

Melbourne Overseas Missions

The Melbourne People's Mission



ANNUAL REPORT *for 2018*

“I have come that they may have life,
and have it to the full.”

John 10:10

2018 AT A GLANCE

Throughout 2018, we were able to sponsor over 14 different projects into 3 partner countries along with our regular world-wide distribution of goods through St. Paul's Overseas Aid. In these projects we maintained our focus on the education of young people in socially and economically disadvantaged communities. Thousands of children and young people will have access to safe and engaging learning environments due to the generosity of our donors.

**\$990,649
DISBURSED
FOR
OVERSEAS
PROJECTS**

ISRAEL

We focused on updating educational resources and increasing the ability for children, particularly young girls, to attend quality schools. In two communities located in the heart of the Old City in Jerusalem, access to education has been enhanced due to MOM projects. Students at Our Lady of Pilar School are enjoying new educational equipment and the Sisters of Notre Dame de Sion are providing fee-relief to the poorest families.

Health	\$70,000
Education	\$264,500
Material Relief	\$633,000

**\$16,777,766 GRAND
TOTAL FROM
1985-2018**



14 PROJECTS

3 Projects regarding Medical Supplies
2 Projects regarding Child Protection & Safety
9 Projects regarding Education Accessibility



PAKISTAN

In 2018 we continued to support St. Elizabeth hospital as the sole medical provider in Hyderabad, providing the highest quality care at the lowest price which is often free. Funds were also distributed to the St. Columbans Mission Society to continue educating Pakistani youth through the Catholic Youth Development Program and supporting 11 schools in the Diocese of Multan.



PAPAU NEW GUINEA

Working closely with the Sisters of St. Joseph of Cluny and Fr. Tony Young we have continued to finance several important projects involving the education of young people. Our initiatives stretch from the capital of Port Moresby, to the isolated highlands of Bema and to the many islands of Milne Bay in which Hope Academy extends.

WORLDWIDE

Through St. Paul's Overseas Aid we are able to collect and distribute much needed clothing, toiletries and living supplies to send to communities around the world who struggle to access basic goods. People from Africa, South America, Oceania and Asia are all better off with the grand total of 600 crates worth of supplies St. Paul's has shipped over recent years. Again we thank all volunteers for their dedicated service.



2016	2017	2018
\$743,569	\$772,038	\$990,649
TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS	TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS	TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS

Archdiocese of Melbourne



November 2018

Dear Friends,

On the most recent World Day of the Poor, our Holy Father, Pope Francis reminded us of the mission that each parish community shares:

"Each individual Christian and every community is called to be an instrument of God for the liberation and promotion of the poor, and for enabling them to be fully a part of society. This demands that we be docile and attentive to the cry of the poor and to come to their aid"

(Evangelii gaudium, 187).

Vatican, June 2018

We are fast approaching the Season of Advent, a time when we seek support for communities in developing countries through the annual Melbourne Overseas Mission Appeal. I warmly encourage you to continue to support important works of charity. 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 Missionaries across the world to hear the cry of the poor and to respond through the development of highly effective programs in healthcare, education and the development of essential community infrastructure.

Through prayerful support and concrete assistance, MOM has assisted communities in some of the world's most remote and underdeveloped communities, including: Papua New Guinea, Peru, East Timor, West Africa and Pakistan.

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.

With every grace and blessing, I remain,

Yours sincerely in Christ Jesus,

Most Rev Peter A Comensoli
Archbishop of Melbourne



Education for the Future

JERUSALEM

"We are blessed because we stand on the shoulders of faithful, compassionate and generous women who since 1856, stayed with the people of this land, through the good times and the periods of great pain and struggle."

Notre Dame de Sion

Two sisters from the community of Notre Dame de Sion, Sr Trudy Nabuurs and Sr Bernadette Lynch, have written to us from the heart of the Old City in Jerusalem regarding the Notre Dame de Sion Education Fund. MOM has been able to sponsor the fund for the past five years.

Ecce Homo is located at 41 Via Dolorosa and over the past 160+ years has been a haven for the local peoples of this land. We have found our work has been most valuable in times of need or when medical care was urgently required. During times of conflict or war, Ecce Homo has become a place of shelter and safety. When food was short supply the people found nourishment and companionship in the generosity offered from the Sisters.

The Sisters of Sion started Ecce Homo in 1856 and began teaching local children, Palestinians, and children from further into Jordan (The Old City was controlled by Jordan until 1967). The education at Ecce Homo gained a good reputation and soon many came from Amman and surrounding areas, even attracting the great-aunts of King Abdulla. Over many years, the school continued, but there was always an area set aside in the house for pilgrim visitors. Father Alphonse Ratisbonne wanted Ecce Homo to be a safe place for pilgrims, especially for women. The school continued until 1967, when the city of Jerusalem became one and the border of Jordan shifted to the Jordan valley. The Sisters then began a school for the teaching of Hebrew to the Palestinians and Arabic to the Jewish people. This was one way of helping the people to be one, by knowing each other's language. This type of education continued at Ecce Homo for ten years, after which the program was moved to the Hebrew University.

In 1996 there was a significant change in the community of NDS and more English speaking and younger sisters came to be part of the community. The first few years seemed great with lots of Pilgrims and much activity. Although all seemed fine on the surface, the situation for the Palestinians was not easy and they became more and more restless and there was great dissatisfaction. This came to a head on the morning of September 28th 2001, when the Prime Minister of that time visited the Al Aqsa Mosque and Harem El Sharif (also commonly known as the Temple Mount) accompanied by 1000 soldiers. There were scuffles with young Palestinians and stone throwing which resulted in the use of tear gas, rubber bullets etc and the next day being Friday, Palestinians were encouraged to begin an 'uprising' or Intifada.



This then lasted for a good three years and tourism and pilgrimages totally stopped and affected the total country. That was the time when there were many suicide bombings and all sides were affected. Much suffering and poverty was experienced because many lost their jobs or were working greatly reduced working hours. The whole of the Middle East was restless during these years and in Israel–Palestine we were very much affected by that, with threats of bombings or airstrikes. On several occasions we had to prepare the house for either chemical attacks (which meant sealing up areas against chemicals) or for air strikes – scud missiles etc - which meant preparing areas below our house for refuge, for all in the house as well as neighbours.

In spite of all these challenges and the suffering and sadness all around, our NDS community felt committed to stay here no matter what, as both fidelity and standing with the people were extremely important to us. "God is faithful" is what we wanted to witness to, in and by our lives - and looking back I feel that that was and is an important element for the people who surround us, helping to keep their hope alive.

The tension in the country remains and once you are here for a while you are very conscious of this. Every so often something flares up, pilgrims stop coming for a while and immediately that affects Pilgrim Houses like ours. This Intifada was the second one and set back the economy; all suffered. For those Palestinian families we know and who work here (and their extended family) this was a critical time and all ran into great debts, just to be able to feed their families. We witnessed how they took years to pay back debts and some still need to take something out of their monthly salary to do so. One of the greatest concerns for our staff as soon as the Intifada began was – "how to pay

the school fees and keep the children at school". During the first Intifada most children did not go to school, hence there is a whole generation who missed out on schooling.

Schooling is highly valued now by many Palestinians and they make enormous efforts to give their children a good education. Generally this is only available at fee paying Christian schools as there is almost no assistance from the Government.

The NDS community at Ecce Homo were deeply concerned about the fees families needed to pay, so at Christmas in 2001 we endeavoured to see how we could give some financial assistance towards fee-relief. By helping children stay at school, at the same time this would contribute to the schools being able to stay open.

The thinking behind our decision to commence the Education Fund (it continues to this day) was to make every effort possible, with the help of as many people as possible, to try to keep as many Palestinian children at school.

We believe education is "the key to the future". If the Palestinians are ever to have a state of their own they need young people who are educated and have the potential for leadership; hence ongoing education is essential. Good education and the forming of potential leaders may eventually contribute to the bringing about of peace between the two peoples of this land.



The visit of Pope Benedict in May 2009 turned out to be a blessing for many. There were many pertinent points in the talks given by the Holy Father during his short visit (29 talks in all) that touched us. We were thrilled with his references to education. The Pope spoke with passion to the children, teachers and families in the Aida Refugee Camp in Bethlehem.

"I extend a particular greeting to the pupils and teachers in the school. By your commitment to education you are expressing hope in the future. To all the young people here, I say: renew your efforts to prepare for the time when you will be responsible for the affairs of the Palestinian people in years to come. Parents have a most important role here, and to all the families present in this camp I say; be sure to support your children in their studies and to nurture their gifts, so that there will be no shortage of well-qualified personnel to occupy leadership positions in the Palestinian community in the future."



The families we assist today.

As you can imagine the ability to assist over the years has changed and is very dependent on the contributions we receive. You would appreciate that due to the economic downturn in the world around the year 2008 and the slow financial recovery due to this, it affected the donations we received. All the families we assist are in great need, and the paying of a school fees is a huge burden they constantly carry. The amount we contribute to each family differs according to their situation.

We have had some young people do exceptionally well in their results, enabling them to enter the university of their choice. One girl in recent years was in the top ten of the government exam results and she was able to enter Bethlehem University, the only Catholic university in the Middle East. She received a scholarship and is now able to complete her education. One of the boys who has been helped by the Education Fund did well enough to do a diploma in electrical work and top his class, so will now continue in a degree of electrical engineering.

We have a few students who could not function in the government system. With fee-support, they have managed to keep up in the mainstream of a Catholic school and are doing well.

One girl from an extremely poor and disadvantaged family who had a very ambitious mother with determination to have her daughters educated, did well in her final School exams, was able to enter Bethlehem University and this year in her second year received honours. She will now also receive a part scholarship from the University. There are many and varied examples of the benefit the education was to the children. There are other needs outside mainstream schooling. A good level of English is a

pre-requisite to be able to enter University. Bethlehem University demands a working knowledge of English and some students do not reach the standard.

To support the students in this endeavor, one of the sisters does some voluntary tutoring but not all students can be reached, so money is needed for tuition. Occasionally we have assisted via the Education Fund, but usually the money available needs to be kept to contribute to normal school fees.

We encourage our Palestinian young people to learn Hebrew. Finding jobs after graduation is very difficult for them and if they have a working knowledge of Hebrew, they have a greater chance of getting a job.

The general donations have been lessening over the years and we can truly say that without the very generous Assistance of MOM over the last 5 years our contributions to families would have been very small. Your latest donation will now help us to continue our work a little longer. We keep trusting in the Lord and doing the best that is possible in the situation. We very much have to go from year to year

"We came to meet, and to grow in an understanding of the other, no matter what their faith, in the hope that they might improve the lives of these people living in poverty and desperate conditions in the land they call Holy."

and keep our hope in God alive for help and for a slow movement towards peace in this Holy Land.

As a community we are still very committed to the education of the local children here. We aim to keep as many in the classroom as possible enabling them to receive a good education, therefore hope for the future. If peace, fragile as it is, is to become a reality, we must have leadership; education that will produce men and women of integrity who will dare to negotiate and work for an honest and durable stability in the Region. Education and education for Leadership is desperately needed and needs to be on the "agenda" for both sides if there is to be fair, honest and respectable negotiation.





Giving People the Power to Help

HYDERABAD,
PAKISTAN

St. Elizabeth Hospital

Following the 2017 appeal, MOM's support gave St. Elizabeth Hospital the ability to purchase and install a 40kVA generator. This enabled the electrical function of several systems integral to the successful treatment of patients including: three operating theatres, the maternal delivery department, and the neo-natal delivery department.

In 2018, MOM renewed our partnership with St. Elizabeth as was required for medical needs. The most recent Economic Survey (2017-2018) indicates only 0.91% of the country's GDP is spent on healthcare, providing stability but not the amount required for growth. For MOM, distributing funds to healthcare objectives is of particular concern because we wish to continue supporting St Elizabeth's philosophy of *providing the best possible care at the lowest possible price*, whilst also encouraging facility improvement.

Therefore, in 2018 MOM we were excited to be able to provide the hospital with a new Perkins 165 kVA generator to replace one that had been in regular daily use since 2005, and was prone to continual and expensive break-downs.

Whilst at a glance access to a reliable power source appears simple, the instalment and subsequent improvement in quality of care provided, will be substantial. It will allow a dependable power supply for the entire hospital including the OPD (Out-Patient Department), rooms and wards, the diagnostic laboratory, the X-Ray department, the nursing centres and the administration. The hospital will be electrically equipped to deal with a variety of



"The new generator ensures that we have continuous power to run the hospital, to keep equipment running, to care for patients as they recover, and to keep them in comfort while at St Elizabeth during the months of intense summer heat that stretch from March to November."

Fr Robert McCulloch

situations, regardless of the time, permitting a higher standard of around the clock care for its patients, which is of particular importance for the hospital's special focus on reducing child mortality rates.

Additionally, with a generator free of continual repair costs, the hospital will be able to direct funds to their equally as important external initiatives such as:



- **The Mobile Medical Outreach Program** which provides free primary healthcare to over 50,000 impoverished labours who work in conditions of virtual agricultural slavery with no access to medicine. This Outreach Program provides basic diagnosis and treatment encompassing a variety of illness that would become increasingly more harmful without the treatment. As the sole medical provider for many of the surrounding villagers, the free care given is critical to the survival of these bonded workers and must be continued.



- **The Free Palliative Care Program** provides medical attention for otherwise neglected terminally-ill cancer patients in the comfort of their home. The program focuses on providing pain-control therapy, and thorough care on an individual level. Again, without this initiative thousands who cannot afford treatment would be left to suffer.

Furthermore, our aid was also extended to the purchase of new obstetric equipment with the most notable, a new Fetal Monitor Preparation Machine and Biotech Printer for the Ultrasound Machine. These machines will aid in the early identification of birthing difficulties, allowing staff to be proactive in their preparation and continue to decrease the number of birthing fatalities.

Among the other improvements is the introduction of a new water filtration system, operating instruments, the purchase of medicines for poor patients and lastly the supply of infection control materials. St. Elizabeth is the sole medical provider for more than 12,000 impoverished Pakistanis; it is vital their work continues.



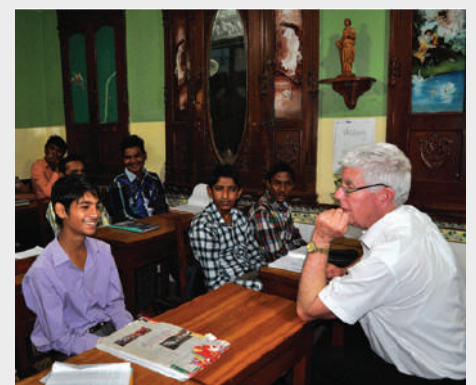
Education of Young Pakistani Men

From 2007, Father Robert McCulloch of the St. Columbans' Mission Society, combined with the efforts of St. Vincent de Paul have been working to increase the number of young Catholic Pakistani men who have completed their education. This was originally initiated by the Centre of Academic Excellence [CCAЕ] which aims to provide support for academically talented but disadvantaged young Catholic men so they can attain high academic grades and gain admittance to university. In conjunction with this, the Catholic Youth Development Centre [CYDC] was opened shortly after. Together they have trans-

formed the lives of over 300 young and oppressed males, offering not only academic assistance but also an education of the heart and faith. Over 50 of their past students are currently working in occupations ranging from finance to health-care.

Lack of funding threatened the good work of both centres and MOM was able to support them with the required amount to continue this teaching initiative. Whilst the funds provided were mainly distributed for the upkeep of the schools, a portion was also directed towards upgrading the security system in order to protect both the staff

and students. The future of these young Pakistani men looks bright thanks to people like Fr. Robert McCulloch.



Fr. McCulloch educating a class of Catholic Pakistani youths in the CYDC

Creating an Education Network

MILNE BAY, PNG

Since 2007, Melbourne Overseas Missions has walked in solidarity with the operators of Hope Academy, guided by our united appreciation of the opportunity education allows. In a country where unskilled jobs are continuously being taken up by more foreign workers, skilled qualifications are becoming increasingly important. Education will be the answer for not only improving the conditions of the current Papuans but will have a key role in their future prosperity as a whole.



“ MOM has been a lifeline for the work of Hope Academy ”

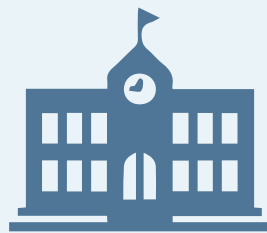
Fr Tony Young msc

Hope Academy

Hope Academy is an online secondary college, offering an innovative solution to geographically isolated students who are unable to access education otherwise. Using a wireless broadband network, Hope Academy connects village inhabitants from the many islands of Louisiade Archipelago to a central school in Nimowa where tutors deliver class content.

The unforeseeable bankruptcy of a private Internet company serving the school was a significant setback. The loss of the Internet forced the Nimowa Academy to divert funds to the installation of new satellite technology. This left a significant funding shortfall, resulting in a deficit for staff wages. Students were also affected due to the large amount of down-time caused by the lack of Internet connectivity. The perseverance of both the staff and students was soon rewarded with several new governmental sponsors and now their future looks brighter than ever. Two members of the PNG government pledged their support for the construction of two entirely new centres located in Goodenough and Fergusson Island with another promising funding for the maintenance of Nimowa.

MOM played an important role by supplementing funds to restore the Internet connection at Nimowa which enabled classes to resume. Furthermore, additional funds have been provided to foster the growth of the school, including the initiatives listed below:



The construction of new teaching facilities and learning hubs



Financial assistance for scholarships



The purchase of a small boat to allow student-teacher island access

Celebrating the dedication of Fr Tony Young

It is with great fondness and admiration that we pay tribute to Father Tony Young who has been serving as parish priest and advocate of Alotau in PNG for over 53 years.

Throughout these many years he has touched the lives of countless individuals, and has made changes that will last a lifetime. Of these some of the most notable involve: the construction of the only hospital for 200 nautical miles, the maintenance of the marine ambulance and the construction and expansion of Hope Academy. Often Fr. Tony is called on to

support the diverse needs of many people including: hospital patients, single mothers, students without fees and homeless members of the community. In times when his resources have been scarce, he has always been persistent in finding a way to help.

The story of a severe burns victim without access to sufficient care is one such example. The patient was in constant pain with inadequate care. With the help of extended family, they successfully arranged for her transportation and treatment in a Melbourne hospital.



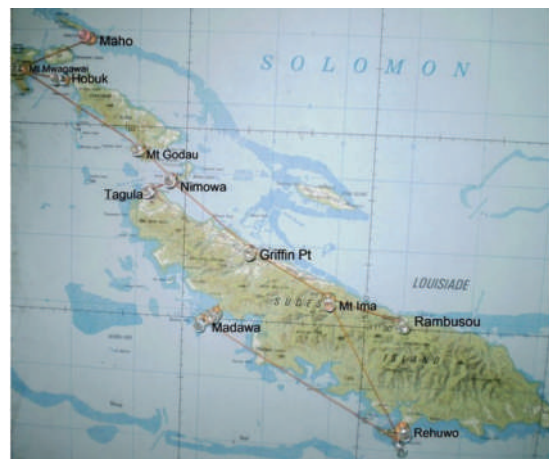
It speaks volumes of a man whose well-earned retirement requires the formation of several new roles to fill the void his absence will create. However it is evident that his retirement in his 84th year will not be a factor in slowing down his good will. He is planning to still have an active involvement in the affairs of Papua New Guinea.

We wish him the best of health in his retirement and thank him for all his hard work and dedication. May God bring Fr. Tony the peace he so fully deserves.



Technology development

The online education that is currently offered at Hope Academy provides an excellent education, but currently fees are prohibitive for families of the lowest income. Funds have been distributed for the research and development of more affordable technology to solve this issue. This technology has been researched and developed in Canberra and has reached prototype phase. It is currently being further developed and tested in PNG and has been called the "Moodle Box". The device essentially allows students to download their online classes to a mobile phone or tablet device and study in remote locations. Individual e-boxes are planned to be distributed to students with professionally produced class material at a low cost. Additionally, learning centres are planned to be set-up in locations where students can receive additional support. The Moodle Box offers ways of extending online education far beyond its present reach to other parts of PNG. With continued support and research, millions of young people in developing countries of the world, particularly in refugee camps could have access to a high quality education.





Empowering, Protecting & Voicing PNG youth

In 1971 the Sisters of St Joseph of Cluny arrived in Papua New Guinea. Since that date, the Sisters have worked in partnership with MOM to improve the living conditions of the indigenous people. The Sisters have a special focus on maintaining the dignity of the poor and working to provide freedom from adversity.

Throughout 2018 the Sisters worked closely with communities in the capital, Port Moresby, as well as the remote regions of Bema and Kanabea. The works of our combined efforts are centred around increasing opportunities for young Papuans to attend schools and achieve university qualifications.

Sisters of St. Joseph of Cluny

STREET MINISTRY

The Sisters of St. Joseph of Cluny operate out of a central facility in **Port Moresby** where they coordinate regional projects and provide support for students transitioning from the isolated mountain regions to Port Moresby. One of their local initiatives includes the Street Ministry Project that aims to support struggling youth and provide them with a Catholic education.

A happy outcome from our Street Ministry is Paulo's successful entry into Senior High School. Paulo lives in the Badili shanty settlement. His family is from the mountains of the Central Province. After two years of primary education in Port Moresby he dropped out, and started making a living on the streets by pick-pocketing and petty theft. A member of the Street Ministry team befriended him and asked him what he wanted to do with his life. He replied that he wanted to continue schooling. After attending the Street Ministry Centre for two years he had established a regular attendance pattern, and brushed up on literacy, numeracy and life skills. The Street Ministry then facilitated his attendance at primary school, buying him uniforms and stationery. There was periodic follow up, with his receiving packets of dry biscuits for lunch and money for bus fares. On finishing primary school he was selected for secondary school and is now in Year 11. On completion of Year 12 he will be available for selection for professional studies.

Paulo is just one of the many children that the Street Ministry helps with numerous others like him. These are just a portion of the people MOM and the Sisters are able to help.

EDUCATION SUPPORT

Throughout the Gulf Province and the highland regions, education and health services are underdeveloped. Attracting qualified personnel to serve in the fields of education and health in these areas is difficult. Therefore, by continuing to support students from remote areas who achieve the entrance standards to access tertiary education, we hope to achieve a solution. This includes providing them with the opportunity to reach their educational potential whilst encouraging them to return home, qualified and able to improve their local conditions. Some of the recipients are listed below including two scholarships.

- **Cecilia Sembo** (B.Ed) from the Sacred Heart High School Bema, is studying a Masters in *Educational Leadership (Curriculum)* at the Divine Word University, Madang. Cecilia has worked at the school 1995-1998, and then from 2002 onwards. The school caters for the education of Year 9-10 students but the government plans on extending this to Year 12. Her course enables her to teach the new Year 11 and 12 curriculum.
- **Sr Beula Augustin** has studied her Diploma in Health Services Management as a Flexible Learning Student at Divine Word University, Madang. Sr Beula has been asked by the Bishop of Kerema to take on the position of HIV/AIDS Program Co-ordinator for the Diocese as well as some administrative responsibilities at Kanabea Health Centre.



Peter David's Story



I started my Primary Education at Kanabea Primary School from 1994 to 2002. In 2003 to 2004, I continued Grades 9 and 10 at Bema High School and then secondary education at Don Bosco Araimiri from 2005 to 2006. After Grade 12, I was selected to further my studies at Don Bosco Technological Institute (DBTI) in 2007 but couldn't make it due to financial problems.

In the beginning of 2008, I was sent by Sr. Dorothy David SJC to Mbu'u Literacy School to teach the kids there. This is the remotest 'Small Christian Community' where there was no Primary School. The successful students were selected to do their Primary Education at Kanabea Primary School as boarders under the care of the Cluny Sisters. I taught there for a year.

I was accepted by the International Training Institute (ITI) in Port Moresby to study Certificate in Business for the 2009 intake and continued at the University of Papua New Guinea Open College. And now I am working at Sacred Heart Teachers College – Bomana as an Assistant Bursar. I have encouraged some non-school leavers to apply and study to become a teacher and return home.

Fortunately, the Sisters of St. Joseph of Cluny set up Literacy Schools in all Small Christian Communities (SCC) and engage Grade 10 and Grade 12 leavers to teach the kids in the villages. This really helps them keep busy and earns their leaving to help their families with basic needs and wants. As a result, a lot of young people make it to high schools and secondary schools and even most students enter universities and colleges throughout the country. The Cluny Sisters now work in hospitals and health centres, as well as running a high school, which is Bema High School in the mountain region of the Gulf Province.

We are very privileged to have the Cluny Sisters and the Kanabea Catholic Mission with continuous assistance and support from Melbourne Overseas Missions (MOM) for making this happen for us.

Finally and not the least, my heart felt thank you and appreciation to MOM and the Cluny Sisters for their unending support and assistance to our students here at Sacred Heart Teachers College for their 25% School Fee Assistance and stationery.

I sincerely thank Sr. Tresa Jose, SJC for the wonderful work she has done for the Kameas and I wish her best in her next journey of life.

Peter David (Assistant Bursar – SHTC Bomana, NCD, PNG)

PRIMARY & SECONDARY EDUCATION

For a number of years the Sisters of St. Joseph of Cluny, with the support of MOM, have been promoting Literacy schools in isolated villages with no access to formal education. These schools are staffed by volunteer teachers (high school leavers) and supported by the local people to provide education up to class two level. If education beyond that level is desired by students and parents, the children go on to Primary school.

Children throughout the Kamea region who seek to attend primary school may often have to travel for up to a day to reach school, and only go home on weekends. For the past several years the Sisters have been providing food and shelter for these 60-70 students to ensure they maximise their time at school, instead of spending hours travelling for food over the weekend or missing days at school. This year funds have been provided for a further 2 years, until primary schools can be constructed closer to these remote communities.

Child Protection Program

Violence is of major concern in PNG with unruly mobs and domestic violence being of central concern. Whilst the government will no doubt need to step in with stronger law enforcement, there is much support that education of future generations can provide to support change. The Safeguarding Program that is currently in development focuses on empowering youth with knowledge of their rights as enshrined in the law of PNG and their responsibilities as a member of the community.

The program has begun at Kanabea and Bema. Experts on child protection from Madang have run seminars which raise the awareness of child protection. Local leaders have the respect and position to induce cultural change. In the future the Sisters plan on using a central station in both villages to train their own personnel and expand the initiative outwards.



Sacred Heart High School

In other news, the installation of a new solar power system will bring the school a stable and reliable power source. In the past it has relied on a small hydro generator, the effectiveness of which has been limited by frequent dry seasons. As the previous generator powered the primary school, staff houses and the medical centre, power fluctuations regularly made computer use impossible. Now with the new solar panels currently under construction, the Bema high school will soon be able to run computing classes and other school activities seamlessly.

The new school hall that originally began construction in 2015 has been completed. Students were involved in the construction, with some carrying heavy building materials from up to 8km away on rough roads. The students have already had their exams conducted here. The hall will continue to serve as a community centre.

Sr Annette Lepcha of the Sisters of St. Joseph of Cluny

"Our mountain community is happy and proud to have this building for students and future generations"

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

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Most Rev Dennis Hart DD

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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, FACEL(Vic). 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

SPECIAL PURPOSE FINANCIAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 NOVEMBER 2018

Income Statement for the Year ended 30 November 2018

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 2018 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 of March 2019. 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



PARTNER

Dated 4th March 2019

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 600 boxes (2017: 505 boxes) each weighing an average of 18kgs valued at \$633,000 (2017: \$515,000). 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 cooperatives.

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 2018.

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

	2018 (\$)	2017 (\$)
REVENUE		
Donations and Gifts (a)	838,434	747,981
Legacies and bequests	-	56,637
Investment Income	15,449	14,626
Sundry Income	-	-
TOTAL REVENUE	853,883	819,244
DISBURSEMENTS		
Overseas Projects		
Funds to Overseas projects	967,500	750,973
Community Education	3,500	4,153
Fundraising costs	3,500	4,153
Administration	16,149	13,262
TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS	990,649	772,540
Excess of Revenue over disbursements (shortfall)		
From continuing operations	(136,766)	46,704

Balance Sheet for the Year ended 30 November 2018

	2018 (\$)	2017 (\$)
ASSETS		
<u>Current Assets</u>		
Cash	606,697	744,094
Other Assets	1,144	513
<u>Non-Current Assets</u>		
Property, plant and equipment	17,431	17,431
TOTAL ASSETS	625,272	762,038
LIABILITIES		
<u>Current Liabilities</u>		
Trade and other payables	-	-
Provisions	17,431	17,431
<u>Non-current Liabilities Payables</u>		
Payables	-	-
Other	-	-
TOTAL LIABILITIES	17,431	17,431
NET ASSETS	607,841	744,607
EQUITY		
Reserves		
Funds available for future use	607,841	744,607
TOTAL EQUITY	607,841	744,607

Table of Cash Movements for Designated

DETAILS	ANNUAL APPEAL DONATIONS	SPECIAL DONATIONS	TOTALS
Cash available at beginning of year	744,094		744,094
Cash received during year	220,882		220,882
Cash disbursed during the year	358,279		358,279
Cash available at end of year	606,697		606,697

Statement of Changes in Equity for the Year ended 30 November 2018

DETAILS	RETAINED EARNINGS	RESERVES	TOTALS
Balance as at 1st December 2017	744,607	0	744,607
Excess of Income over expenses	(136,766)		(136,766)
Amount transferred to/from reserves	0	0	0
Balance as at 30th November 2018	607,841		607,841