \$15,000 to support a series of 'Selfhare' projects in Botswana. These projects run alongside government activities aiming to eradicate poverty.

Funds contributed to sustaining the community's 'Life Line' fund, which acts as an emergency fund to give immediate support in food or other items as the need arises. In addition to this, the donation helped finance the construction of four more homes for struggling families, bursaries for children from poor families to prepare them for their formal education as well as students to pay their uniform and school fees.

*Selfhare projects pictured are:*

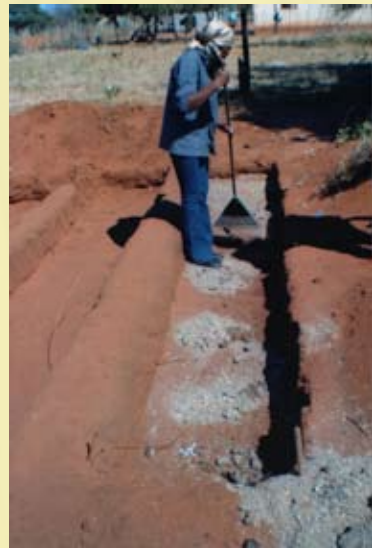
*Gardens (left and below left). These gardens have been created using permaculture techniques. To date, 47 gardens have been constructed.*

*Along side the gardens, 47 taps have been connected. Sister Frances and one of the residents can be seen (right) testing one of the new taps.*

*Breakfast Feeding - At Mmutle School (below right and top of next page) more than 40 students receive daily breakfasts before school each day. Without these offerings, many would go without.*

*Jewellery Making (bottom/below center). Six women work on this project, making jewellery and bowls from paper. Each also has a home garden.*

*Housing (top of next page): 35 single room houses have been built over the years. This photo shows the simplicity when compared to the average house in Melbourne, however to the residents these buildings are a luxury.*



A video showing a selection of the 'Selfhare' projects in detail is available on Melbourne Overseas Mission's website:  
[www.mom.org.au/category/projects/africa/botswana/](http://www.mom.org.au/category/projects/africa/botswana/)

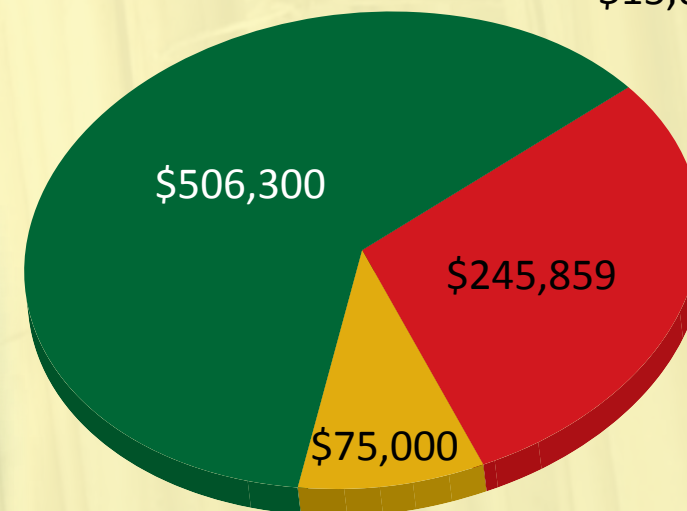
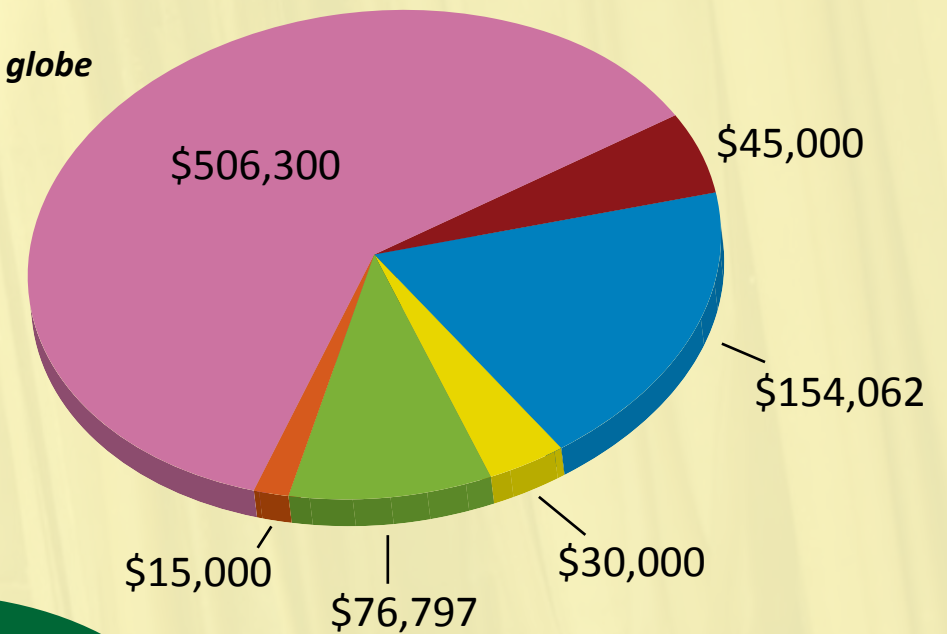


## Worldwide Expenditure

Project Funding for the financial year ending 30 November 2014 totalled \$827,159. The two charts show how this has been distributed by Melbourne Overseas Missions. Both charts show the same total value.

### Where around the globe

- Multi Country
- Botswana
- Israel
- West Africa
- PNG
- Pakistan



### How the recipients benefit

- Education
- Health
- Material relief assistance and services



# 2014 Ebola Outbreak - West Africa

With more than 5,000 fatalities and over 9,000 reported cases across seven countries, the 2014 Ebola outbreak is the largest in history. However, it is not only the Ebola victims who are affected: Over 4,000 children have been orphaned by the disease, all schools have been closed indefinitely, school employees are without an income or savings and communities have been unable to farewell family members and friends in the necessity to adapt cultural burials.

Many health facilities have closed, and for the few that remain open, many village clinic staff do not have access to gloves to wear while treating Ebola patients. Other clinics have opted to practice "no touch" medicine. That is, treating people based on history and visual appearance, although this isn't what they were taught, it is a necessity given the circumstances.

Throughout the outbreak, towns and villages have been systematically locked down, for three to four days at a time, so that searches can be made for the *hidden sick* (those too afraid or unwilling to seek treatment) and known contacts of those who have died.

Everyday customs have also been adapted to avoid further transmission, for example, nobody in Sierra Leone shakes hands as the virus can be transmitted through sweat.

With very little capacity to handle the number of Ebola patients, villages in Liberia and Sierra Leone were isolated and food shortages consequently expected.

Ebola is treatable with swift, appropriate care and MOM has donated \$30,000 for the relief and treatment of Ebola victims in West Africa. Although the number of cases has decreased, the outbreak is being considered dangerous until there are no cases in the area.



Photos Yellow Border:

In all gatherings, the temperatures of participants are monitored. The no-contact temperature sensor is the safest way to do this. The device used here and for subsequent gatherings was purchased using MOM funds.



Red Border: The rice supply is brought in. Kabie is one of the young men who was supported by MOM during a rehabilitation programme after being wounded some years back. He now works as a labourer.



The goods are unloaded at the quarantine compound. No contact is allowed between those in quarantine and those delivering the supplies. Goods are placed on the pathway in family lots and then collected by family heads as they are called. It is surprisingly well ordered. In all there were 120 people living in this affected compound.



Green Border: Some scenes from the consultation workshop held with representatives of the ten schools we are supporting in the Freetown area.



Left: The two young girls shown collecting their supply have lost both parents and a grandmother. Until the quarantine period was over no other extended family member could come to be with them.

In theory children in this position were supposed to be cared for in a holding centre, but many missed out.

Blue Border: These pictures were taken on the day we did the assessment of the water needs for St. Edward's Boys' Primary Schools. As you can see, the staff members present on that day were delighted at the prospect of something being done to address their water problem. Their current water collection system involved two barrels.



# 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

**Contact Person:** Kevin Blake (Secretary)

**Phone:** (03) 9926-5677

**Fax:** (03) 9926-5617

**E-mail:** [secretary@mom.org.au](mailto:secretary@mom.org.au)

**Web Site:** [www.mom.org.au](http://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 religious organisations and church agencies.

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

**Tax Deductibility:** Endorsed by ATO – 1st July 2000 – item 1 of the table in section 30-15 of the Income Tax Assessment Act 1997.

**Focus of Work:** MOM concentrates on the 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 or 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 & Affiliations:** Partnership is developed with local indigenous people.

**Regular Publications:** Annual report and MOM web site.

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

**ACNC:** Melbourne Overseas Missions Fund Incorporated is registered as a charity with the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission ABN 21 755 961 164. Further information can be obtained on the ACNC's website: [www.acnc.gov.au](http://www.acnc.gov.au)

**Committee Members - MOM is staffed by unpaid volunteers**

- Chair:** Most Rev Denis Hart DD  
Archbishop of Melbourne
- Vice Chair:** Rev Mgr Greg Bennet MS STL  
Vicar General of the Archdiocese of Melbourne
- CEO:** Peter Moore  
DipT(Prim), BEd, Grad Cert(RE), MRE.  
Committee member since 2005
- Secretary & Public Officer:** Kevin Blake AM ME RMIT. MIE (Aust) (Retired). Committee member since 1969
- Treasurer:** Roy Meiklejohn, Qualified Accountant CPA.  
Committee member since 2010
- Privacy Officer:** Sr Valerie O'Donnell SJC. Congregation Leader, Missionary Sisters of St Joseph of Cluny

- Members:**
- Very Rev Gary Walker SSC  
Regional Director St Columban's Mission Society.
  - Mgr John Flynn  
Member of MOM since 1970, now committee member.
  - Sr Josephine O'Kelly SJC, (Early Missionary in PNG).
  - Mrs Pat Robertson  
Administrator of St Paul's Overseas Aid.
  - Mrs Shirley Blake AM.  
Appeal Director, Committee member since 1980.
  - Mr Michael Liddy  
Victorian State President of St Vincent de Paul Society.

*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](mailto:secretary@mom.org.au)  
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**MELBOURNE OVERSEAS MISSIONS FUND INC A0010312**  
**SPECIAL PURPOSE FINANCIAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 NOVEMBER 2014**

**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 2014 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 28th February 2015. 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 28th February 2015



**The Note 2(a):** (a) During the financial year, the St. Paul's Overseas Aid Fund (OAF) Committee packed and forwarded to Mission Stations a total of 432 boxes (2013: 400 boxes) each weighing an average of 18kgs and valued as \$456,300 (2013: \$400,000). The boxes contained various items of medical supplies such as wound dressings and bandages, soap, sheets, blankets and clothing. Apart from the above, in 2014 Melbourne Overseas Missions (MOM) sent boxes of donated school uniforms to Papua New Guinea to the value of \$5,000.

**Purpose:** To encourage self-help and self reliance through education programmes 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 2014.

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**

**Income Statement for the Year ended 30 November 2014**

	2014	2013
	\$	\$
<b>REVENUE</b>		
Donations and Gifts	710,358	710,853
Legacies and bequests	4,156	0
Grants		
Investment Income	21,815	29,349
Sundry Income		
<b>TOTAL REVENUE</b>	<b>736,329</b>	<b>740,202</b>
<b>DISBURSEMENTS</b>		
Overseas Projects	827,158	712,434
Funds to overseas projects		
Community Education	5,610	5,071
Fundraising costs		
Public	5,610	5,072
Government and Multilaterals		
Administration	7,486	12,343
<b>TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS</b>	<b>845,864</b>	<b>734,920</b>
Excess (shortfall) of Revenue over disbursements from continuing operations	(109,535)	5,282

**Balance Sheet for the Year ended 30 November 2014**

	2014	2013
	\$	\$
<b>ASSETS</b>		
Current Assets		
Cash	652,246	760,185
Other Assets	2,054	3,648
Non Current Assets		
Property, plant and equipment	17,431	17,431
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>671,732</b>	<b>781,264</b>
<b>LIABILITIES</b>		
Current Liabilities		
Trade and other payables	0	0
Provisions	17,426	17,423
Non-Current Liabilities		
Payables		
Other		
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES</b>	<b>17,426</b>	<b>17,423</b>
<b>NET ASSETS</b>	<b>654,306</b>	<b>763,841</b>
Reserves		
Funds available for future use	654,306	763,841
<b>TOTAL EQUITY</b>	<b>654,306</b>	<b>763,841</b>

**Table of Cash Movements for Designated Purposes for the Year ended 30 November 2014**

DETAILS	ANNUAL APPEAL	SPECIAL DONATIONS	TOTALS
Cash available at beginning of year	760,185		760,185
Cash received during year	280,029		280,029
Cash disbursed during the year	387,968		387,968
Cash available at end of year	652,246		652,246

**Statement of Changes in Equity for the Year ended 30 November 2014**

DETAILS	RETAINED EARNINGS	RESERVES	TOTAL
Balance as at 1st December 2013	763,841	0	763,841
Excess (shortfall) of Income over expense	(109,535)		(109,535)
Amount transferred to/from reserves	0	0	0
Balance as at 30 November 2014	654,306		654,306