



Kambia Hospital Appeal

Newsletter No. 11

www.kambiahospital.org.uk

Summer 2003

Work on hospital to begin in September

'I believe we will have a hospital in Kambia soon,'

wrote Jeremy Tunnacliffe, head of the European Union Delegation in Sierra Leone, on June 27th. After four and a half years, tenders for the work have been submitted and a short list of six contractors drawn up. If all goes according to plan, work will begin in September and be completed by the Spring.

Although this is undoubtedly good news, the European Union is not providing funding for the more ambitious plans proposed by us. A more modest renovation has been agreed with the Ministry of Health in Freetown, based on the hospital as it was before the war. This gives us the opportunity to provide additional buildings and equipment and to fund specific health projects, as required.

At least the people of Kambia should have their hospital back by Easter 2004.

Buying through amazon.co.uk?

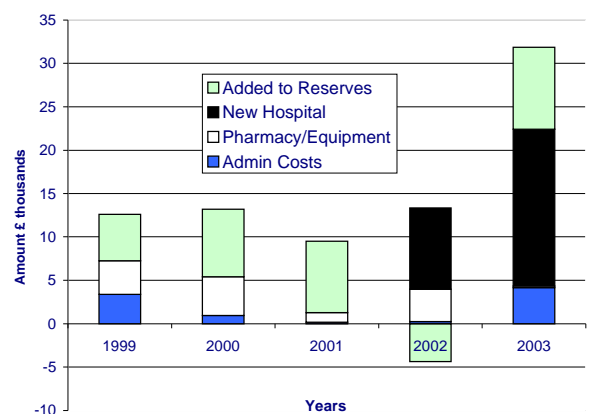
Use the "affiliate" link on the Kambia Hospital Website and the charity receives a donation.

This adds nothing to your bill.

Try it

www.kambiahospital.org.uk

Analysis of income by disposal for the 5 years to 31st March 2003



Parliamentary Visit

A delegation of six Westminster MPs is to visit Sierra Leone from 10th to 17th November 2003. It is hoped that members of the Appeal will be able to go out at around the same time, both to help and see the progress with the new hospital. There are also plans to investigate the possibility of starting a small fair trade business with Kambia.



Well Funding Secured

We have been given a grant of 5,000 euros from the European Third World Association, thanks to the support of Simon Burne, whose parents live in Cheltenham and have previously worked in Sierra Leone. The purpose of the grant is to provide the additional well and pump, mentioned in the last Newsletter.

Christmas Card

A Christmas card competition for pupils at Lakeside Primary School was organised by Paula Froggatt, one of the Trustees. Two designs have been chosen and will be printed thanks to the Cheltenham and Gloucester Nuffield Hospital. We hope these will be available from September to order through the next Newsletter and Website.



Medical Aspects & Future Work

It will be easier to know our position and plan for the future when we have details of the European Union proposals. These have been requested and we hope to have sight of them very soon. We will be in an even better position after the November visit.

From the medical point of view, we aim to continue to concentrate on improving the health of women and children. We would like to provide better facilities for childbirth and its consequences, including the detection and prevention of transmission of HIV in pregnancy. To do this, we would like to build a ward for women and children and provide a building for expectant mothers and those awaiting surgery.

Sierra Leone has the dubious distinction of being the world number one in numbers of children who die under five years of age – 316 per thousand births, compared to 6 in industrialised countries. Many of these deaths are caused by diarrhoeal diseases, malaria and pneumonia, and can be reduced by simple measures, such as exclusive breast feeding, and sleeping under treated mosquito nets. We have already sponsored a midwife from Kambia on a breast feeding course at the Institute of Child Health in London and provided mosquito nets for patients in the hospital, but there is still a long way to go.

All these measures will also require improved communications with the 13 peripheral health units in Kambia District and better data collection.

All this means that your support remains vitally important to the people of Kambia in enabling them to improve their levels of basic health.

Shipments

Apart from the medical drugs funded by the Strathspey Charitable Trust, another shipment of medical equipment has been dispatched to Sierra Leone since the last Newsletter.

Promotion

Dr. Foday Dafea, the previous District Medical Officer in Kambia, has been promoted to the Ministry in Freetown to run the national leprosy and TB programme. His place in Kambia has been taken by Dr. Santigie Sesay, with Dr. M. Wilson as his deputy.

Hail and Farewell



The number of patrons has recently been augmented by the addition of the well known broadcaster, Fergal Keane. If you would like to see Fergal's reports for the BBC from Sierra Leone during the civil war, they are available on the KHA website.

Peter Boreham retired as a Trustee this year. We are very grateful to Peter for all the hard work both he and Ka have put in over the past ten years. He has been replaced by Dr. Sean Elyan, consultant clinical oncologist at Cheltenham General.

"Your help will provide doctors, medicine and hope to the area"
Fergal Keane

Sean's wife, Anne, a nurse, joins us on the Committee, together with Simon Cox, a computer consultant from Cardiff, and Caroline Gardner, a solicitor with Rickerby's. John Kloer, our treasurer, has agreed to take over as chair of the committee.

Our Website: www.kambiahospital.org.uk



The Website has gone from strength to strength, thanks to Liz Adams and Simon Cox who have worked hard to transform it and make it more effective and easier to navigate. We have had a number of useful contacts and offers of support as a result. We welcome your comments.

Liz has now arranged so that you can make purchases from Amazon, as well as a variety of well-known organisations via UShopUGive (eg John Lewis and Marks and Spencer). If you do this via the Kambia Website, we receive a percentage donation at no extra cost to you, so please make use of this. If you already make purchases on-line, just click on the Amazon or UShopUGive links on the KHA website site to take you straight there.



Publicity

Mike Charity has given us some useful publicity with photographs in Cotswold Life and Annabel Brittain, at the Gloucestershire Echo, has been very helpful with accurate and appropriate articles.

The laptop provided by us, together with the satellite phone, for use by the District Medical Officer in Kambia, is temporarily out of action. We hope to have this repaired, but in the meantime we communicate with Kambia very satisfactorily through Dr. Foday Dafea at the Ministry in Freetown.

Grants and Donations

In the last financial year, the Kambia Hospital Appeal raised over £30,000, which was achieved largely through the generosity of our donors and supporters. Over £17,000 was raised through your donations and nearly £10,000 came from fundraising events that you organised. This is a fantastic achievement and will provide a major contribution towards our support for the new hospital and its work.

Donations in memory of the late John Pedrette by his wife, Margaret, and his brother, Peter, in Canada, will go towards an oxygen concentrator. Dr. Sesay and Dr. Dfafe have specifically requested this as it will avoid the need for bottled or piped oxygen and it can be used for anybody with breathing problems e.g. patients with asthma, pneumonia or bronchitic problems.

One thousand pounds has been received from the Strathspey Charitable Trust. This was specifically for a further supply of medical drugs which has already been dispatched.

We are very grateful for all the other activities that have taken place recently, including a most enjoyable dinner at Cotswold Hills Golf club, with Tom Graveney as guest speaker in November, a performance of Rachmaninov's Vespers in St Gregory's Church, Cheltenham, in December and a concert at Pate's Grammar School in memory of David Kennedy.

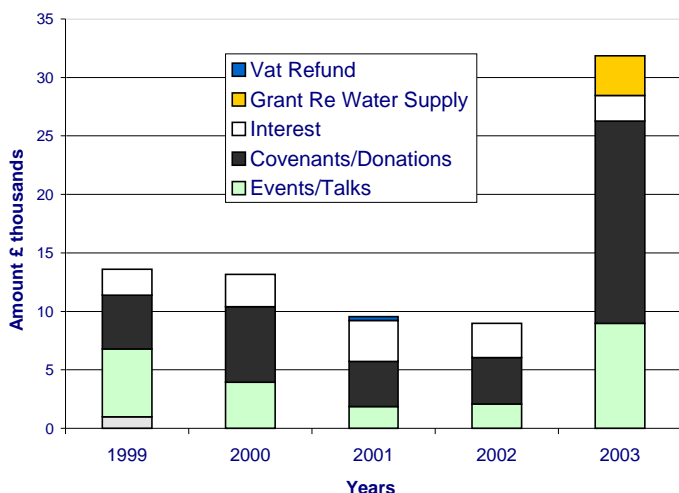


Photo: Mike Charity - Cotswold Life

Generous donations have also been received from St. Paul's and St. Gregory's Churches in Cheltenham and the Church of the Ascension in Blackheath.

Our thanks also to the volunteers and supporters who have helped the Appeal by holding coffee mornings, manning stalls and attending events.

Analysis of income by source for the 5 years to 31st March 2003



West Africa – the wider picture

Sierra Leone now seems one of the more relatively stable countries in West Africa. Since peace was declared in Sierra Leone at the end of January 2002, civil war has erupted in the Ivory Coast, and neighbouring Liberia is in chaos. The Special Court set up in Sierra Leone to try those responsible for the civil war has indicted Charles Taylor, president of Liberia, as well as the rebel leader, Foday Sankoh, and the leader of the kamajor militia, Sam Hinga Norman. 'Mosquito' Bockarie and Johnny-Paul Koroma, who were also wanted in connection with war crimes, have reputedly been killed after escaping to Liberia.

There is still a large UN peace keeping force in Sierra Leone, but this is slowly being reduced.

One of the causes of unrest in Sierra Leone has been the availability of diamonds. The world diamond industry has instituted the 'Kimberley process', so that a certificate of origin should now accompany all diamonds. Unfortunately, no method of supervising and controlling this has been set up, but at least it's a start.

Anyone planning to buy a diamond, please ask for a certificate of origin and make sure the merchant has heard of the Kimberley process!

"There is still a huge amount to do, but there is a real cause for optimism about the prospects for Sierra Leone."

Clare Short

The British government has agreed a ten year development partnership with the government of Sierra Leone, signed by Clare Short and President Kabbah in November 2002. This includes improving standards of governance, reforming the security sector and reducing poverty.

New Fundraiser Appointed

We started the year last May with the support of Shirley Collins. Shirley offered her services voluntarily as fundraiser, but, after providing an invigorating contribution, by October felt that it was time to move on. We are grateful to Shirley for producing a new publicity leaflet, posters and organising collecting boxes.

The fundraising work was seen as an important role, so we decided to advertise and appoint a part-time professional fundraiser. We have been very lucky to appoint James Dowling. James has previous fundraising experience, which includes working for the fundraising departments of the London Symphony Orchestra, The Barbican Centre and English National Opera. James has many exciting ideas for fundraising, some of which are already being put into action. A campaign for pay-roll giving at both Gloucestershire Hospitals and GCHQ has started, as well as approaches to organisations and individuals with particular interests in either medicine and/or West Africa. James writes

"As well as securing funding from companies and grant-making trusts, raising money locally is hugely important. We always need local individuals and groups to fundraise on our behalf. If your church, school or community group can help fundraise for us by holding a sponsored event, a concert, a bring-and-buy sale, or if you could help sell our Kambia Christmas cards, we would be very pleased to hear from you. Every pound raised makes such a tremendous difference."

CONTACT INFORMATION

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Gift Aid

Tax paid on any donation that you make can be recovered by charities at basic rate if you confirm in writing or verbally

- that this donation and any further ones should be treated as a **Gift Aid donation**.
- your name including forenames, title and address with postcode.
- that you are a taxpayer. N.B. You must pay an amount of income tax or capital gains tax equal to the amount we reclaim on your donations.

So, a donation of £10 would be worth £12.82 for The Kambia Hospital Appeal.

NB Higher rate taxpayers can claim the difference between basic and higher rate tax on their tax return.



I would like to help the Kambia Hospital Appeal and enclose a donation for:

£10 £25 £50 £75 £100 Other £

or please pay The Kambia Hospital Appeal £..... each Month/Quarter/Year (delete as appropriate) commencing/...../..... until I cancel this order.

Signature: Date:

Your bank details

Bank Account No: / / / / / / / Bank Sort Code: / /

Bank Account Name:

Bank Name and Address:
.....

OFFICE USE ONLY: Kambia Hospital Appeal bank details (to be completed by the Kambia Hospital Appeal)

Bank Name and Branch:

Bank Account No: / / / / / / / Bank Sort Code: / /

GIFT AID

I am a UK taxpayer and would like this donation and any further donations I make from the date of this declaration, until I notify you otherwise, as Gift Aid Donations

Signature: Date:

Name (Dr, Mr, Mrs, Ms)

Address
.....

Tel no: Email address:

Cheques should be made payable to "The Kambia Hospital Appeal" and sent to the address above

Please send me information on fund-raising

Newsletter by email? Please help to reduce our postage costs. If you would like to receive future copies of this newsletter by email, please let us know by sending an email to newsletter@kambahospital.org.uk

If you do not wish to be included in our mailing list, please tick here

Registered Charity Number: 1014034