

BANSANG HOSPITAL APPEAL  
Registered Charity No 1064469

TRUSTEES REPORT AND ACCOUNTS

YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2024

## Bansang Hospital Appeal

Trustee's Annual Report for the year ended 30 June 2024

The Bansang Hospital Appeal is constituted by Deed of Trust and registered with the Charity Commission for England and Wales (No 1064469). Its address is 4 The Leys, Orlingbury, Northamptonshire NN14 1JE. The Trustees during the year were:

Anita Smith	Chair
Richard Harvey	Treasurer
Grant Hamilton Smith	

The objective of the charity is to provide support to Bansang Hospital and the people of the surrounding area in The Gambia through the supply of medical equipment, pharmaceuticals and other humanitarian aid.

The primary focus of the Appeal remains to raise funds that can be used to continually update and improve the structure and facilities of the hospital whilst providing urgently required medical equipment and pharmaceutical products, working to motivate and retain staff and facilitating help and support from skilled volunteers and other organisations. The Appeal has been transforming healthcare delivery in Bansang since 1992.

The accounts for the year to 30 June 2024, show that donations and legacies totalled £114,271, compared to £101,379 in the previous year. Our extremely generous regular benefactors have, as ever, continued to support us with many increasing their monthly donations. We have also again benefited from many individual one-off donations. I would like to thank all our benefactors most sincerely. Without them we would not have been able to support the hospital to the extent that we have done.

Rental income from our investment property totalled £13,500 and together with a fundraising event contributing £908 and with interest of £639, total receipts for the year were up 9% to £129,318.

Total expenditure in the year under report was £129,286. The main expenditure was on building work (£56k). This expenditure was highlighted in detail in last year's report and predominantly covered the removal of bats from the admin block roof, the refurbishment of a second 7-unit accommodation block for nursing staff and the construction of a safety wall around the oxygen plant. The other main expenditure was on the ongoing funding for the payment of wages for sponsored staff members and payments for initiatives to retain and motivate staff (£21k), welfare payments to provide rice to all staff members, fund farming projects and replenish the Form Feeding Fund (£18k), salaries (£18k), pharmaceutical products and medical equipment (£4k) and plant, equipment and furniture (£7k).

## Bansang Hospital Appeal

Trustee's Annual Report for the year ended 30 June 2024 (continued)

The accounts continue to show an organisation with great financial strength and long-term financial security.

One of the main projects completed during the period since our last report in May 2024 has been the refurbishment of a 7-unit accommodation block for nursing staff. The block was opened in January 2025 when I was able to meet the nurses who had been allocated accommodation. Without exception they were thrilled with the accommodation which comprised a lounge, bedroom, bathroom and outside cooking area, with locally made furniture included. From speaking with the nurses, it was evident that the availability of such accommodation was one of the principal factors in them deciding to come to Bansang Hospital.

The completion of the accommodation blocks with individual bathrooms for each unit has meant that three existing toilet blocks are no longer required. The opportunity has therefore been taken to convert each of the blocks into individual accommodation units for doctors. One of the units was financed by the hospital from the proceeds of the sale of 500 solar panels donated by Power Up Gambia (PUG) a Philadelphia based non-profit health care and environmental group. The solar panels were no longer needed by the hospital as it now receives 24/7 electricity from a Hydro Electricity plant in neighbouring Senegal. The Appeal has funded the renovation of the other two accommodation units.

The Appeal has now renovated and extended 90 accommodation units as part of its policy to improve the living conditions for staff and thus attracting quality medical personnel to work in such a hostile environment.

The hospital continues to develop the "farming" projects, often working with local communities to provide nutritious food for the patients. The fish farm and chicken house in the hospital grounds have provided essential protein. Some changes have recently been made to the projects. The fish used in the farm is being changed from tilapia to catfish which will provide a larger harvest in a quicker time. And the use of the chicken house is being changed from rearing broiler chickens to keeping chicken layers to provide the patients with a ready supply of eggs. Staff are also encouraged to use land set aside within the grounds for vegetable and fruit production.



## Bansang Hospital Appeal

### Trustee's Annual Report for the year ended 30 June 2024 (continued)

The main community farming project in the past year has been the donation by a local village of a rice field for the hospital's use. The production of rice is very labour intensive, but the villagers provide help alongside hospital staff, including the Chief Executive. Planting the rice seedlings is done by hand as is the harvesting when the crop reaches maturity after about 3 months. The rice is then left to dry before being threshed and the hospital kitchen staff remove the husks. The rice is pounded and stored before being used to feed the patients. The husks are shredded and used to cover the floor of the chicken house so everything is used. The Appeal paid for the rice seedlings, fertiliser and fuel for the generator that was used to constantly pump water from the river to the rice field.

The Form Feeding Fund (FFF) has profoundly changed the lives of so many vulnerable infants and their families. The FFF continues to be funded by Form Nutrition, a plant based natural food products business and we are most grateful for their ongoing support. The fund continues to provide medical, food and financial support to patients and their families, who have travelled long distances to the hospital, to enable them to stay in Bansang until their loved ones have been discharged from the hospital. For families who once felt the unbearable pressure to leave the hospital due to financial hardship, the fund has been a lifeline, turning uncertainty into hope and compassion.

The Hospital has established its first Intensive Care Unit (ICU) comprising 3 beds, each with its own monitor, to enable seriously ill patients to be cared for in the best possible way. The cost of these 3 monitors was funded from the sale of the PUG solar panels with the Appeal funding the cost of aluminium screens to partition the area. This is the first time that monitors have been used in the hospital and is an important step in improving the medical care provided. The ICU has been temporarily sited in the outpatients department, but the hospital is now building a separate permanent ICU building which will have 6 units, each with its own monitor. The Appeal is funding the cost of 10 additional monitors, 3 of which will go in the expanded ICU. The remaining 7 monitors will be placed across the wards so that each ward will have at least one high dependency bed. The Appeal is also funding the purchase of an ultrasound scanner. These important developments are all part of the hospital's plan to enhance the medical services provided so that more testing, treatments and surgery will be available at Bansang rather than patients having to travel to the coast for these services.



## Bansang Hospital Appeal

Trustee's Annual Report for the year ended 30 June 2024 (continued)

The Global Fund has provided the Hospital with some state-of-the-art equipment. These are digital x-ray equipment, bio-chemistry testing equipment and an oxygen producing plant. The oxygen plant is the only one in the country and Bansang now supplies oxygen to other clinics and hospitals. Oxygen pipes are also currently being installed across the hospital so that every bed will have access to oxygen. Priority is given to Bansang Hospital to receive this equipment by The Global Fund because of its standing as the "Best Hospital in the Country for Performance and Outcomes". The Appeal pays for many of the reagents used for the bio-chemistry testing and also pays allowances to the 3 staff who assist in running the oxygen plant

As part of our ongoing relationship with the local Janjangbureh prison we have provided funds to set up an apprenticeship scheme whereby inmates will be provided with skills training. This should enable the inmates to find gainful employment when they leave prison. Most of the inmates are only in prison for what are poverty related "crimes". The funding will cover the costs of 4 trainers for a period of 9 months. Skills covered include electrical and solar installation, plumbing, entrepreneurship and English.

Other notable highlights during the year include:

- The Appeal provided pharmaceutical drugs and reagents whenever there was an urgent need to replenish depleted stocks. In particular, we purchased emergency anaesthetic drugs to allow vital operations to continue.
- We provided 5 mobile cleaning trolleys and mops for the hard-working ward orderlies. These help them keep the wards "sparkling clean" and have passed the quality control inspection by the Infection Control Officer.
- We purchased 5 electronic blood pressure machines and 10 delivery sets for the labour ward.
- We provided furniture and fittings to 3 houses that the hospital maintenance department had refurbished.

Many of these items were directly sponsored by long standing benefactors of the Appeal and we thank them for their continued generosity.

I visited the hospital again in January 2025 together with the Appeal's Treasurer and fellow Trustee Richard Harvey. We were joined by Specialist Neonatal Nurse Jeannette Payne for what was her fourteenth year training staff and ensuring good practice in the treatment of the sick newborn. Jeanette's husband Chris always helps with practical projects and this time converted redundant shelving into nesting boxes for the chicken layers. He also plays guitar and sings in the wards in the evening. There are smiles all round from the staff and patients. Often the best medicine is music and making people happy.

## Bansang Hospital Appeal

Trustee's Annual Report for the year ended 30 June 2024 (continued)

Future plans for the Appeal will concentrate on supporting the CEO's mission to improve clinical outcomes by recruiting more specialist medical personnel and utilising more advanced medical equipment. It also almost goes without saying that we will continue to support the hospital and the local community as we have done for the past thirty-three years.

Another extraordinary year for this very small charity. Year on year we have helped to support the transformation of a hospital that was going to close its doors in 1997. This would have left over 600,000 people with no health facility. Today the staff provide exemplary health care for their patients. With a 97% staff retention rate, this speaks volumes, where every member of staff is respected and treated equally regardless of their position. As a result of our very generous donors, we have extended, refurbished, and provided furniture for 90 homes over the years. This has resulted in skilled medical personnel leaving the comforts of family life and all the amenities that are available on the coast to work in a very challenging environment 250 miles inland.

I would like to pay a special tribute to our loyal band of supporters who have trusted us to use their donations in a way that has greatly benefitted both the staff and patients. In the next phase of the hospital's development we will be concentrating on clinical outcomes. For this I will be getting advice from all the relevant parties ensuring that the friends of BHA will be able to witness the outcomes and developments in what is a very unique hospital that still retains the accolade of the best hospital for care and services in the country.

I feel privileged to be able to work alongside such dedicated staff; together we serve.

Anita Smith MBE MRG  
Chair of the Trustees

30 April 2025



## Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Bansang Hospital Appeal

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 30 June 2024, which are set out on pages 7 and 8.

### **Responsibilities and basis of report**

As the charity's trustees you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act").

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

### **Independent examiner's statement**

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination which gives me cause to believe that in any material respect:

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act; or
- the accounts did not accord with the accounting records; or
- the accounts did not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

E Robertson BA FCCA  
86A Lincoln Road  
Deeping Gate  
Peterborough  
Cambridgeshire

30 April 2025



Bansang Hospital Appeal

Receipts and Payments Account  
(General Purposes Fund)

Year Ended 30 June 2024

	2024	2023
	£	£
Receipts		
Voluntary sources:		
Donations	85,906	101,379
Legacies	28,365	-
Fundraising	908	3,781
Rental income	13,500	13,200
Interest	639	180
	<u>129,318</u>	<u>118,540</u>
Payments		
Direct charitable expenditure:		
Medical equipment	2,713	-
Pharmaceutical products	1,300	6,201
Building work	56,591	37,704
Plant, equipment and furniture	7,428	6,911
Freight and transportation	-	-
Nursing, SEN and staff support	21,268	25,354
Salary costs	18,007	20,238
Welfare and farming projects	17,630	18,142
Travel and subsistence	499	1,238
Property rental costs	2,547	2,173
Bank charges and other costs	1,303	1,350
	<u>129,286</u>	<u>119,311</u>
Net Receipts / (Payments)	32	(771)
Add: Cash balances b/fwd	<u>12,978</u>	<u>13,749</u>
Cash balances c/fwd	<u>13,010</u>	<u>12,978</u>

Approved by the Trustees and signed on their behalf

R W H Harvey BSc FCA Trustee  
30 April 2025

# Bansang Hospital Appeal

## Statement of Assets and Liabilities (General Purposes Fund)

As at 30 June 2024

	2024	2023
	£	£
Monetary Assets		
Cash Balances		
Cash at Bank in the UK	7,216	3,267
Cash held and Cash at Bank in The Gambia	<u>5,794</u>	<u>9,711</u>
	13,010	12,978
Freehold Property	<u>240,643</u>	<u>240,643</u>
	<u>253,653</u>	<u>253,621</u>

The value of Freehold Property is shown at cost  
in December 2019

## Other Assets

The Appeal has no other assets (2023 - £nil)

## Liabilities now due for payment

Building work	2,651	5,754
Welfare payments	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
	<u>2,651</u>	<u>5,754</u>

## Future and contingent liabilities

The Appeal has no future or contingent liabilities.