

Annual Report April 2016 - March 2017

God is Faithful

The year 2016-2017 saw new staff consolidating our office organisation and taking on new tasks from the current Chief Executive thus freeing him up to give strategic direction and oversight. The search for a new Chief Executive and a new Middle East Team Leader to take over in late 2017 began. Throughout the year we witnessed God's faithfulness as we continued missionary visits, events and the core work of supporting Christians in the military in the countries we serve. At the end of the reporting year we were deeply saddened by the death of Rainer Thorun, a long standing staff member of MMI. Although Rainer is irreplaceable, the Lord is faithful and has allowed Rainer's legacy to continue in our European work. Highlights of the year have included more mission trips, the European Summer Adventure Retreat, a ladies' seminar in Moscow, a mission trip to South Asia, further developing contacts in the Middle East and helping to support the purchase of a vehicle for Francophone Africa to distribute Bibles. We faced financial challenges in the early part of the year but once again we witnessed that God is faithful and we thank Him for ongoing provision through faithful supporters, other military Christian organisations and churches over the past year.

Programme 2016-17

2016:

April

Latvia mission trip

May

Ukraine Chaplaincy Conference

June

SIMMs UK

French military meeting (RIMP)

Georgia mission trip

MMI Prayer Day

Korea MEO programme

Balkans mission trip (Albania, Greece, Macedonia and Bulgaria)

July

Russia mission trip

Erbil mission trip

August

Reservists Conference Germany

Summer Adventure Retreat Bulgaria

September

Nepal and neighbour mission trip

Croatian Interaction

Cameroon Chaplaincy training with

October

Lebanon mission trip

India mission trip

Sri Lanka

ACCTS staff meeting

Ladies seminar Russia

Poland MCF conference

Spain police conference

November

Hungary mission trip

December

Kenya and Rwanda mission trips

2017:

January

Staff Retreat

February

Erbil mission trip

European Military Christian Leaders

meeting Germany

March

Benin mission trip

MMI Supporters Weekend Nigeria for Pan Africa conference

Pray and Plan

Objectives & Activities of MMI

MMI was established by Trust Deed in 1974 for the promotion of the Christian faith. Since its inception it has focussed its activities on the armed forces to encourage and equip men and women in the armed forces of the world to be effective Christian disciples at work and home, growing as Christians and making other disciples.

's work advances Christianity by promoting mature and effective Military Christian Fellowships (MCF) and Chaplaincies that follow orthodox Christian teaching in particular with regard to the profession of arms. This is a strategic ministry that delivers long term international public benefit. MMI's work is with all those in the armed forces of the world prepared to listen to the Christian message and/or re-

ceive Christian ministry.

MMI takes the Apostles Creed as its statement of faith and seeks to achieve its mission through facilitating conferences, seminars, retreats and symposia at local, national, regional and international level throughout the regions we operate in. These are, Africa, Europe, Middle East and South Asia. To support these activities we build and maintain relationships through communication, corre-

spondence and by regular visits to Christians in these regions' armed forces. MMI also maintains contact and communication with existing chaplaincies in the countries in which it operates and supports efforts to form chaplaincies in countries which currently do not have them

MMI is one of three principal supporting organisations for the worldwide Association of Military Christian Fellowships.

Review of MMI Activities in 2016-2017

Non -Regional

he past year has seen MMI carry out three home events in the UK in direct support of our mission. In June 2016 we held our annual prayer day in Winchester which as a prayer-led ministry is central to our mission. In January 2017 we held our annual Executive Council and Staff Retreat at Ladywell convent. This was attended by all our staff and some of our Trustees. It proved its value once again in team building but more importantly as a key event for us to listen to God and discern the way forward. In March 2017 we held our Supporters Weekend in Salisbury and in the 500th anniversary year of the Protestant reformation we were privileged to welcome speakers with military experience from the Roman Catholic, Orthodox and Protestant Christian traditions, witnessing that MMI strongly holds to one of our core values that we are "All one in Christ Jesus ".

Africa

n Africa mission trips were made to renew and support contacts in Rwanda, Kenya, and Nigeria. Our Francophone Africa Team member assisted with Chaplaincy training in Cameroon in 2016 and made a mission trip to Benin in March 2017. We also supported ongoing Bible distribution to the military in francophone countries. We were privileged to help coordinate a project to purchase a 4x4 vehicle to carry out mission trips and distribute Bibles. Alongside our partners sufficient funds were raised for a vehicle to be purchased in 2017.

South Asia

Our South Asia Team Leader visited India to encourage the growing number of Military Christians in that country. We believe we are privileged to witness God doing something very special in India at this time. Our Team Leader also visited the Military Christian Fellowship in Sri Lanka to meet the new leader and to encourage them. We assisted our partners in the Association of Military Christian Fellowships to visit Bangladesh and and a more sensitive S Asian country.

Middle East

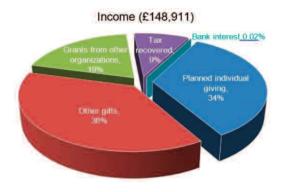
The Middle East region remains one of the most challenging areas for our work. Together with the Association of Military Christian Fellowships (AMCF) Vice President for the region, our Middle East Team Leader visited Lebanon in October 2016 to meet some contacts. There have also been other visits to Erbil in Northern Iraq to strengthen the links with military Christians there. We are still exploring the possibility of speaking to military personnel in a military academy in that area as well. Finally, much planning took place to organise a regional conference in Cyprus which took place just inside the new financial year beginning in April 2017.

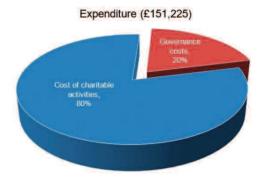
Europe

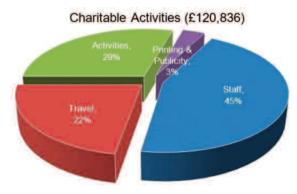
n 2016 we saw mission trips in the Balkans, Russia, Hungary and other countries. The second Summer Adventure Retreat was successfully held on the Black Sea Coast with 25 people from 10 nations participating. In February 2017 the European Military Christian Leaders event took place in Germany, sponsored in part by MMI. In March 2017 we were deeply shocked and saddened by the death Rainer Thorun. This has left a gap in our European Team and we are currently exploring some new prospective staff mem-

Financial Review 2016-2017*

Income once again decreased in the financial year by approximately £12,000. Providentially we had been able to carry some funds over from the previous year. This, together with a special appeal in August 2016, and an upturn in giving in the later part of the year, allowed us to remain in budget for the year and to carry a reserve over into 2017. Whilst some activities did not take place, this was not due to a lack of funding but to other outside factors. We thank God for his continued provision through the generousity of our supporters.







* This Financial Review complements the MMI Financial Policy set out in the annual accounts presented to the Charities Commission and available from the MMI office.

Aim and Constitution of Military Ministries International

"MMI exists to encourage, strengthen and equip Christians in the armed forces of the countries we serve, to live more effectively as followers of the Lord Jesus Christ"

MI (the working name of the Association for Christian Conferences, Teaching and Service) is a private organisation; non-denominational and unrelated to any specific church or government body. It was constituted by a Trust Deed dated 20 December 1974 and is a registered UK charity, number 284203. It has sister organisations in the United States of America and the Republic of Korea which operate along similar lines but with different areas of interest and different, independent boards of directors. There is some overlap and partnership in activities. In the year 2016-17 MMI's major areas of operation were Europe, Africa, the Middle East and South Asia. MMI's Aims and Objectives are set out overleaf and express the Trustees' compliance with their duty to have due regard to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit.

Management

MMI staff members are responsible to an Executive Council chaired by a Chief Executive/Team Leader, reporting to the MMI Trustees. The Executive Council meets approximately every 6 weeks.

Trustees

Trustees are recruited by invitation and appointed by the existing trustees as set out in the Trust Deed. Trustees meet 3 times each year in Spring, Summer and Autumn. The following are currently serving as trustees or served during 2015-16:

Maj Gen (Retd) Roddy Porter (Chairman), The Rev Col (Retd) Richard Cobbold, The Rev Philip Majcher, Lt Col (Retd) Inocent Shams (UK & Pakistan until Nov 2016), Mrs Janet Seierstad (Norway & USA).Maj (Retd) Homfray Vines, Lt Col (Retd) Charles Kirke, Rev David Gilchrist. Prospective Trustee: Rev Mark Chester. Seven of 10 appointments were filled at the time of reporting.

Staff

Chief Executive/Team Leader: Col (Retd) Jos McCabe OBE Africa Team Leader:

Col (Retd) Jos McCabe OBE Rev Lt (Retd) Grozdan Stoevski European Staff: Lt Col (Retd) Igor Sawicki (Poland;

Mrs Jo Hill

Oberstlt a.D. Rainer Thorun (Germany until March 2017),

Maj (Retd) Mark Hibbert-Hingston,

South Asia Team Leader: Middle East Team Leader:

Africa Staff :

European Team Leader :

Lt Col (Retd) Paddy Hughes OBE Col (Retd) Richard Sandy Lt Col (Retd) Samuel Cóias (Portugal),

WO Maxwell Mupondi (UK & Zimbabwe),

Communications Officer: Flt Lt (Retd) Sue Millard

Executive Secretary: Maj (Retd) Mark Hibbert-Hingston Dr Alan Whiting Financial Secretary:

Cpl Eddy Asponosah (UK & Ghana), Lt Col (Retd) Eric Mandille (France).

Headoffice address: Havelock House, Barrack Road, Aldershot, Hants, GU11 3NP

Bulgaria);

Independent Examiner: Mrs Wendy Tresise, Tresise and Company Chartered Accountants, Brockhurst, 28 Eyesham Walk, Sandhurst, Berkshire, GU47 0YU

Prayer coordinator &

Fin & Admin Manager