

# LBMT

The Lawrence Barham Memorial Trust

# News

Autumn/Winter 2011

Seeking to serve the Church in East Africa



## Message from the Chairman

The Rev. John Bickersteth was the first chairman of the Trust and he faithfully served in this role from its formation in 1985 until his death in 1991. It has been my privilege to serve as chairman from 1991 until this autumn when I confidently handed over the baton to Jonathan Lamb who in recent years has undertaken numerous visits to East Africa and particularly to Rwanda where he has led a number of group visits.

From small beginnings it has been wonderful to see how the work of the Trust has grown and its ability to support the Church in East Africa develop. The most obvious example of this has been in the creation and development of the Diocese of Cyangugu in the "land beyond the forest". The support for this area of Rwanda had grown out of the burden of Bishop Ken Barham to reach this neglected part of the country with the Gospel. The early development of buildings as an infrastructure for the work in the Diocese was largely destroyed during the genocide in 1994 and in the years following it took the energy and drive of Ken whilst Bishop of Cyangugu to truly re-establish the Diocese. This has included a cathedral, new churches, a guesthouse, many

schools and numerous other projects to benefit the people materially, physically and spiritually.

I would like as I step down as chairman to pay tribute to the trustees who have served during the last 20 years. Their enthusiasm, hard work and wisdom in support of the Trust and the church in East Africa have been a constant encouragement. The driving force behind the Trust has always been Bishop Ken so ably supported by his wife Jill. His was the vision to set up the Trust in 1985 and although now 10 years past official retirement, he continues to be the engine for many of the activities and fund raising on behalf of the Trust.

As reported in the last Newsletter the Trust celebrated 25 years in September 2010. It is my prayer that under Jonathan Lamb's leadership the Trust will continue to prosper and fulfill its objective to support the Church in East Africa, that many more will know the Gospel of grace and that God's name will be honoured and glorified.

The photograph shows John with his wife Sue who has also given LBMT much support especially typing the minutes of the meetings for the first 15 years.

*"the Trust will continue to prosper and fulfill its objective to support the Church in East Africa, that many more will know the Gospel of grace and that God's name will be honoured and glorified."*

# Once in a lifetime

In June 2011 LBMT trustees John Isaac, with his wife Olive, and Jonathan Lamb accompanied Bishop Ken Barham and Nicky-Jane Kemp, a family friend of the Barham's, on a two week packed journey tracing the work of Lawrence Barham.

Here are John Isaac's reflections of the visit, his first to Rwanda, Burundi and Uganda.

*After a short stay in Kigali to pick up a twenty year old Toyota Land Cruiser we journeyed to Butare, Rwanda's second city, to the Shalom Guest House where a warm welcome awaited us. The cathedral, built by Lawrence Barham was impressive and the guesthouse, built by Ken Barham, is a source of income for the Diocese.*

*From Butare we drove to Ibuye (now Buye) in Burundi to see the cathedral, theological college and infrastructure put in place by Lawrence Barham.*

*We returned to Butare and onto Kamembe, in the Cyangugu Diocese, via the Nyungwe Forest and to the Peace Guest House. Visits included St Matthew's School and Jill Barham Secondary School - so much to see and a warm welcome from everyone. This was Ken Barham's Diocese prior to retirement.*

*Next onto Kabale in Uganda. Here was a thriving metropolis with cathedral and the Bishop Barham University College and much more before we continued to Kisoro, where Lawrence Barham had walked the foothills establishing churches, to visit the Vocational School and the Rutaka Dispensary.*

*Crossing back into Rwanda, we drove to Gahini where we saw the prayer hut that was such an important feature in the Revival in the 20's and 30's and then finally to the Kigali Anglican Theological College (KATC) to see the buildings and the land.*

*I just wanted to summarise what impression all this travelling left with Olive and I.*

*The work of those early missionaries from the 1920's onwards has left a lasting mark on the countries. It was here that the Revival movement started and the claims of the Gospel were rapidly spread. Those missionaries are not with us now to see the results of those pioneering efforts and that is a lesson for all of us. We do our bit today as part of a long-term strategy to spread the Good News. Those early mission stations in the middle of nowhere are now thriving towns or cities strategically placed to have the widest influence. Building the church in East Africa is very similar to growing churches as in The Acts. Hence the need for Theological Colleges where young Christians can be trained. The holistic approach of feeding the mind in schools, caring for the bodies in hospitals and clinics, and nurturing the spirit by planting churches is all part of the example given to us by Christ. This is the challenge for all of us as we try to play our part to show the love of Jesus who cared for us all.*



*John and Olive*



*Shalom*



*Buye Cathedral*



Here is a summary of the projects in Rwanda, Burundi and Uganda supported by LBMT during 2011. Many of these are 'ongoing' projects and in 2012 we will continue to support them through financial contributions.

**Kigali Anglican Theological College (KATC), Rwanda**



In September a lunch and Auction of Promises, attended by 135 supporters of LBMT and with guest speaker Dr George Carey, the former Archbishop of Canterbury, raised a total of £9,400. A great selection of items were on offer ranging from a bread board made of Totra wood from New Zealand to a personal tour of Winchester Cathedral and tea with the Dean. Money from the auction and other donations, has gone towards £30,000 that LBMT has raised towards the building of an accommodation block at KATC. Currently, students have to sleep on bunks in the classrooms as there is no accommodation for them or staff. There are also plans for the KATC to develop into a university style campus.

**Ngozi Guest House, Diocese of Buye, Burundi**

Work has currently stopped as further funds are needed to continue the building which, when finished, will provide an income generating guesthouse for the Diocese. Contributions of £6,800 from LBMT, towards the cost of construction, have been made but further funds are now needed.

**Bishop Barham University College, Kabale, Uganda**

The Merab Hall Women's Hostel is still under construction (see main photograph on page 2). The ground floor, with 42 beds, is already in use and the first floor for another 42 girls is due to be ready this autumn. Proceeds from a sponsored walk in May 2010, in the Sussex countryside, raised a total of £3,000 which has been given towards the cost of building the hostel although a further £50,000 is still needed from outside Uganda to complete it. The college is also arranging a number of fund raising events.

**St Matthew's School and College, Cyangugu, Rwanda**

Three new classrooms, at a cost of £33,000, are needed by the college for September 2013 to make it a full 'High School' and take students up to 'A' levels. LBMT has already received a donation of £6,000 towards this project. Two new classrooms, for Primary 1 and Primary 2, have been built and there will be a demand for further primary classrooms. Once the fibre optic cable arrives at the school, Kenneth Neza, the headmaster, will have highspeed Internet access installed. The school has received some funding for this project but £750 is still needed.



**Peace Guest House, Cyangugu, Rwanda**

The perimeter wall around the new land next to the Peace Guest House is nearing completion. Earlier this year the Mayor's office in Cyangugu ordered the guesthouse to concrete the car park within a month otherwise they would close it down. The cost to do the work was around £15,000 and, with contributions from LBMT supporters and the Diocese, block pavers have been laid enhancing the look of the car park and the entrance to the guesthouse. Within the Mayor's edict is also the concreting of the road from the guesthouse to the main road that is going to cost around a further £18,000.



**Banda Water Project, Banda, Rwanda**

Work is currently underway in Banda parish to re-supply fresh water to the community by capping a new spring higher up on the mountainside to replace a spring that had been capped in 1985. Funds of around £5,500, received from LBMT supporters have contributed to the cost of this project.

## Pensions for Retired Clergy: Funds provided by Caring & Sharing

During the LBMT Treasurer Tony Isaac's visit to Rwanda earlier this year, meetings were held in Butare, Kigeme and Shyogwe Dioceses where the retired pastors, pastors' widows and clergy orphans told their stories and gave updates. They thankfully related how the support helped not only their personal needs, but also those of many dependents, including orphans. The support was a great encouragement, knowing that some people far away cared for them.

One Diocese had introduced a programme of clergy teams and members of parishes visiting the pensioners in their homes and also had plans to develop agricultural support.

## Bishop Geoffrey to retire

After 11 years serving as the Bishop of Cyangugu, Geoffrey Rwubusi will be retiring in 2012 when, with his wife Mary, he will return to his home in Uganda. Bishop Geoffrey has been preparing the Diocese for his retirement although his successor has yet to be appointed and announced.

## Legacies

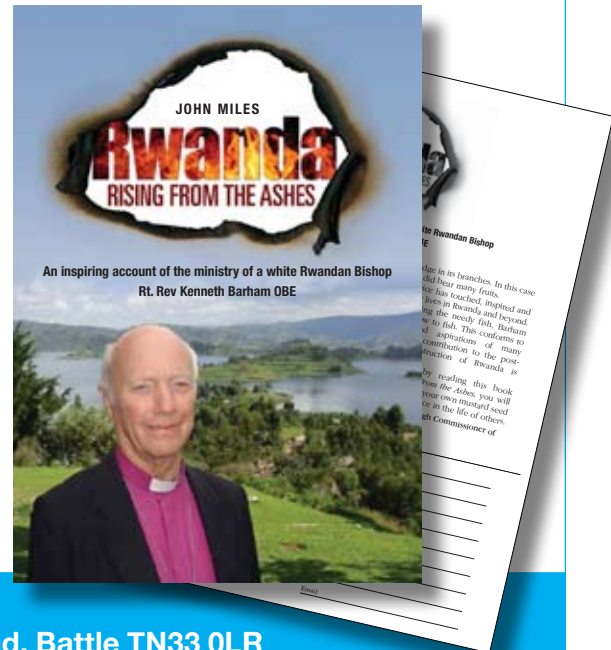
If you are considering leaving a legacy then please remember LBMT in your Will.

LBMT has achieved much in its work in East Africa in the last 26 years, but there is a lot more we can and would like to do. By leaving a gift to LBMT in your Will you can help us continue to support the Church in East Africa and build a better future for people in real need.

## Rwanda Rising from the Ashes

Published in October is 'Rwanda Rising from the Ashes' a book by John Miles and "an inspiring account of the ministry of a white Rwandan Bishop Rt. Rev Kenneth Barham OBE". To order your copy, at a cost of £7.99 each (plus £1.50 p&p per copy) and to read how "Ken's service has touched, inspired and changed many lives in Rwanda and beyond", please post your order (and cheque) to:

**Ken and Jill Barham**  
**Rosewood, Canadia Road, Battle TN33 0LR**  
**or call: 01424 773073**



## Fundraising and Donations

**We would like to thank all those of you who have made donations however large or small and organised fund raising events.**

All donations, whatever the amount, will be used to directly further the work of LBMT in Rwanda, Burundi and Uganda where the Trust supports projects through the Anglican Church.

We can accept Just Giving donations either via the LBMT website **www.lbmt.org.uk** or **direct at Just Giving**. However, if you would prefer to send donations **by post**, please make cheques payable to LBMT and send to 12 The Course, Lewes, East Sussex, BN7 1JL. To **Gift Aid** your donation, please include your name, address, postcode and state if Gift Aid can be claimed.

Alternatively, payment can be made by **Standing Order** to LBMT, Barclays Bank plc, 68 High Street, Battle, East Sussex, TN33 OAP. Sort Code: 20-27-91. Account No: 40653268

## Your contact information

It is far more cost effective if we send our newsletters to you by email so please send your email address to us at **info@lbmt.org.uk**

## Our contact information

**LBMT:** [www.lbmt.org.uk](http://www.lbmt.org.uk)  
**Peace Guest House, Cyangugu:** [www.peaceguesthouse.org](http://www.peaceguesthouse.org)  
**Donations:** [www.justgiving.com](http://www.justgiving.com)