



A charitable trust supporting education in South Africa

A Registered Charity No. 1077489

Annual Report 1 October 2009 – 30 September 2010

The Mamelodi Trust is a UK Registered Charity, established by Trust Deed on 1 July 1999 having operated as an informal support fund since 1997. The objects of the charity are to support the advancement of education in Zakhele School in Mamelodi, South Africa, the Mamelodi Teachers' Centre and any other educational institution in Mamelodi at the discretion of the trustees.

The Trustees work within the UK to raise awareness amongst supporters and within the education and political sectors and to raise money to support education in Mamelodi. 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 Mamelodi Trust commenced its eleventh full year as a Registered Charity with a balance of £6,554.

During the year a further £21,942 was raised. Of this, £10,076 was contributed by individuals via one-off donations and standing orders. £1,280 was raised by Naace at their Annual Conference. Several schools and Sunday Schools supported the Trust during the year and together raised £1,953. The British School in Beijing raised £1,611 and students at Nottingham University raised £2,980. A number of other presentations and fund raising events made significant contributions to the Trust funds. Gift Aid contributed £2,282.

The major fundraising event of the year was a wine tombola stall at the two-day Derbyshire Food and Drink Fair at Kedleston Hall. Wine was donated by many people and the Trustees and friends ran the stall for the two days.

The 100 Club had an excellent year and raised £1,116 net for the Trust. This very successful fund raising activity was managed very efficiently by Carole Hassell.

During the year, the majority of the Trust's financial transactions were conducted via its CAF Bank accounts and a total of £5.23 was received in interest. Understandably in the current financial climate, this was a huge reduction from previous years. The Trust's Lloyds TSB account was kept open for the receipt of existing standing order donations and to receive payments from PayPal which have been donated via the Trust's website during the year. After a lengthy application process with Lloyds Bank, a debit card on this account was issued which is now used to make cash advances available in South Africa. The Trustees plan to close the Nationwide card account which has previously been used for this purpose.

In 2009/10, all funds transferred to South Africa were made either by direct electronic transfer of funds from CAF Bank in the UK to bank accounts in South Africa or via the Nationwide or Lloyds TSB debit cards.

The Trust applies a key principle that the priorities for spending should be firmly in the hands of the local people in Mamelodi and, as last year, the Trust was able to support more than one school.

A grant of £3,696 was made to Stanza Bopape Secondary School to begin the work of re-equipping their science laboratories. A detailed bid had been received from the school which identified their most pressing needs and the trustees were pleased to be able to meet this in full. A monthly top-up of R600 to the schools feeding scheme fund was also made by the Trust. This has enabled about 200 pupils to be provided with food at the end of the morning session.

The contractors for the new school at Meetse A Bophelo Primary School had not made provision for carpets for reading corners in the ten Foundation Stage classrooms and the Trust has allocated £2,740 for this work. There has been a hold-up in having these carpets fitted and the money is currently held for this purpose by

the carpet contractor. It is expected that the carpets will be fitted by the end of 2010. The Meetse A Bophelo football team gained promotion to a regional league. However, the pupils were required to play in proper football boots which they could not afford. The Trust purchased football boots and shin pads for the team which will remain in the school for the use of the present and future football teams.

Zakhele Primary School continued to spend last year's allocation of library book funds held at Exclusive Books. Further books were purchased to support the reading groups organised by students from the University of Pretoria. Led by the Trust's representative Helen Smith, volunteer parents worked hard in the new library to catalogue the additional books and to stick labels on them. Small honoraria were paid to them. The Trust funded the redecoration of the Reception classroom. Whiteboards were purchased for two classrooms to see how this would impact on teaching. The Trustees will consider requests for further whiteboards in the light of experience with these two. Vegetable plants were purchased for the family vegetable gardens at the school.

A CD Player was purchased for Sikhanyisele Primary School and this school also received the library furniture from Meetse A Bophelo Primary School following the building of a library in the new school.

The Trust continued its support throughout the year for Koketso Mango, an orphan, living with her younger brother in a shack in the informal settlement in Mamelodi. She is now in her second year at Pretoria University and performing extremely well in her studies. The monthly bursary of R600 (approximately £56) was increased during the year to R1,600 per month to make good the withdrawal of her state orphan's support grant when she reached the age of 18 and several individuals made donations specifically to support Koketso through university.

Two other short-term bursaries were established during the year. One of R150 per month is for a pupil at Meetse A Bophelo School, Comfort Sithole, who lost part of his arm in an accident at school and has both physical and emotional needs. The other bursary, also for R150 per month is for Labogagng, a talented athlete from the township who needs support to enable to buy the equipment she needs and to be able to travel to sports events. These grants are managed by a teacher at the school and are initially for the calendar year 2010.

Steve and Mary Bacon spent four weeks in Pretoria in the autumn of 2010. They were able to visit the four schools that received funding this year. They were pleased to report to Trustees that the funds had been used very effectively in all four schools.

Funded by a South African construction company, Meetse A Bophelo Primary School has been completely rebuilt and, for the first time, the school now has sound classrooms, a fully functional kitchen, paved outdoor play areas and a new library and media resource centre. While this has not been a Mamelodi Trust project, it appears that the publicity given to this school by the Trust and via the school's website created by Joth Internet Solutions in the UK has been instrumental in the school being chosen for rebuilding. Unfortunately, the library has been inappropriately equipped with furniture and shelving which is not child-friendly. The school is hoping to rectify this shortly. In the meantime, all the books from the old Mamelodi Trust library have been moved to the new library. The old library will be used as a classroom in 2011 and in the longer term is likely to be used as a community education centre for unemployed young adults.

Good use continues to be made of the library at Sikhanyisele Primary School. The shelving provided by the Trust for the Meetse A Bophelo library has been moved to this school and installed in their library. This has made a considerable improvement to the environment. Chess continued to be used as a productive use of pupils' time outside the normal school day. A quality wooden chess set, donated by Colin and Sally Kitchener in the UK was presented to the school.

The new library at Zakhele Primary School is now virtually complete. Most of the books ordered have now arrived and these have been supplemented by large donations of books from other donors including Rutgers University and SchoolAid. Students from the University of Pretoria are running weekly reading groups in the library and over 100 children are now benefiting from this additional support. Mrs. Fikile Manzini has retired as headteacher and the local authority is in the process of appointing a new headteacher.

Stanza Bopape reported effective use of the new science equipment that had been provided by the Trust last year. Discussions with the headteacher revealed that refurbishing and re-stocking the school library is another high priority for the school. Steve and Mary visited the library to see for themselves the dreadful state it was in. Shelves are collapsing and the book stock is very old. Many of the books are completely redundant because they support curriculum topics and subjects no longer taught. Other books are out of date and in a very poor condition. Conversations with senior pupils revealed that their project work could not be completed satisfactorily because of the lack of suitable library resources.

While they were in South Africa, Steve and Mary met with officials from the education department in Tshwane South District, the responsible local education authority for schools in Mamelodi. This proved to be a useful meeting and an opportunity to update officials on the work of the Trust and to gain further understanding of educational priorities in Mamelodi. District education inspectors for Sikhanyisele and Zakhele Primary Schools, and Stanza Bopape Secondary School were present.

A meeting was held with the British High Commissioner in South Africa. Dr. Nicola Brewer was very interested to learn of the work of the Trust. She offered her support to the Trust and the promise of a formal school visit when a suitable occasion arises in the future.

In September 2010, a meeting was held at the South African High Commission in London. This had originally been arranged with the newly appointed High Commissioner to brief him on the work of the Trust and to follow up the good relationship with his predecessor, Dr. Lindiwe Mabuza. Due to unexpected circumstances, the High Commissioner was unable to attend and the briefing was given to one of the First Secretaries on his behalf.

Representing the Trust, Steve Bacon attended a small meeting of UK NGOs and charities at the South African High Commission at which the South African President Dr Jacob Zuma spoke about the importance of these organisations to the future success of his country. This meeting was held at the end of his State Visit to the UK and was designed to encourage further collaboration between these UK organisations.

During the year, the Trust was asked by Derbyshire County Council to assist with a proposed visit to Mamelodi by 18 performing artists. The project, which took place in April 2010, built upon earlier links between DCC and Mamelodi. It aimed to engage young people in the UK and in Mamelodi with a view to the sharing of ideas and cultures. The Trustees were pleased to assist this initiative since it fell within the remit of the Trust (promotion of the issues of South Africa in the UK, benefit to young people in Mamelodi and support for schools already working with the Trust). Steve and Mary Bacon worked with the group prior to the visit to share their knowledge of Mamelodi and to develop participants' understanding of South Africa. It was eventually agreed that they should also accompany the group on the visit to Mamelodi to assist in the leadership of the visit. On behalf of DCC, the Trust also managed the finances of the visit in South Africa. The trip was funded by DCC and The Arts Council for England; Steve and Mary Bacon also contributed financially. No costs were borne by the Trust.

During the visit, the group were able to share in the South Africa Freedom Day celebrations by being received as guests at the country's main event in the grounds of the Union Building in Pretoria. Following an address to the crowds by South Africa's President Jacob Zuma, Steve and Mary were interviewed live on South African television to give reaction to the speech and to explain why they were there. This gave them the opportunity to speak about educational priorities for schools in the townships referred to by Dr. Zuma and to explain briefly the work of the Trust. Previously recorded interviews with Steve and Mary were also shown several times during the evening. Many of the teachers in the schools supported by the Trust saw these interviews and were excited that Mamelodi got a mention in this national day of celebration. It provided quite a talking point during later visits to the schools!

In the summer of 2010, Jenny Elliott and a group of Post Graduate Certificate in Education students from Nottingham University again worked in schools supported by the Trust. This visit was fully funded by the students, who also raised money to make a very substantial donation to the Trust, and by Nottingham University. The Trust assisted with the processing of the finances in South Africa. This has become an important initiative because not only does it provide tangible annual support for schools in Mamelodi, but it also makes a major contribution to the pre-service training of UK teachers.

An outcome of this partnership was the visit to the UK in July by Thandi Mnguni, deputy headteacher at Zakhele School. She worked with the University on a project to improve the transition of pupils from their last year in primary school to their local secondary school. The activity used South Africa and Mamelodi as a vehicle for collaborative project work and pupils were able to benefit from Thandi's first hand account of life in a South African township.

Helen Smith continues to act in a voluntary capacity as the Trust's representative in Pretoria and has worked extremely hard during the year on the Trust's behalf. Having someone on the ground has proved extremely useful and regular feedback on the impact of the Trust's funding has been received. During the library development project at Zakhele Primary School, Helen acted on behalf of the Trust and her regular involvement on site has been crucial to the success of the project. She has worked hard in Meetse A Bophelo Primary School to help them transfer their books to the new library and she undertook the transfer of library furniture to Sikhanyisele Primary School. She has worked closely with Exclusive Books and helped

schools to make appropriate purchasing decisions. Helen has visited on a regular basis all the schools supported by the Trust.

Helen has co-ordinated a range of support activities in schools by students at the University. A major project has been the organising of weekly reading groups at Zakhele School supported by post graduate students at the University. Over 100 children are receiving this regular support in the new library. Students have also helped with the redecoration of classrooms, the creation of vegetable gardens for local families and social support work with older students.

Support from the Director of the Mamelodi Campus of Pretoria University, Edwin Smith, has been invaluable during the year. University facilities were made available for the Derbyshire County Council group of performing artists, training for science teachers at Stanza Bopape Secondary School has been provided and professional librarian support has been available for schools. A training workshop for teachers to improve the teaching of writing was held at Zakhele School. Transport for people and materials has been provided by the University at no cost to the Trust to further the work in schools. This partnership with the University is highly valued by the Trust and adds considerable value to initiatives.

Students from Rutgers University, New Jersey USA, visited Zakhele School in 2010 and, through the good offices of The University of Pretoria, brought with them a large number of new books for the Meetse and Zakhele libraries. Students worked with children in the school helping them with their reading and the use of the libraries.

The relationship with Exclusive Books continues to work well for the Trust. Not only are the Trust's grants to schools for books uplifted by 12% but the staff of the bookshop are extremely helpful in advising schools on the purchase of books. Exclusive Books continue to hold events at which teachers can view suitable books available from a range of educational publishers.

Helen has worked in partnership with SchoolAid who have donated books to libraries created by the Trust. Helen, together with Prince the librarian at Meetse A Bophelo School, has led training sessions for house parents at the SOS Village for orphans where SchoolAid have created a library.

Several presentations about the Trust and South Africa were given at various UK venues during the year. These have not only raised money but also met one of the Trust's objectives to increase awareness of the needs of South Africa.

The Trust's website was updated at various points during 2010. The technical work was carried out by Joth Internet Solutions at no cost to the Trust.

Derek Bartrop resigned as a Trustee during the year having given many years of valuable service to the Trust.

The Trust ends its eleventh 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 several schools in Mamelodi. The Trust has been pleased to be in a position to continue to support four of the five schools with which it has contact. At the same time the Trust has accumulated funds to be deployed in 2011 on new priorities identified by the schools. The Trustees are delighted that the initiative to refurbish, furnish and stock a second library has been such a great success.

The Trust continues to look for ways of continuing its commitment to support five schools in Mamelodi and will seek to maximise the impact of previous investment.

1 November 2010

Notes

The Mamelodi Trust is Registered with the Charity Commission in the United Kingdom (Reg. No. 1077489).

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

Steve Bacon,
Spring Cottage,
Farnah Green,
Derbyshire DE56 2UP.

Telephone: 01773 829849

Email: info@mameloditrust.org.uk

www.mameloditrust.org.uk

Trustees in 2009/10

Stephen Bacon
Mary Bacon
Elizabeth Turvey
John Phillips
Gill Taylor
Rev. Julie Stanton

Banks

The Mamelodi Trust holds bank accounts at

Lloyds TSB
Compton
Ashbourne
Derbyshire DE6 1DY

CAF Bank Ltd.
25 Kings Hill Avenue
West Malling
Kent ME 19 4JQ

Nationwide Building Society
Electra House
Swindon
Wiltshire SN1 5TY

Independent examiner

The independent examiner of the Mamelodi Trust accounts is

John Chadwick,
62, Ashbourne Road
Shottlegate
Belper
Derbyshire DE56 2LE