



The Billy Riordan Memorial Trust

Dingle, Co. Kerry, Ireland
Reg Charity no: 15091 (Ireland)

Private Bag 7, Blantyre, Malawi
NGO reg no: NGO/R/05/02 (Malawi)

www.billysmalawiproject.org

SPRING
2008

The Billy Riordan Memorial Clinic was founded in direct response to the medical needs of the village of Cape Maclear/Chembe village. The clinic opened in 2004. Its mission is to provide primary medical services to the catchment area of Cape Maclear/Chembe village. In April 2007 the Trust completed construction of a second unit. Today the clinic provides primary medical care on an out-patient and in patient basis to a population of 12,000 rural dwellers. It is the only clinic in the area and to date more than 80,000 patients have been seen at the clinic. Malaria, bilharzia, chest infections, fungal infections, arthritis and hiv/aids are amongst the conditions which are treated.



Original clinic building and new treatment unit

Staff.

The number of staff now working with the Trust is more than thirty. The Trust provides full time employment for thirty in-country workers. They are generally people from the locality. Doctor Jeannette Van Os from the Netherlands and Nurse Catherine Ginnell from Ireland are non national workers.

G.P. Training Scheme

Doctors Martina Collins and Alice Baily have both spent four month as volunteer doctors with the Trust. Drs Collins and Baily are participants in the Southern Ireland General Practitioner Training Scheme. At the completion of the first year of this partnership the Trust extends it's thanks to all involved with the program.



Young patient receiving treatment

Amy Hetherington and Gareth Rhys Chapman recently qualified Oxford medical graduates spent an elective placement in the clinic.



Patient Care attendant

Hiv/Aids Treatment Programme. Dr Jeannette Van Os, Nurse Catherine Ginnell and Mr Mark Saulos all completed their training courses in preparation for the introduction of the new HIV/Aids Treatment programme.

In January the programme commenced at the clinic. A programme of counselling, testing and prescription of anti retroviral

drugs is now available to people in this community. With more than 1 million people in Malawi living with HIV accessing these facilities is difficult for many people. The service now being provided is a significant step in the fight against HIV/Aids in the community. The Trust works with the National Aids Commission of Malawi on this project.

Volunteers

The number of volunteers who have worked with the Trust since it began in Malawi now totals more than one hundred. Doctors Sandy and Elaine Nelson from Scotland and Northern Ireland respectively joined the medical team for five months in September. British G.P husband and wife team Kevin and Lesley Gruffydd-Jones also worked as visiting doctors at the clinic. Nurses Peter Taylor, Emma Culligan, Fiona Keaney, Nadia Village, Jo Beggan, Sheila Byrne-Harte and Brenda Gruppen, all worked at the clinic over the last number of months. Stephen Village from the U.K. handed over the reins as Project Manager to Ron Griffin. In her other life Ron is a physiotherapist in Portlaoise General Hospital. She worked as Project Manager for three months. P.J. Harding another physio-therapist from Laoise practised at the clinic for three months. Margaret McSweeney from Cork and Maureen Murphy from Dublin both spent some months helping the projects. Angela O'Connor an



Volunteer Centre

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audiologist from Co Kerry came to Malawi and tested children with hearing difficulties in the primary school. Electrician J.P. Brosnan from Tralee wired the new building in the volunteer centre. Many of the volunteers come to us with valuable supplies of medication, dressings and other items for the clinic. Many also raise money which enables us to purchase much needed medical supplies. Once again on behalf of the Trust and on behalf of the people of Cape Maclear we sincerely thank all those who have so generously given their time and expertise. Without the dedication and commitment of so many selfless people the Trust could not continue its valuable work in Malawi.

Construction.

Building at the clinic and volunteer centre was finally completed in March. Accommodation for the director and the project manager was added to the already existing accommodation in the centre. Steven Village, Mike Ryder and Eddie Beggan together with the Malawian team of builders under Mr Francis all worked on the construction of the extended volunteer centre. Eddie Beggan also took on the role as project manager for three months. Heartfelt thanks to everybody involved in this long and difficult process.



Volunteer Centre

FUND-RAISING.

To date the Trust has not received aid from any donor agency either in Ireland or elsewhere. The trust does not receive any funding from Irish Aid, the Irish overseas development agency. Fundraising is a continual and difficult process.

Cavan County Council, Salthill Galway Rotary, Women's Network Limerick, Cork Fire brigade and Anglo Irish bank along with many private individuals are amongst the ongoing supporters of our work in Malawi.

English Teaching Programme.

In January the Trust began offering English language classes to children in the village. These classes are in preparation for future plans to construct a new

primary school in the area. Aoife Riordan, Dublin, Mike Ryder, Galway and Dominique Antoni have set up a temporary school house and are teaching a large number of local children. Classes are held after school hours, at weekends and during official school holidays.

Generator.

In December 2007 funded by Salthill Galway Rotary the clinic took delivery of a electricity generator. It is very necessary for the clinic to have access to twenty four hour electricity as there are patients in the clinic on an in patient basis. Electricity supply can be erratic especially during the rain season. This generator ensures a constant supply to the clinic. The Trust extends thanks to the Salthill Rotary club who totally funded this machine.



Fueling the generator

DVD.

Paul Dolan and Jim Twomey came to Cape Maclear to make a second promotional DVD for the Trust. Both film makers are attached to Fas Film Unit in Tralee Co Kerry. Paul made the first film over two years ago. This DVD showed the work of the Trust. However such is the progress which has been made in two years that the DVD was outdated and needed to be reproduced with new data.

Women's Mini Marathon.

The Women's Mini marathon takes place in Dublin on June 2nd 2008. The Trust is usually well represented by enthusiastic participants. More than Euro 5,000 was raised last year by runners from the Cavan region. Sponsorship cards are available for those taking part again this year.



About Malawi

Where: Sub Saharan Africa. Borders with Zambia, Mozambique & Tanzania.



Population: 13 million.

Life Expectancy: 37 years

More than 95% of the population are without electricity.

5% of girls and 7% of boys get to second level education.

20% infant mortality rate in under 5's

75% of people on less than U.S.\$2 per day



Would you like to spend three months living and working in the Third World ?

We are a small Irish based Charity working as a Non Governmental Organisation. We manage and run a Primary Health Care Clinic and In-patient Unit at Cape Maclear, Monkey Bay, Malawi, C/Africa.

We are seeking qualified doctors, nurses and other medical personnel to come and work with us in our Clinic on the shores of Lake Malawi.

We also need teachers and administration staff to help run our other projects.

Volunteers are asked to spend a minimum of three months with the Trust.

You will be accommodated in our new purpose built volunteer centre located on the beach in Cape Maclear village.

For further information please log onto our web site at:

www.billysmalawiproject.org

or email:

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