

HOOKE COURT in MALAWI Chairman's Report 2025

2025 has been another successful year in the support given to the primary schools in Malawi. Continual contact has been made throughout the year with the schools and the PEAs thanks to the work of secretary Fiona Boggis and treasurer Sarah McConnell. For this we are very grateful.

Regular donations have been received which has enabled us to purchase equipment for the schools in the two zones.

Achievement and Performance 2025

Summer Project 2025

Four Trustees and a representative from Prodigal Bikes volunteers took part in the summer programme.

All 8 schools in the Bandawe Zone were visited by three trustees. The Headteachers were present and were welcoming. It was good to see some of the classroom displays provided in previous years still being used and to see that the Malawian teachers had added their own resources to the classrooms. Many classrooms remain without desks and doors and are in a poor state of repair.

The new classroom at Mkundi School, funded by The Mercers' Livery Company, was officially opened; representatives from the Nkatabay Education Office came for the ceremony and the two local Chiefs gave speeches of thanks. All receipts for the building work were seen and checked by the trustees.

Kapesca's new classroom, funded by St Marys's Primary School, Swindon, was also opened, again another celebration was had with the entire community present.

Eight out of ten Chintheche schools were visited, the new PEA accompanied the team on their travels. Many of the schools are at a distance from Chintheche which brings difficulties for both staff and pupils. The most rural schools have poor structures and lack sufficient staff; this can lead to a worrying drop out rate of pupils.

All Head teachers said how much they appreciated the

support of HCiM, particularly the provision of bicycles and resources.

Sponsored Pupils

Pupils who are being sponsored by a sponsor in the UK were seen. Gifts from the UK were handed out and thank you letters from the children for their sponsors were written. Six of the pupils have finished secondary school this year; three have gained enough points in their final exams to earn a place at a Government University, one at an independent University, and one of the boys with Hearing Impairment is working as an apprentice with Prodigal Bikes.

Edwin and Timothy, two boys who were sponsored previously, both reported in; Timothy has completed his university degree and said that he had a placement with the government office in Nkhatabay for six months.

We also met with the Head Teachers of Bandawe Secondary and Bandawe Girls' to make sure all was well with our sponsored children and to ensure links were maintained. The PEA at Bandawe identified six children in need of sponsorship at secondary school; sponsors from the UK have been found for these children.

Educational Resources

The PEA of Bandawe together with the PEA of Chintheche provided a wish list of resources for their schools: exercise books, pens, pencils, flip charts, chalk and markers for all 18 schools have been provided.

Bikes

Nearly all the bikes provided through Prodigal Bikes were accounted for. Peter Bradish Ellames, Prodigal Bikes (PB) representative and Pete Cooper, helped by the PB team in Bandawe - Christopher, Simon and Louis - repaired many of the bikes. Simon has worked as an apprentice for the past 12 months; Louis will be joining him in this role. Four wheel chairs were repaired.

A bike and tools were provided for Frank, another past pupil at HI, who lives away from Bandawe and was identified as being capable of setting up a small bike repair business.

All bikes are greatly appreciated as they make life easier for those teachers who have to travel long distances to school.

Sanitary Kits

100 sustainable sanitary kits donated by Dignity by Design, Yeovil, and 300 pairs of girl's underwear were distributed; material was bought for pupils at HI to make their own kits. Patience, at Mkundi, has made 40 kits during the year.

School in a Bag

Fifty 'School in a Bags' were given to pupils in the Bandawe Zone; the Head Teachers reported that the bags had a positive impact on the attendance and performance of the pupils.

Knitting and associated resources

Local ladies made fourteen blankets out of the knitted squares taken out from the UK; ten blankets were given to the Hearing Impaired school and four to the Special Needs room.

Uniform donated by William Perkin's School was distributed to schools in the Bandawe Zone.

School for the Hearing Impaired

The money from the Swedish family was given to the school for food.

The playground built last year, summer 2024, has been well used and was in need of repair; this was achieved and extra swings were added.

Sponsorship

At present we have links with four UK schools who in contact with each other via whatsapp messaging and fundraise for their partner school.

East Allington for Munkhokwe

St George's, Weston Super Mare for Chivumu

St Mary's Swindon for Kapesca

Rydon for Mkundi

Container

£200 was donated to Prodigal Bikes who "bought" space in a container being transported to Malawi by *Changing Stars Malawi*. Bikes, sewing machines, carpentry equipment and sundry other items were delivered to Bandawe and distributed amongst the various schools.

Fund Raising

The application to The Mercers' Livery Company for funding for a classroom at Mkundi was successful and the project has been completed.

An 80's disco raised much needed funds.

Generous donations from Dylan Cooper's birthday celebration were received.

Future Plans and Challenges

Summer Volunteer Project August 2026

The PEAs and teachers have requested more teacher training and Management training for Head Teachers.

The classrooms need general maintenance, repair of doors, floors and the blackboards need painting.

Many schools say that they need new classrooms.

We plan to continue to build strong relationship with the two PEAs and encourage shared working practices.

I wish to thank all the Trustees for their continuing support for the work we are undertaking supporting the schools in Malawi and also Prodigal Bikes, Dignity by Design and School in a Bag.

We look forward to continuing our work making a difference to so many children through the support given to their schools in Malawi.

Alan Vian

October 2025



CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Registered office in Wales

No (if any)

Receipts and payments accounts

CC16a

For the period
from

to

To

Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds to the nearest £	Restricted funds to the nearest £	Endowment funds to the nearest £	Total funds to the nearest £	Last year to the nearest £
A1 Receipts					
Summer Programme	-	3,372	-	3,372	6,944
General donations	3,243	-	-	3,243	2,361
school sponsorship	-	11,426	-	11,426	11,202
sanitary products	-	300	-	300	-
School in a Bag	-	996	-	996	700
Pupil sponsorship	-	8,194	-	8,194	6,127
prodigal bikes	-	503	-	503	475
Gift Aid	1,725	-	-	1,725	4,265
Fund Raising	-	-	-	-	507
Sub total (Gross income for AR)	4,968	24,791	-	29,759	32,580
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	4,968	24,791	-	29,759	32,580
A3 Payments					
summer programme	-	3,265	-	3,265	14,017
general donations	2,843	-	-	2,843	21,012
school sponsorship	-	12,726	-	12,726	5,483
sanitary products	-	486	-	486	-
school, in a bag	-	346	-	346	-
pupil sponsorship	-	3,609	-	3,609	4,373
prodigal bikes	-	568	-	568	-
bank charges	64	-	-	64	-
insurance	136	-	-	136	-
Sub total	3,043	21,001	-	24,044	44,885
A4 Asset and investment purchases. (see table)					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total payments	3,043	21,001	-	24,044	44,885
Net of receipts/(payments)	1,925	3,791	-	5,716	- 12,305
A5 Transfers between funds	- 224	224	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	5,029	9,997	-	15,026	27,331
Cash funds this year end	6,730	14,012	-	20,742	15,026

Section B Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B1 Cash funds	bank	6,729	14,012	-
	petty cash	-	-	-
		-	-	-
	Total cash funds	6,729	14,012	-
	(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))			

	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B2 Other monetary assets		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-

	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
B3 Investment assets			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-

	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-

	Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
B5 Liabilities			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	

Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees

Signature	Print Name	Date of approval
S. McConnell	SARAH M'CONNELL	3/6/26
Fiona Boggis	FIONA BOGGIS	3/6/26



Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees

Hooke Court in Malawi

On accounts for the year
ended

31 August 2025

Charity no
(if any)

1167089

Set out on pages

1

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 31/08/2025.

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 2011 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 (other than that disclosed below *) which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities 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.

* Please delete the words in the brackets if they do not apply.

Signed:

Date:

28/05/2026

Name:

Claire Heptinstall

Relevant professional
qualification(s) or body
(if any):

ACCA (the Association of Chartered Certified Accountants)

Address:

8 Home Farm Close, Uploders, Bridport, Dorset. DT6 4RS

Section B**Disclosure**

Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight material matters of concern (see CC32, Independent examination of charity accounts: directions and guidance for examiners).

Give here brief details of any items that the examiner wishes to disclose.

Testing Approach

The examination has been carried out on a sample basis; not all transactions have been reviewed.

Basis of Accounting

The accounts have been prepared on a cash receipts and payments basis, which is acceptable under the applicable framework for small charities.

Opening Balances

Opening balances, including the split between restricted and unrestricted funds, have not been re-reviewed and are assumed to be correct based on prior year reviews.

Closing Balances

Closing balances have been agreed to bank statements and records on a sample basis and are appropriately split between restricted and unrestricted funds.

Cash income

A proportion of the charity's income arises from fundraising activities where cash is collected. While a sample of banking records has been reviewed and reconciled to supporting documentation, there remains an inherent risk that not all cash received is fully recorded and deposited.

Trustees should remain mindful that cash handling presents a heightened risk of error or omission. To mitigate this, robust controls should be maintained, including segregation of duties where practicable, prompt banking of receipts, and the use of independent reconciliations of monies collected to amounts banked. Periodic spot checks further strengthen assurance in this area.

In country expenditure / petty cash:

A significant proportion of expenditure is incurred in-country and in local currency, which is consistent with the charity's activities. I note that, during the year, certain payments have been facilitated through the personal bank accounts of the Treasurer and Secretary, primarily to minimise foreign currency transaction costs.

While supporting documentation such as receipts and bank statements has been provided to substantiate sampled transactions, this approach presents inherent weaknesses in the audit trail and financial control environment. In particular:

- The use of personal accounts reduces transparency and the segregation between personal and charity funds.
- There is an increased reliance on individuals to maintain complete and accurate records.

It is therefore positive to note that the Trustees intend to explore the establishment of a dedicated charity bank account that minimises foreign currency charges. Implementation of such an arrangement should significantly improve matters noted above going forwards.

In the meantime, mitigating controls are in place, including dual authorisation/initialling of expenditure and retrospective review of supporting evidence.

Overall Comment

Given the charity's size and limited resources, the Trustees have demonstrated a strong commitment to maintaining appropriate financial oversight. Practical controls, including dual authorisation of expenditure and the provision of supporting documentation, are in place and operating as effectively as can reasonably be expected in the circumstances. While there are inherent risks, particularly around cash handling and the temporary use of personal accounts, the proactive steps being considered—such as opening a suitable bank account—are positive and should further strengthen transparency and control going forward.