



***A charitable trust supporting education in South Africa***

A Registered Charity No. 1077489

## **Annual Report 2003/04**

The Mamelodi Trust is a UK Registered Charity which raises money to support education in one or more schools in Mamelodi, Pretoria, South Africa. It also exists to provide support and encouragement for those working in the Mamelodi schools and to facilitate links between these schools and appropriate contacts in the UK. Funding is normally made available to the schools for expenditure according to locally defined needs and priorities.

The objects of the charity are to support the advancement of education in Zakhele School, Mamelodi, the Mamelodi Teachers' Centre and any other educational institution in Mamelodi at the discretion of the trustees.

The Mamelodi Trust commenced its fifth full year as a Registered Charity with a balance of £10,730.32.

During the year a further £11,588.29 was raised and £1,218.39 was recovered from the Inland Revenue under the Gift Aid Scheme. £2,611.50 was contributed by individuals including a gift of £1,000 from a family who, after holidaying in South Africa donated £3,000 to appropriate charities and had identified the Mamelodi Trust from the Charity Commission web site. £3,382.00 was raised by Naace at their Annual Conference in February 2004. Other donations amounted to £1,594.77 and a donation of £4,000 from 2Simple Software was transferred to the school specifically for the purchase of books following the visit of members of the BESA Trade Mission in February.

Following the completion of the refurbishment of a classroom as a science room, and the provision of science equipment following fund raising by BESA, two teachers were funded to spend a short time in Zakhele School to set up the room and to train the science teachers. Charlotte Newton from Camm's Endowed CE Primary School and Mike Kassai from Anthony Gell School in Derbyshire undertook this work on November 2003. The total cost of their visits, including air fares, accommodation, supply cover at Camm's School and incidental expenses was £3,485.57. This sum also included science text books taken to Zakhele by Charlotte Newton.

A small donation of £100 was made to Laura Beverley who, with a colleague teacher Keeley Arkenstall from Ringwood Primary School in Hampshire, worked in Zakhele School for two weeks in April 2004. They had received funding for personal professional development from Hampshire County Council and had identified Mamelodi from an article which the Trust had written for the Times Educational Supplement. While their costs were virtually fully met from the County, some of the cost of their visit was being met by them personally. During their visit they undertook a wide range of support activities in the school including ICT support, and support for science and English teaching.

The sum of £10,000 was transferred to the school via the British Council in July 2004. This represented the donation of £4,000 from 2Simple Software specifically for books and a further £6,000 from the Trust to be spent according to local priorities.

All financial transactions in South Africa continue to be made through the offices of the British Council in Johannesburg. Named officials are responsible for maintaining accounts and releasing funds, as required to the school for specific projects. The school submits detailed accounts and receipts to the British Council for each project that is undertaken. In this way, the Trust is assured of financial control in South Africa. The Trust applies a key principle, however, that the priorities for spending should be firmly in the hands of the local people in Mamelodi.

In February 2004, BESA ran a Trade Mission to South Africa. Around a dozen UK companies were involved in promoting a wide range of educational resources at events in Pretoria, Bloemfontein and Cape Town. Steve Bacon was invited to join the Mission to provide educational support for ICT and gave presentations in Bloemfontein and Cape Town. During the visit, a morning was spent at Zakhele School where industry colleagues were able to see at first hand the work being supported by the Trust. As a direct result of the visit, £4,000 was donated to the school by 2Simple Software. The costs of this trip were fully met by BESA and there was no cost to the Trust.

ICT resources provided by the Trust have continued to be used in the school and in support of their outreach programme for adults. Earlier in the year there was some disruption due to Gauteng Province re-furbishing the computer room as part of their Gauteng Online Project. It is planned to provide the school with a new network server and new workstations although at the time of writing of this report equipment had not yet been delivered to the school. It appears that the school's use of ICT has come to a halt while they wait for their new equipment. Barry Masoga of the British Council has been asked to try to find out what is happening and Steve Bacon hopes to meet with him while he is in the UK in December.

Steve and Mary Bacon have kept in regular contact with the school by email (spasmodic during their ICT hiatus) and telephone. In this way the continuing interest and support from the UK has been affirmed. Contact has also been maintained with Patrick Sikwambane, who previously taught at Zakhele School and who is now Principal of Sikhanyisele Primary School nearby. Trustees have agreed to support this school with a grant of £5,000 in 2005.

Naace continues to provide substantial support for the Trust through donations made by members at the Annual Conference, and through donations made by education ICT companies. Something of the personal commitment to the Trust's work is illustrated by the member who volunteered to swim in the North Sea from a deserted Scarborough beach in February in return for a donation from every Conference delegate! Over £500 was raised in 30 minutes!

In May, one of the Well Dressings in Wirksworth, celebrated the link between Anthony Gell School and Zakhele School. Steve and Mary Bacon attended the blessing of the wells and spoke briefly about the work of the Mamelodi trust. A short hand-out was prepared which school staff distributed to the many people who visited Wirksworth to view the wells over the bank holiday weekend. The proceeds of the collection made at the Well were donated to the trust.

As many opportunities as possible have been taken during the year to bring the work of the Trust to the attention of as many people as possible. Charles Clarke, Secretary of State for Education has been briefed about the work of the trust in support of the Government's initiative to develop international links, particularly in 2004 in celebration of ten years of freedom. As a result, Steve Bacon was invited to join a working party chaired by Stephen Twigg M.P., Education Minister, to support South African schools through links with schools in the UK. This work led to a conversation with the South African High Commissioner, Mrs. Lindile Mabusa, and subsequently to a private meeting with her at South Africa House. Representing the Trust, Steve and Mary Bacon were invited as the High Commissioner's guests to the service in St Paul's Cathedral to celebrate 10 years of freedom addressed by Archbishop Desmond Tutu. Steve also attended a reception at South Africa House in April and a reception and concert at the Barbican in November. When it was learned that Sir Bob Geldof would be present at the BETT Show in January, he was persuaded to visit the Naace Lounge and address Naace members. During his visit he was briefed about the work of the Trust and gave a very moving address. He has subsequently requested to attend the Naace Conference in February 2005 and it is hoped he will speak to the large number of delegates there and support the fundraising activity for the Mamelodi Trust.

Early in 2004, Derbyshire County Council agreed to include Mamelodi in their list of international locations with which the Council has support and/or twinning arrangements. This policy decision was the result of support from Councillor David Wilcox, who was very supportive as Chair of the Education Committee immediately following Steve Bacon's first visit to Mamelodi. He was a co-signatory for the Mamelodi Support Fund which preceded the creation of the Mamelodi Trust as a registered charity. Since then he has visited Mamelodi and Zakhele School and is now Cabinet Member for External Relations. It is proposed to appoint an officer to be responsible for the liaison between Mamelodi and Derbyshire County Council.

RM Plc., who provided the first computers for Zakhele School, and have supported the trust every year since, have agreed to fund a short visit to the UK by Fikile Manzini, Principal of Zakhele School and Patrick Sikwambane, Principal of Sikhanyisele School. They will visit during the first week in March 2005 to coincide with the Naace Conference. A programme of school and other visits will be prepared for them.

Further projects to be funded in Zakhele School are:

- ongoing funding to ensure that the resources in the science room are maintained;
- further improvements to the general environment of the school;
- the purchase of further educational resources and additional books for the school library;
- the identification and purchase of resources to support the teaching of mathematics which was identified as an area in need of support by teachers who visited during the year.

In line with the policy of the Trust, the priorities will be identified locally with support from staff of the British Council.

The Trust ends its fifth year on a confident note. It is much encouraged by the support it has received in the UK and the impact of its work is clearly evident in the life of Zakhele School. The Trust is planning for an active year in 2005 and looks forward to being able to contribute to further significant developments in education in Mamelodi.

30 September 2004

#### **Note**

The Mamelodi Trust is Registered with the Charity Commission in the United Kingdom.

The Trust is run by five Trustees and may be contacted through the Chair of the Trustees:

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