



Diocese of Edinburgh

Scottish Episcopal Church

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Charity Number: SC001214

The Communicant

News & Notices for the Diocese of Edinburgh

5th April 2023

Published by the Diocesan Office fortnightly, and circulated to all Clergy, Lay Readers, Treasurers & Vestry Secretaries, and Diocesan Synod Lay & Alternate Lay Representatives

NEXT EDITION: 19th April 2023



St David of Scotland, Pilton, Edinburgh

DIOCESAN OFFICE NOTICES & NEWS

DIOCESAN SYNOD

Many thanks to everyone who attended the Diocesan Synod on Saturday 25 February. The Bishop's Synod Address is now available to download at the following link:

<https://edinburgh.anglican.org/diocesan-vestry-resources/resources-diocesan-office-synod/>

SAFEGUARDING – Appointments

We have had a number of queries in recent months about the appointment of PVG Coordinators. In the document “Appointing a PVG Co-Ordinator for your Congregation” (can be found on the [SEC website](#)) it says: “When the Vestry has identified a suitable candidate, the Vestry Secretary should seek references (which should be sent to the Bishop) and **ask the Bishop to approve the appointment.**”

The document also includes the Role Purpose and the Duties of the coordinator. Also, for information, Donald Urquhart, the Provincial Protection Officer has now retired, and Daphne Audsley is now handling all safeguarding matters until Donald's replacement starts. Recruitment is also underway for a dedicated Training Officer for safeguarding, so we hope to see several new training opportunities very soon. As soon as we get any news of that, we will let you know in *The Communicant*.

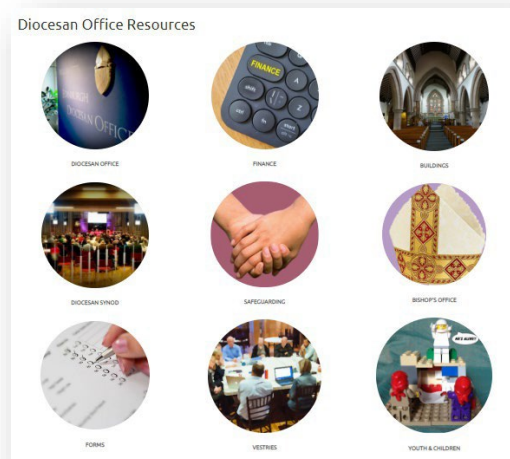
DIOCESAN OFFICE RESOURCES

In case you are new to the diocese, you may like to know that we have a website page with resources and answers to many of your questions at:

<https://edinburgh.anglican.org/diocesan-office-resources/>

Subjects are:

- | | |
|-------------------|--------------------|
| • Diocesan Office | • Bishop's Office |
| • Finance | • Forms |
| • Buildings | • Vestries |
| • Synod | • Youth & Children |
| • Safeguarding | |



BISHOP'S LENT APPEAL UPDATE

Many thanks to everyone who has raised funds for the Bishop's Lent Appeal. The total donated currently stands at £3222.30.

ON-LINE SUPPORT FORUM

We now have 62 users. Numbers of topics are:

- Buildings Convenors – 10
- PVG Coordinators – 2
- Vestry Secretaries – 4
- Vestry Treasurers – 14

Recent questions include:

- Employers Liability Insurance for clergy
- Installing secondary glazing for stained glass
- GDPR & Data Protection
- Energy Suppliers
- CAF Bank



Why not join up and subscribe?

If you wish to subscribe to the forum, you can do so here:

<https://edinburgh.anglican.org/forum-registration/>

Bishop of Edinburgh

Lent Appeal 2023

In the Scottish Episcopal Church we believe it is a priority to provide high-quality training to form the next generation of church leaders. We recognize how important it is to resource our Scottish Episcopal Institute and we are proud of its success. At the Lambeth Conference last year, I discovered that this is a priority shared right across the Anglican Communion, but many Provinces struggle to find a consistent funding stream for their Seminaries and Theological Colleges.

My appeal this Lent is in support of St Nicholas' Seminary in Cape Coast, Ghana. Cape Coast is our partner diocese and I had the great joy of visiting the Seminary when I attended Bishop Victor's enthronement 10 years ago. The Dean of the Seminary, Joseph Bain-Doodu, was in the UK last year so I learned first-hand of his struggle to provide excellent training with limited and erratic funding sources.

This water filtration project seems to me to be a wonderful example of self-help. I commend it to you and ask for your generous support. I know that the cost-of-living crisis is hitting many of us hard just now, but I hope, nevertheless, that by pooling our generosity we may help to sustain the life of a church, far away in geographical terms, but close to us within the life of Christ.

As Joseph explains, a comparatively small amount of money (for us) can make a big difference for the ongoing life of the church in West Africa.

+John



Water Filtration Project St Nicholas' Seminary, Cape Coast, Ghana

St Nicholas Seminary has been training clergy since 1975. It is the only active seminary in the Province of West Africa

(which includes Ghana, Liberia, Sierra Leone, Guinea, the Gambia, and Cameroon). Alongside our own ordinands, we have also trained ministers and lay pastors for the Methodist and Pentecostal Churches in Ghana and Ivory Coast.

Over the years, we have trained over 500 priests and currently there are 40 students in training. We have four full-time lecturers, eight adjunct lecturers and ten non-teaching staff. We are affiliated to the University of Cape Coast and run programmes in Bachelor of Theology, Diploma in Theology, Diploma in Ministry, Certificate in Ministry and Certificate in Anglican Studies.

Bishop of Edinburgh Lent Appeal 2023

The Problem

Each diocese is expected to pay for its own ordinands, but some cannot afford to do so. With the ever-increasing cost of goods and services, alongside ongoing economic challenges, our budget is constantly in deficit. Sometimes, indeed, we are unable to feed our students or to pay our utility bills and must send our students home abruptly. This lack of financial sustainability makes it hard to attract and retain staff, and almost impossible to renovate and maintain our buildings.



An Idea

With all this in mind, we have come up with an innovative idea that will generate regular income and so offer us financial stability. There is a need for

clean water in Cape Coast, so we plan to establish a water filtration plant. This purified water will be sold to schools, university students and the general public.

The machinery will cost 187,250 Ghana Cedis – approximately £12,200.

We know this is a lot of money, but we hope you will feel able to support us this Lent. Once in full production we would expect our plant to bring in over £9000 a year. You will be helping us to help ourselves, as we seek to provide consistent care for staff and students and to prepare labourers to reap God's harvest for many years to come.



The Venerable Joseph Justice Bain-Doodu
Acting Dean, St Nicholas' Seminary, Cape Coast

HOW TO DONATE:

All the details for online donations will be posted on this page on our website:

<https://edinburgh.anglican.org/2023/02/bishops-lent-appeal-2023/>

(Under menu item “News & Issues”)



Diocese of Edinburgh

Scottish Episcopal Church

Priest-in-Charge

A full time position, initially for five years, shared between

St Peter's, Galashiels

www.stpetersgala.co.uk

and

St John's, Selkirk

www.stjohnselkirk.org.uk

Remuneration: Scottish Episcopal Church Clergy Standard Stipend
Hills. Rivers. Sheep. Fishing. The beautiful Scottish Borders has plenty of material for metaphors! It also has distinct but neighbouring Episcopal Church congregations in Galashiels and Selkirk determined to sustain a Eucharistic form of worship in their towns and to express God's love to their communities.

Do you have previous leadership experience of working collaboratively with people to achieve positive change? Then might you be the priest God is already preparing and equipping to work with our lay leadership teams to inspire, nurture and grow these congregations in worship and outreach? Let's test that calling together.

We offer newly built, energy efficient accommodation. Edinburgh city centre is 55 minutes away by train.

For more information or an informal discussion please contact The Very Revd Frances Burberry (Dean of the Diocese of Edinburgh) on: 0131 315 0404 or e-mail: dean@dioceseofedinburgh.org. We look forward to hearing from you.

Congregational profiles, person specification and application form are on the St Peter's and St John's websites.

The appointment is subject to a satisfactory PVG Scheme Record Disclosure (Protection of Vulnerable Groups (Scotland) Act 2007).

Closing date: Monday 8 May 2023

Interview date: Saturday 27 May 2023



Diocese of Edinburgh

Scottish Episcopal Church

Priest-in-Charge

A full time position, initially for five years

The Priory Church of St Mary of Mount Carmel

South Queensferry

www.priorychurch.com

Remuneration: Scottish Episcopal Church Clergy Standard Stipend

A world heritage site, Queensferry is a bustling town close to Scotland's capital, fast-expanding as hundreds of new homes add to the historic burgh. Originally the meeting point of pilgrim routes from St Andrews and Dunfermline to the Border Abbeys, it now attracts cruise ships, watersports enthusiasts, and people who love the ancient and contemporary mix.

Our 15th century setting offers a 21st-century welcome, and our thoughtful, godly, well-connected congregation are eager to reach out and grow. Our new Garden Room will add a lovely extra space as we pray & serve our community. We jointly lead Messy Church and Foodbank with Parish church friends.

We're looking forward to developing our ministry and witness and offer a warm welcome to a full-time Priest-in-Charge who will teach, explain and share biblical faith as we introduce Jesus and follow Christ together. A spacious modern home, well-served by community and school facilities, is available.

For more information or an informal discussion please contact The Very Revd Frances Burberry (Dean of the Diocese of Edinburgh) on: 0131 315 0404 or e-mail dean@dioceseofedinburgh.org We look forward to hearing from you.

Congregational profile, person specification and application form are on the Priory Church website.

The appointment is subject to a satisfactory PVG Scheme Record Disclosure (Protection of Vulnerable Groups (Scotland) Act 2007).

Closing date: Monday 29 May 2023

Interview date: 24 June 2023

Registered Charity Number SC002169

COMMUNICATIONS

Have you got news or stories from your church you'd like to share? If so, our Communications Officer Miranda (*right*) would love to hear from you! Please drop her a line to share your goings on at communications@dioceseofedinburgh.org.



We also have active Facebook, Twitter and Instagram accounts for all the activities in the Diocese. Please do not hesitate to send Miranda your best pictures of anything you would like to be shared on our social media accounts, whether it be a coffee morning, charity fundraiser, or a special service e.g. blessing of pets. We love getting your pictures and stories!

If you have any lovely pictures of events held at your church, or any news, stories or photos, send them to Miranda at communications@dioceseofedinburgh.org



Twitter: @EdinDiocese



Facebook: Edinburgh Diocese



Instagram: @dioceseofedinburgh

ENVIRONMENT

DIOCESAN ENVIRONMENTAL GROUP



Our **Diocesan Environment Group** will help support and encourage churches to work towards net zero carbon emissions by 2030. It reports to the Diocesan Standing Committee. The website of the Diocesan Environment Group is packed with ideas and resources to help the SEC become carbon neutral by 2030.

The group is being led by Bethany Nelson: bethany@psandgs.org.uk.

The website can be found at <https://edinburgh.anglican.org/environment/>

Newsletters can be found at <https://edinburgh.anglican.org/diocese-environmental-group/>

The consultation period for the Net Zero Action Plan will close on Tuesday 28th March. To help shape how the Scottish Episcopal Church responds to the climate emergency, you are warmly invited to submit your feedback on this plan.

You can find the draft version of the Net Zero Action Plan, a video of the launch as well as the link to the formal consultation feedback on the [consultation webpage](#).

Donald Walker

Director of Communications, Scottish Episcopal Church

07736 042 850

DIARY

THE BISHOP'S DIARY

Good Friday	Presiding at the SEECAT service, Gracemount High School
Easter Sunday	Preaching and Presiding at St Mary's Cathedral
16 th April	Preaching and Presiding at St Anne's Dunbar
22 nd April	Ordination to the Priesthood of Revd Jane Edwards, St Baldred's, North Berwick
23 rd -26 th April	Diocese of Aberdeen

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please note that the Diocesan Office will be CLOSED on Good Friday and Easter Monday. It will also be closed for the Public Holiday on Monday 17th April.

EVENTS

Dear Faith and Belief Stakeholders,

A funding opportunity you or your members may be interested in: [£2 million available to help safeguard Scotland's historic environment | HES](#)

£2 million made available to communities across Scotland as a new project-based funding scheme is launched by Historic Environment Scotland (HES). Grants from £1,000 to £500,000 now available as part of Historic Environment Grants, which will replace a number of HES's previous funding programmes.

NEW HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT SCOTLAND (HES) FUNDING SCHEME:

- Grants from £1,000 to £500,000 will replace a number of HES's previous funding programmes, including its Repair Grant and Support Fund schemes.
- Historic Environment Grants will be open largely to not-for-profit organisations such as charities, local authorities, religious bodies and community groups, to support Scotland's diverse historic building stock.
- Three funding streams available:
 - express grants of £1,000 to £25,000,
 - small grants of £25,001 to £100,000, and
 - large grants of £100,001 to £500,000.
- Grants will support repair and consolidation works, management plans and resilience planning and training, as well as archaeological excavations and research.

Click on the link above for info on how to submit an expression of interest.

Kind regards, Sara Thorpe

Senior Policy Advisor | Faith and Belief Team | Mainstreaming and Inclusion Division | Equality, Inclusion and Human Rights Directorate | sara.thorpe@gov.scot | 01463 247 016 | 07825 863 305 | I am based in Inverness | Friday is my non-working day.



Scottish Government
Riaghaltas na h-Alba
gov.scot



NCT GRANT NEWS

The National Churches Trust has been awarded a £1.9m grant to boost skills, resources and funding for historic places of worship. Places of worship in **Scotland**, Wales and Northwest of England (Greater Manchester, Lancashire and Cumbria) will benefit from a £1.9m National Lottery Heritage Fund grant, awarded to the National Churches Trust to keep historic churches and chapels thriving today, and tomorrow.

The three-year programme will provide cherished churches and chapels with practical solutions to improve how their buildings are cared for and secured for the future. Financial support will be provided together with initiatives to strengthen heritage management skills and training for people who look after places of worship, investing overall in local areas' heritage, capability and resources.

Practical solutions

The funding will target the most critical areas improving economic and community resources, providing important benefits to places of worship and communities. These include:

- Grants: dedicated to maintenance, project development and small repairs, offering financial support of between £500 and £10,000. Grants will be available from May 2023 through the National Churches Trust's online grants portal.
- Maintenance: expert information and support to proactively deal with a range of problems to avoid the need for expensive repairs.
- Crisis support: the National Churches Trust will work in partnership with a variety of organisations and help identify suitable support for communities facing the potential loss of historic buildings.
- Resourcing: three full-time local support officers based in Wales, Scotland and North West England to build relationships with places of worship and respond to local issues.
- Digital Toolkit of buildings' care, including income generation resources and materials to be used throughout the UK, accessible to places of worship and for all faiths.
- Training: building local capacity to look after buildings in need, ownership and care of historic places of worship - covering project management, writing funding bids, maintenance skills and tourism.
- Visitors: improving access to and awareness of the value of cherished churches and chapels, creating themed visitor trails and engaging with partners across UK heritage.

More details: <https://www.nationalchurchestrust.org/news/cherish-new-project-help-risk-churches>

"The quintessential one-off theatre event" - The Scotsman




The Edinburgh Easter Play

*A large-scale
community
passion play
bringing the Easter
story to life in the
heart of the city*

2pm, Saturday
8th April 2023
Free & unticketed
West Princes Street Gardens

For more info visit www.easterplay.org **BSL integrated performance**

The play contains some violence and partial nudity

Follow us on  @EasterPlayEdinburgh   @easterplayedin





With the End in Sight

Saturday mornings: 11–1230

Walpole Hall | St Mary's Cathedral

A safe space to explore questions that arise in
the later chapters of life.

15 April *Navigating decisions
about health*
When to cling on and when to let go?

29 April *Journeying through
bereavement and beyond*

22 April *Exploring our own
mortality*

6th May *Opportunity for questions
and further discussion*

Facilitated by Robin Taylor (consultant physician)
and Marion Chatterley (St Mary's Cathedral)

Please reserve a space by emailing:
office@cathedral.net

www.cathedral.net



Scottish charity No. SC014741

On Earth Day, Saturday 22 April, 2023

BIODIVERSITY MATTERS

A Workshop on Biodiversity

Suitable for ages 9 to 90!



Biodiversity is one of the most important and complex features of our planet and it is now in crisis.

To protect it we need to know about it.

Celebrating Earth Day, this workshop will consider what biodiversity is and its relevance to everyday life and the wider world.

Through practical activities we will explore:

- **How variation occurs in living things**
- **Why variation matters**

10.00am – 3.00pm (Coffee from 9.30am)

Cost £5 (including vegetarian lunch)

Venue: Old St Paul's Church Hall, 63 Jeffrey Street, Edinburgh EH1 1DH

To book a place, search for Old Saint Paul's on Eventbrite

Facilitated by Ginger Franklin, former Education Officer
at the Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh and Scottish Earth Science Education Forum
For more information email: gingerf@blueyonder.co.uk



THE UNIVERSITY of EDINBURGH

The Gifford Lectures

A Process Perspective on Human Life

A series of six lectures by

John Dupré

*Professor of Philosophy of Science
and Consulting Director, Centre for
the Study of Life Sciences (Egenis)
at the University of Exeter*

1–11 May 2023 at 5.30pm

Gordon Aikman Lecture Theatre,
32 George Square,
Edinburgh EH8 9LH

Gifford lectures are free to attend but ticketed.

To book tickets visit www.eventbrite.co.uk

Enquiries: GiffordLectures@ed.ac.uk



2023 BOOK SALE

at St Andrew's and St George's West Church
13 George Street, Edinburgh EH2 2PA

Saturday - 13 May - 10am - 4pm

Monday - 15 May to Friday 19 May - 10am - 3.30pm

Thursday - 18 May - late opening until 7pm

2023 PATRON: Dr James Robertson FRSE
Scots Poet and Novelist

- Books • Antiques & Collectables
- Pictures • Stamps & Postcards
- Sheet Music • Toys • Games • Jigsaws

Donations welcome
at the church:

Monday - 8 May - 9am - 8pm

Tuesday - 9 May - 9am - 8pm

Wednesday - 10 May - 9am - 8pm

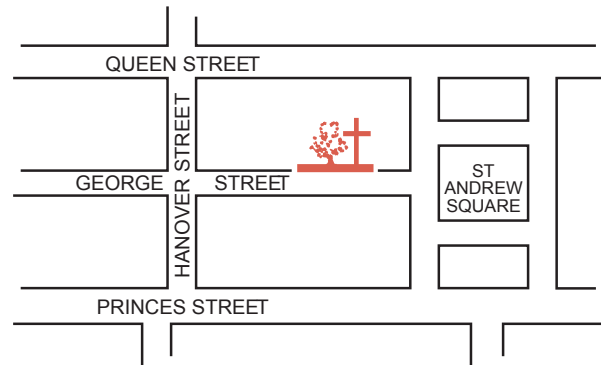
HOME-BAKING AND PRESERVES
ALSO AVAILABLE AT THE SALE

Church Office: 0131 225 3847 for enquiries
email: admin@stagw.org.uk

Undercroft Café open as usual



Christian Aid Sales have been held at this George Street church since 1973. In the ten years prior to the pandemic over £1 million was raised for Christian Aid.



Christian Aid gives relief to the poorest people of the world, wherever there is suffering, disaster or famine, and helps to rebuild shattered lives. This sale is one of the biggest charity book sales in the world. For many years it has been the largest volunteer-led fund-raising event for Christian Aid in the United Kingdom.

For further information see:

www.stagw.org.uk

@CASaleEdin on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram

St Andrew's and St George's West Church of Scotland Edinburgh is a Registered Scottish Charity Number SC 008990

UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD THEOLOGY SUMMER SCHOOL 2023

Sunday 30 July – Saturday 12 August 2023
Christ Church, Oxford

A one- or two-week residential summer school for members of the clergy, lay ministers and readers, theologians and teachers of religious education. Running for over 20 years, this summer school draws participants from all over the world, and from a wide variety of Christian denominations.

- Explore the programme theme *Christian Theology in a Time of Global Crises*.
- Participate in seminars taught by members of Oxford University's Theology Faculty, distinguished theologians, and prominent church leaders.
- Attend lectures from leading scholars in the field of Theology.
- An opportunity to study and live in Christ Church, one of Oxford University's largest and most beautiful colleges.



Choose 2 options, from 11 stimulating seminar topics:

- | | | |
|---|---|--|
| • Theology of Refugees | • Sabbath as Resilience in a Post-Pandemic World | • A Time for Re-Constellations |
| • Religion and Nature in the Twenty-First Century | • Christianity and the Crisis of Modernity | • Is Horrendous Evil Compatible with a God of Love? |
| • It's Good to Talk: The Value of Dialogue | • Christian Leadership in Crisis | • African Pentecostal Understandings of War and Sickness |
| • Trying to Live into a New Normal | • Psychological Approaches to Religion: Friend or Foe to Christian Theology | |

Seminars take place Monday – Friday, 09:00am–12:00pm and 1.30pm–4.30pm, and Sunday – Friday dinner in [Christ Church's spectacular dining hall](#) is included for all participants. Course fees start at £1,190 per person.

To apply, please complete the [application form](#) on our website, and provide a brief personal statement detailing your reasons for wishing to attend the summer school. Further details can be found on our website, or please get in touch via the email address below if you have any questions.

www.conted.ox.ac.uk/courses/theology-summer-school

theologysummer@conted.ox.ac.uk

The Scottish Pilgrimage 2023

to

The Shrine of Our Lady of Walsingham

Friday 22 - Monday 25 September

**The Coach will leave from Edinburgh Gyle
Centre and Glasgow City Centre**

**The all inclusive cost of £385.00 will cover transport,
accommodation, meals and incidental expenses.**

For more information, or to book a place, please contact

**Alison Gifford 0141 946 3714 07990570371
or alisongifford@icloud.com**

See also

**walsinghamanglican.org.uk for shrine information,
photographs and live-stream services**



Save The Date for Challenge Poverty Week 2023 **Monday 2nd October – Sunday 8th October**

Now is the time to add Challenge Poverty Week 2023 to your calendar – it will take place from Monday 2nd October – Sunday 8th October.

Around 400 organisations took part last year all raising their voices against poverty and uniting with others in calling for a just and equal Scotland. We hope even more organisations will get involved and take action this year to #ChallengePoverty.

SHARE YOUR VIEWS ON THE THEMES FOR CPW 2023

You may have used our daily themes during last years campaign week. This year, we want to hear from you about the themes you'd like to see in Challenge Poverty Week 2023. We've created a survey to find out what you'd prioritise, and we really would be grateful for your input: [CPW Themes Survey](#). The closing date for the survey to be completed is: Friday 17 March 2023

GET INSPIRED!

We've organised a series of Get Inspired Meetings to showcase the different ways you and your organisation can take part. We'll take you through examples of what other groups have done in previous years, and tell you about all the advice and resources we'll make available to you, helping make sure your engagement is a success.

You can register below for a meeting by following this link: [Challenge Poverty Week - Get Inspired Meetings 2023 - The Poverty Alliance](#)

KEEP IN TOUCH!

If you want to chat further about Challenge Poverty Week 2023, then please do get in touch! We'd be happy to schedule a one-to-one meeting to discuss your plans and how you can get involved – you are welcome to contact our [Campaigns Officer](#).

There is now a Campaigns Mailing List which you can sign up for, for updates on Challenge Poverty Week and The Poverty Alliance Campaigns – please do consider signing up here: [Challenge Poverty Week - The Poverty Alliance](#)



Scottish Episcopal Church Mission Association
21 Grosvenor Crescent, Edinburgh EH12 5EE
Charity No: SC002555

The Future of SECMA: important announcement

Founded on Christian principles by a small group of women in 1875, the aims of SECMA, as it became known, are the relief of poverty overseas, the promotion of health, and the advancement of education and sustainable community development, mainly in the support of women and children. However, the future of SECMA has been under review over the past year since the long-standing secretary, Hilary Blyth, gave notice that she would be retiring.

This review has highlighted that the way the charity runs is inefficient with a high proportion of time and financial expenditure taken up with administration. An updated system, with a realistic salary for a secretary, office rent and costs, and the creation of a viable internet presence would cost several times more than the charity receives per annum. This means that expenses would need to come from SECMA's invested reserves to run the charity in the 21st century.

In contrast to this increase in expense the membership has declined, with little or no new support coming from congregations, and many SEC churches and diocese have chosen to support overseas projects directly. Over the years SECMA's direct personal contact with projects has also declined, and in more recent funding requests we can only provide a small portion of the project's needs. SECMA's roots were ground-breaking and much valued over past decades, but now there are many other Christian charities funding the same types of projects that meet SECMA's aims, and these are well furnished to meet modern day standards and visibility.

Considering SECMA's current operating systems and, as the money donated to SECMA over past decades was given to the relief of poverty and to improve lives and not to support administration, the committee has agreed, by unanimous vote, that the charity should be dissolved, with the funds being dispersed to other organisations which share SECMA's aims and values. One of these is Tearfund which can continue to fund some SECMA type projects in countries where SECMA was once active. SECMA will honour long term commitments already made and will still meet funding requests made directly over the next few months. All projects currently and recently receiving funding from SECMA will be notified of the changes in advance of dissolution.

I understand that this may come as a disappointment but hope you appreciate that dissolution will release the full potential of the funds SECMA holds to make a significant and long term contribution to improve the lives of thousands of women, children, and communities overseas who face extreme poverty.

Dissolution will progress as outlined in the SECMA Constitution (2020) with close adherence to legal requirements and OSCR regulations.

SECMA may be applauded for its long life of nearly 150 years, giving support to projects overseas, but now it has the opportunity to "pass on the baton". If you wish to comment, please send your response to the SECMA office, or email it on secma@live.co.uk, or directly to me at gillcam538@gmail.com. Thank you for all your support in the past and, in anticipation, for your understanding now.

Kind regards,

Gill Campbell. Convenor. SECMA Committee