



Eleven years ago a commitment was made

On 9 November 2010 Pam and I visited the Dalukhanyo Pre-School in Langa Township with around 30 other tourists. The children in greeting sang and danced for us. Their cheery friendliness and energy, showing through in an area of such deprivation, was very moving. Over dinner that evening I said to Pam, 'we can do more for those kids than just put money in a cardboard box'. The idea of LTPT was born that day.

On 22 February 2011, eleven years ago today we signed the trust deed, which was launched on 24 June in St Paul's Church Hall, Hemel Hempstead. This has been a big part of my life's journey since then. I lost Pam, after nearly 58 years together in June 2015, and entered a very dark period, something the bereaved know about very well. By God's grace I found the blessing of Rosina and we married in September 2017.

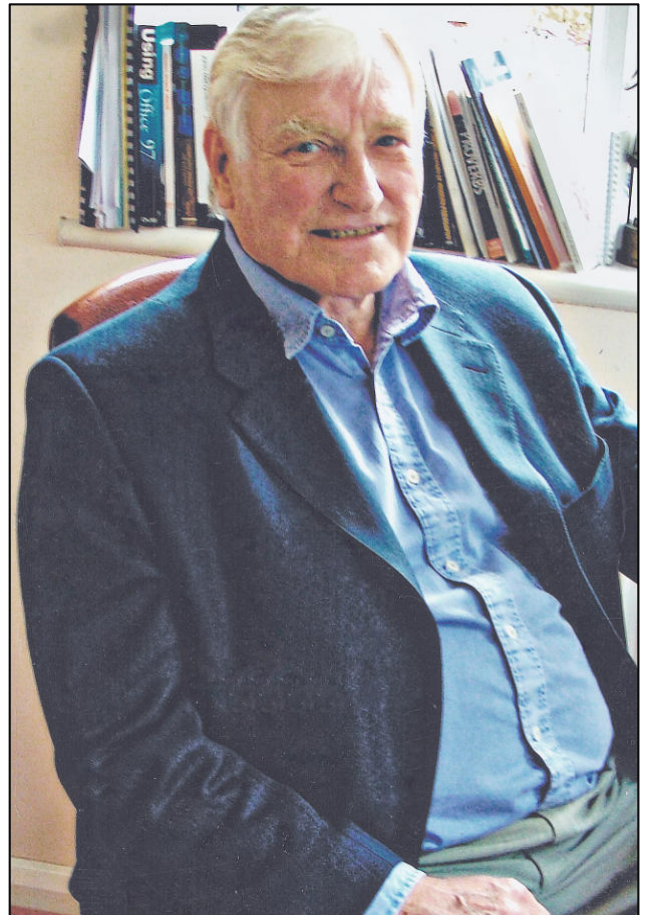
Pam's work with me on the Trust was as a trustee, a constant adviser and encourager and a helper at our events. Rosina has carried me forward with the same support. In effect I am the executive chairman, and the jack of all trades. I have huge support from my friend Jeff Wallis for design and IT. Governance has been through the overview of four other trustees appointed in 2017, and joined this month by Revd Dr Adam Dunning.

On 6 January via an internet Teams connection, the trustees had a think tank session, the concern being strategy. A key question was put to me; in a nutshell did I want the trust to carry on as it is, or to wind down or to grow.

My response was, 'the need is great, I want us to make as much money as possible and for as long as possible'. However, the problem is recognised that LTPT is made possible by voluntary mission work. We do not see ourselves employing somebody at this stage. It was decided that, to make our work more effective, we need to broaden the support base. Simply put, the 160 people on our e-mail list, which is our base, are family, friends, visitors to Langa and some interested people arising from our events. Moreover the burden of meeting our fixed cost in Langa currently is born by only 16 people who give regular donations.

To broaden the support base there is to be a Spring campaign. Each trustee, and any interested friend, will be invited to send a message to his/ her mailing list explaining their support for LTPT and inviting people to enrol to receive the quarterly newsletter and to consider becoming regular donors to the trust. If we could triple the number of such donors we could triple the amount of support we give and use the time of Jeff and myself more effectively!

Gordon Gaddes



Gordon Gaddes - Chairman and Trustee of LTPT

News Flashes

NEW TRUSTEE APPOINTED

The Revd Adam Dunning is Senior Chaplain at Cheltenham College where he also teaches Theology. Before moving to Gloucestershire, he held a number of Church positions in Peterborough, Birmingham and Worcestershire. During the school holidays he can be found in Falmouth, where, together with his wife Heather, he enjoys walking the coastal path, paddleboarding and pottering in his garden. Heather, Adam and their daughter Lois visited Langa in the Spring of 2017. He is committed to raising funds for LTPT and being part of the journey as the charity evolves and grows.



A REMINDER

GIN and MUSIC at THE GATSBY Wednesday 30 March, 6.45pm 'Legends of Motown, Soul and Swing' Clayton Stevens with Bernie on the saxophone; cocktail, 3 course dinner at Berkhamsted beautiful venue. £45. If interested, phone 07561450633.

MAJOR DONATION TO LANGA EARLY CHILD DEVELOPMENT FORUM

Following the success of our recent Christmas Appeal and Christmas Card initiative the Trust has been able to donate £1600 to the Langa Early Child Development Forum to purchase food and sanitary items for a wider circle of pre-schools.

ADVANCE PROVISIONAL DATES

Our 2022/23 events programme will centre on five events at the Gatsby, The Marchmont Arms and The Mazza. Full details will be released at the beginning of April.

TRUSTEE THINK TANK 8th JANUARY

An influential comment and this question are now being followed up: 'listing what we are doing from our end is fine, but look at this from the other end of the telescope! What does it mean to mums in Langa Township?' This will feature in the pending Spring Campaign to broaden our support base.

Income sources for period 2011-2021: broad brush to the nearest £1000

Regular giving £27,000; Major intermittent giving (7 sources) £59,000; HMRC Gift Aid £26,000; Events profits £30,000; small donations from various appeals, books and card sales £23,000. Total £165,000

SCHMELVIS AT THE MAZZA

This successful and happy event was attended by 50 people and a contribution of £415 made to LTPT funds.

RESIGNATION OF TRUSTEE EMILY LYSKEY

Emily, a trustee for nearly five years, shortly is resigning because of the pressure of widespread travel on Government service and study for her final exams to qualify as a solicitor. We will really miss her

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