

Melbourne Overseas Missions

ANNUAL REPORT *for* 2017



Quote from the Bible as approved by Kevin and Peter – Matthew 28:19

Archdiocese of Melbourne



Dear Friends,

As we approach the time of year when we seek support for communities in developing countries through the Melbourne Overseas Mission Appeal. Through sharing our resources with the poor, we continue to embrace one of the deepest truths of the Gospel message.

For more than four decades, the MOM Annual Appeal has enabled the valuable work of Missionaries to continue across the globe. Through prayerful support and concrete assistance, MOM has embraced and empowered communities in: Papua New Guinea, Peru, East Timor, Israel, West Africa and Pakistan. Local lives have been transformed through programs which encourage self-help and the development of cottage-industries. MOM continues to facilitate highly effective programs in: education, healthcare and development of community infrastructure.

Through the work of our Melbourne Parishes, MOM brings great hope to the poorest of our brothers and sisters in Christ. On the occasion of the first World Day of the Poor, the Holy Father reminds us:

If we want to help change history and promote real development, we need to hear the cry of the poor and commit ourselves to ending their marginalization. All the poor – as Blessed Paul VI loved to say – belong to the Church by “evangelical right” and require of us a fundamental option on their behalf. Blessed, therefore, are the open hands that embrace the poor and help them: they are hands that bring hope. Blessed are the hands that reach beyond every barrier of culture, religion and nationality, and pour the balm of consolation over the wounds of humanity.

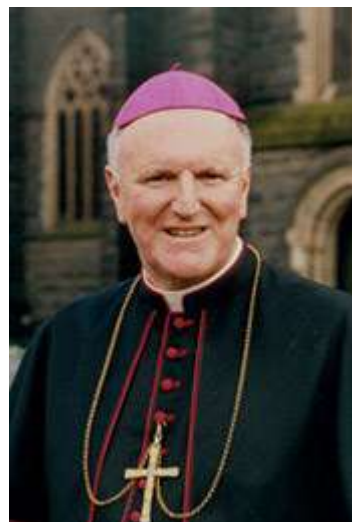
From the Vatican, 13 June 2017

I thank you for your generous support of the Melbourne Overseas Mission Appeal. Please also continue to pray for those who work in solidarity with the world's poor through works associated with MOM.

Yours sincerely in Christ,

+ *Denis J. Hall*

ARCHBISHOP OF MELBOURNE





PROJECT SUMMARIES

WATER FOR EDUCATION

Bema, PNG

In remote areas of Papua New Guinea, only a third of the population have access to basic water supply. As well as increasing the probability of fatal disease, poor access to clean water has previously limited the number of children who can be catered for in the education system, carrying further consequences for future progress in developing communities.

To help overcome these challenges, MOM has supported the Sisters of Saint Joseph Cluny to carry out much needed upgrades to the water tanks at Bema High School, with pipeline connections installed throughout the school. With plans to supply neighbouring literacy schools in Bema and Puruwanga, these improvements stand to improve learning conditions for children throughout the PNG highlands.

“Without this initiative of the literacy schools, there would be no education in this area.”



EXPANDING EDUCATION

Gulf Province, Papua New Guinea

In the Gulf Province of Papua New Guinea, education and basic health services continue to be a challenge. However, despite such formidable circumstances, the missionaries working with Melbourne Overseas Missions have persevered to bring education and health services to this remote region of Papua New Guinea.

Indeed, people who know Papua New Guinea well understand that any child trying to get an education must struggle with many obstacles. In the mountains of the Gulf Province, our children may have to walk two hours to school, with no lunch, the first person in their family receiving an education, absence of teachers, no reading materials at home, no radio, no newspapers, no English, not to mention no television! Under these conditions, children would have to be a genius to make it to High School and further training! And yet, so many of them have made it with great perseverance and determination.

One student expressed the simple truth that without this initiative of the literacy schools, there would have been no education in this area. The sisters' efforts with informal education with the women's groups has grown to also include workshops on mending children's clothes and understanding basic health and nutrition. Previously, local women had not known that malaria was caused by mosquitoes breeding in stagnant water around their home. Consequently, this preventable illness was contributing to significant health problems in local communities. A young researcher who visited from Oxford University reported a significant improvement in the health of the children if the mother had even two years of primary education. This shows the direct impact of education on several other areas of life.

So all in all, those of us involved over those years, as now, feel that it has all been worth it, and we pray that the current generation of teachers and other professionals will continue the vision of the early missionaries for quality education in the Highlands of PNG.

- Sister Bernadette Gauthier, SJC

ST ELIZABETH HOSPITAL

Hyderabad, Pakistan

Every year the Pakistan Government puts out its Pakistan Economic Survey. Although aspirational about the government's hopes and policies to achieve the UN's Sustainable Development Goals by 2030, it is blunt about the actual situation. As regards healthcare, the most recent Economic Survey 2017-2018 says that just 0.91% of GDP is spent on healthcare.

St Elizabeth Hospital is the main centre for healthcare provided by the Catholic Church in Hyderabad and rural areas close to the Thar Desert in Southern Pakistan. St Elizabeth is a 150-bed hospital. It has a special focus on Mother and Child Care. This is to respond to the crisis in the infant mortality rate, the child mortality rate, and the under-five child mortality rate, all of which the Economic Survey acknowledges to be the highest in South Asia and for which, for the first time in the last decade, it ominously avoids providing statistics. St Elizabeth gives free home-based palliative care to terminally -ill cancer patients. It has a Mobile Medical Outreach Programme through which it provides free primary health care to 50,000 impoverished bonded labourers most of whom work in a situation of agricultural slavery. The hospital's sustained record in successful infection control is outstanding.

Melbourne Overseas Missions has continued to assist St Elizabeth to provide the best possible care for those in greatest need at the lowest possible charge which is often totally free. Although it provides no financial assistance and only minimal tax relief, the Sindh Provincial Government recognizes the extent, high standards and scope of this healthcare given by St Elizabeth Hospital.

Local hospital income covers the hospital running costs but is not sufficient for major equipment purchase. Throughout 2017, MOM has enabled St Elizabeth to purchase and install a 40kVA generator to ensure seamless electrical supply for the three operating theatres, the maternal delivery department and the neo-natal special care unit; to purchase and install a water filtration and purification system for the same departments; to buy urgently-needed new surgical and diagnostic equipment; and to provide medicines for the poor.

MOM helps St Elizabeth make compassionate Catholic Healthcare reality in Hyderabad. This close partnership continues to empower local medical professionals to support their community and overcome major barriers to wellbeing. Thank you to all who support MOM to save many lives here in Hyderabad

- Father Robert McCulloch, St Columbans Mission Society



“MOM helps St Elizabeth make compassionate healthcare reality in Hyderabad. This close partnership continues to empower local medical professionals to support their community and overcome major barriers to wellbeing.”

- Father Robert McCulloch

A DREAM BECOMES A REALITY *in*

Lima, Peru





Paraíso is the most distant and smallest community of the parish of **Los Santos Arcangeles, Lima, Peru**. People mostly live in houses made of cardboard, planks, and damp, dirt floors. Until recently there was no water nor waste water system and the community had very limited access to doctors or medicine. Consequently, there were high rates of: undernourishment of children under 5 years of age; children who do not receive their normal infancy inoculations; intestinal parasites in children and adults; as well as bronchial problems.

Thanks to the support of MOM, in September 2009 we opened the first stage of our medical centre. This

gave us a reception/admission office, two consultation rooms for general medicine, an office for our centre coordinator and social worker. Later, in 2011 we opened a second stage. In all, MOM has supported this project with \$60,000. Our hope since we began in 2007 has been to hand our project over to the **Peruvian Ministry of Health** in order to gain better and more consistent medical support for this isolated population.

Earlier this year, the Ministry adopted a new policy regarding mental health and consequently decided to regionalise their centres of attention but lacked a suitable facility in the Northern area of Lima. They remembered that our Medical Centre has had a standing offer for the Ministry to take over the ownership and functions of the facility. In July 2018, after months of negotiations an official handover ceremony took place. The Minister for the Northern Region of Lima, Fr Tavo Fetu'umoana Palenapa SSC (Napa), the present parish priest were present along with Fr Joe Ruys, as well as volunteers who have faithfully carried the work of the centre and around 20 staff who will now work 2 shifts a day (Mon – Fri) at the new **Ministry of Health Medical Post**.

Speeches were made by the Minister, Fr Napa and Fr. Joe recognising the great contribution of the two main Australian groups – MOM and 'Friends of Paradise' working together with the Columban Missionary Society – along with the great dedicated efforts made by our volunteers and professional staff over the past eight years. Rosa Sialer, our stalwart volunteer, receptionist of the centre and current secretary of the local community management group said:

"We are all so proud of what we have been able to achieve with the financial help from Australia. While we are sad to close this chapter with Fr Joe and his friends, we look forward with great hope to this new chapter with the involvement of the Ministry of Health. Our dreams have become a reality."

The new centre will be a referral centre for all mental health needs for the North of Lima. It will also provide State funded general health services to the local people, State subsidised medicines as well as monthly 'campaigns' which offer specialised consultations for the locals. This new service, available largely due to your support in an area of Lima that had for so long been neglected by the State, will greatly enhance the quality of life for the needy locals. Congratulations and thanks to all MOM supporters.

— Fr Joe Ruys, Melbourne Diocesan priest & founder of the Lima Medical Centre project



TERIARY EDUCATION

Gulf Province, PNG

Tertiary education is largely inaccessible to the majority of Kamea people living in the mountainous regions of the Gulf Province, Papua New Guinea. With few locals able to access tertiary education, this relatively underdeveloped region of Papua New Guinea struggles to attract and retain community members with professional qualifications in disciplines that are important for improving quality of life, including teaching, nursing and medicine.

Unfortunately, this situation has been further exacerbated by reductions in Government support for tertiary education announced in 2017. Where Government subsidies originally covered 75% of tuition in 2016, this was reduced to just 25% of tuition supported by the local Government in 2017.

This year, MOM has continued to work alongside the Sisters of Saint Joseph Cluny to sponsor local students from isolated regions of the Gulf Province to access tertiary education (pictured below). The goal of this project is to both support community members to achieve their academic and professional potential, as well as encouraging qualified workers to return to the highlands to improve conditions for their community.



ST PAUL'S OVERSEAS AID

Papua New Guinea

Saint Paul's Overseas Aid has been providing much needed clothing, toiletries, educational items and baby supplies to communities in around the world for the past 38 years with the help of Melbourne Overseas Missions. During this time, Pat Robinson (pictured below, right) has worked tirelessly, inspired many and clothed thousands. As her fruitful and inspiring journey with St Paul's Overseas Aid draws to a close, we reflect on the many success stories made possible by the generous donations and passion of its volunteers.

Since the early 1980's, St Paul's Overseas Aid volunteers have collected and distributed much needed clothing, toiletries and living supplies to send around the world to communities who struggle to access basic goods. In the beginning, this initiative focused on providing clothing and blankets for families who could not wrap their newborns.

Initially, four boxes of clothing and baby kits were sent at a time. Although the local need for more resources was expansive, the costs of shipping limited the donations that could be sent to communities in need. For the past X years, funds from MOM have enabled an even greater number of boxes to be sent to those in need in Papua New Guinea. This has resulted in being able to send over 8,000 boxes of goods to the poor, who have become part of the St Paul's Overseas Aid family. Please enjoy the photos and letters from the recipients of our boxes (pictured right).



As well as sending general supplies, St Paul's Overseas Aid have supported specific people brought to their attention by missionaries. Some of the people assisted in this way in the first 10 years include:

- ♦ A young boy suffering from burns after crawling into the fire while his parents slept
- ♦ Two South African girls on crutches were helped to complete their schooling
- ♦ A young man whose parents had trouble pushing his wheelchair to the river to bathe
- ♦ Two girls from Zambia suffering from malaria
- ♦ A big project was providing linen and bedspreads needed to set up a boarding school in PNG. One of our members made all the bedspreads.

Dedicated volunteers Beryl and Madeline also highlight funny stories that the organisation has had over the years:

We've had funny stories too. The nuns told us that children were often names after the labels on the clothing e.g. Cashmere, Target! Once we received a letter from a grateful priest who recommended that we keep the man who packed and wrapped and wrapped the boxes as he did such a good job – we were an all-woman workforce back then!! Three of the original volunteers are still working with us today, 30 years on.

- Beryl and Madeleine, St Paul's Overseas Aid

“On behalf of the school, I would like to thank the Aid group and their friends who have donated this school with library books. We thank you so much as PNG is a developing country where learning materials are costly. We are so grateful that these books will help students learning a lot at present, and in years to come.”

– Br Jeet Masih Principal, Kopen Secondary School, Enga Province, PNG.

“Thank you very much for the great help. The children and people are wearing your very good clothes. They are happy and thankful to all your team members.”

– Fr Matthew Kama, Ponnamanda, India



IMPROVING EDUCATION

Jerusalem

In Jerusalem, one in five families live below the poverty line. Among children, this figure is higher still, with 31% of children living in poverty. Education will play a vital role in improving these conditions. To help build toward this future, Our Lady of Pilar school provides high quality education to over 200 Palestinian girls who come from poor families in Jerusalem or are otherwise affected by social problems, including death of a parent or parental incarceration for political reasons. This year, MOM has supported Our Lady of Pilar to improve learning conditions for their students by installing internet in all elementary classes and teachers' rooms, purchasing new book shelves, and repairing damage done to the building by high humidity weather conditions. These small improvements will go a long way to ensuring a comfortable and safe learning environment for its students.



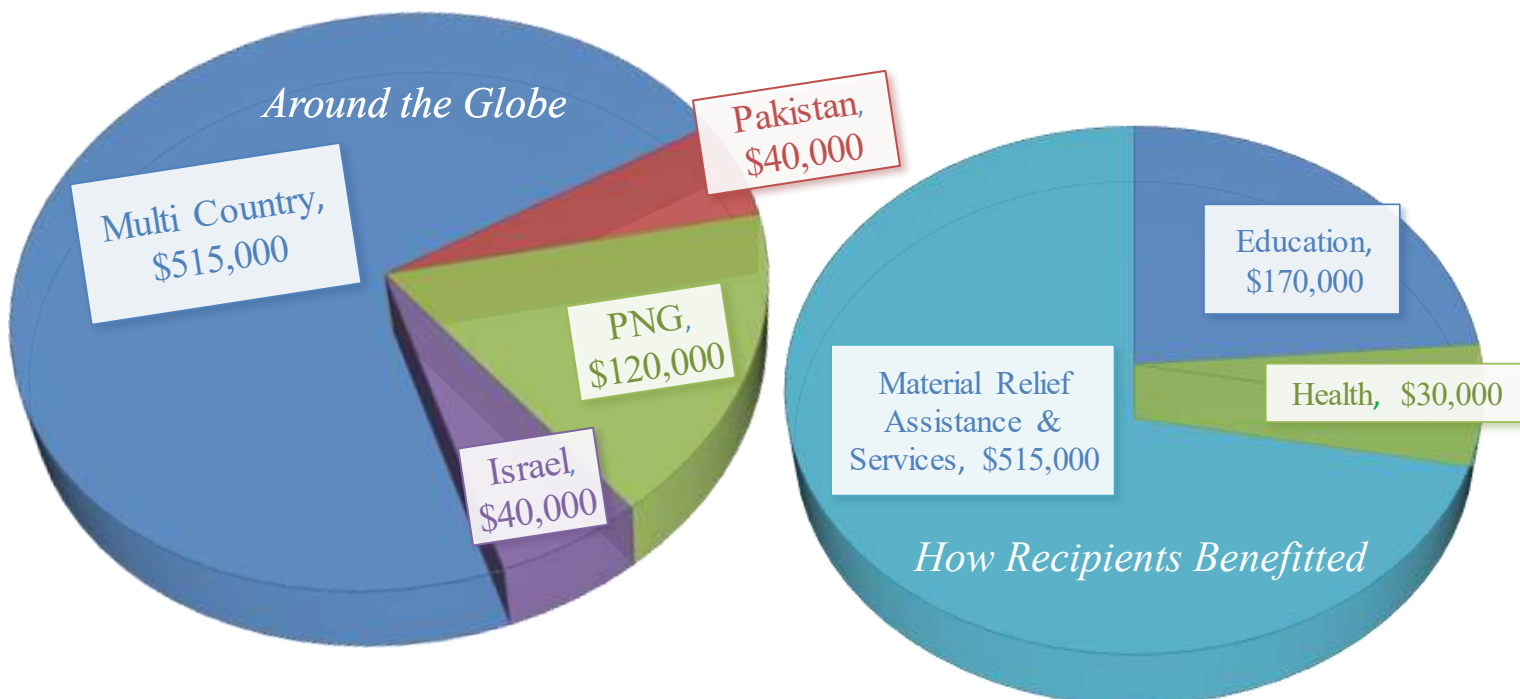
Sister Marta Gallo Marin CMFC passes her gratitude on to our generous contributors:

"I have no words to thank all the people who make it possible to give a good hand to poor people in this beloved Holy Land".

Indeed, these smiles are thanks enough!

WORLDWIDE EXPENDITURE

Project Funding for the financial year ending 30th November 2017 totalled \$XXX,000 AUD. The charts below show how this has been distributed by Melbourne Overseas Missions throughout the year.



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

Web Site: www.mom.org.au

Number of Staff: Full time: 1
Part time: 11 (volunteer organisation)

History: Founded in 1968, MOM is a humanitarian organisation staffed by volunteers 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 distributed 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 benefit 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

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: Sister Ann Stevens SJC. Congregation Leader Missionary Sisters of St Joseph of Cluny

Members:

Very Rev Gary Walker SSC Regional Director of St Columban's Mission Society.

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 website www.mom.org.au or by email to secretary@mom.org.au

MELBOURNE OVERSEAS MISSIONS FUNDS INC. A0010312

SPECIAL PURPOSE FINANCIAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 NOVEMBER 2017

INDEPENDENT AUDIT REPORT

To the members of the Melbourne Overseas Missions Fund:

SCOPE

We have audited the summarised financial report of Melbourne Overseas Missions Fund for the ended 30th of November 2017 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 30th April 2018. 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



Chaundy & Henry
CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS
P. W. Selkrig F.C.A.
A.B.N. 48 617 833 416

P W SELKRIG

PARTNER

Dated 30th April 2018

The Note (a): During the financial year, the St. Paul's Overseas Aid Fund (OAF) Committee packed and forwarded to Mission Stations a total of **XXX** boxes (2016: 465 boxes) each weighing an average of 18kgs valued at \$515,000 (2016: \$485,000). The boxes contained various items of medical supplies such as wound dressings and bandages, soap, sheets, blankets and clothing.

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 co-operatives.

No single appeal, grant or other form of fund raising for a designated purpose generates more than 10% of total income for the financial year ended 30th November 2017.

Registered with the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission.

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

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

Income Statement for the Year ended 30 November 2017

	2016 (\$)	2017 (\$)
REVENUE		
Donations and Gifts (a)	708,766	747,981
Legacies and bequests	99,912	56,637
Investment Income	17,519	14,626
Sundry Income	-	-
TOTAL REVENUE	826,197	819,244
DISBURSEMENTS		
Overseas Projects		
Funds to Overseas projects	717,051	750,973
Community Education	7,346	4,153
Fundraising costs	7,346	4,153
Administration	11,826	13,261
TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS	743,569	772,540
Excess of Revenue over disbursements (shortfall)		
From continuing operations	82,628	819,244

Balance Sheet for the Year ended 30 November 2017

	2016 (\$)	2017 (\$)
ASSETS		
<u>Current Assets</u>		
Cash	697,429	744,094
Other Assets	474	513
<u>Non-Current Assets</u>		
Property, plant and equipment	17,431	17,431
TOTAL ASSETS	715,334	762,038
LIABILITIES		
<u>Current Liabilities</u>		
Trade and other payables	-	-
Provisions	17,430	17,431
<u>Non-current Liabilities Payables</u>		
Payables	-	-
Other	-	-
TOTAL LIABILITIES	17,430	17,431
NET ASSETS	697,904	744,094
EQUITY		
Reserves		
Funds available for future use	697,904	744,607
TOTAL EQUITY	697,904	744,607

Table of Cash Movements for Designated

DETAILS	ANNUAL APPEAL SPECIAL DONATIONS	TOTALS
Cash available at beginning of year	697,904	697,904
Cash received during year	304,144	304,144
Cash disbursed during the year	257,579	257,579
Cash available at end of year	744,607	744,607

Statement of Changes in Equity for the Year ended 30 November 2017

DETAILS	RETAINED EARNINGS	RESERVES	TOTALS
Balance as at 1st December 2016	697,904	0	697,904
Excess of Income over expenses	46,704		46,704
Amount transferred to/from reserves	0	0	0
Balance as at 30th November 2017	744,607		744,607