

MWA PRESIDENT'S LETTER MAY 2015

WITH GOD IN THE GARDEN

Dear Sisters

I am writing this "the morning after the night before!" I am feeling tired but filled with the joy we all experienced at Dukinfield for our wonderful Day. Thank you to the Sisters and Brothers who worked so hard to put on the day for us including those from Royton who helped out with the provision of hot drinks. Sr Jane Dixon gave an inspiring address on our current theme. We were blessed once again with good weather and therefore had the opportunity to sit outdoors and enjoy Dukinfield's lovely Prayer Garden.

Central Committee met the day before. It was a good meeting, filled with lively discussion and fellowship as always. Sisters Jean Parker and Gillian Taylor were re-elected as secretary and treasurer respectively. We continued on an outdoor theme for 2015-2016 by choosing "Messages from the mountains". Sr Diane Thornton has written some very inspirational papers on our current theme and I am sure will continue to do so with the new theme.

Central Committee had £3000 to disperse immediately, this amount is smaller than it has been in the past which made choosing which projects to support and which to reject more difficult than it has sometimes been. Two suggested Moravian projects, the Unity Women's Consultation to be held in Surinam in February 2016 and a request from the Western Tanzanian province to support a seminar on stewardship, required fairly immediate large sums of money. Committee decided to provide £1000 to each of these projects. The remaining £1000 was divided between three charities. £250 will be given to Reuben's Retreat, a charity local to Dukinfield which aims to provide a retreat for families with a child who has a life-limiting illness. Age Northern Ireland will receive £250 and Unique a charity which supports families with children who have rare genetic and chromosomal conditions will receive £500.

During our next MWA year, we have committed to continue our support for Summer Camp with £500 and we will contribute a further £1500 to the dormitories at the Kisanje Girl's High School in Tanzania. We will also support Camphill Communities with a gift of £1500. These communities are Christian communities providing support for adults with special needs.

During our opening service at MWA Day we collected in the Project Money for 2014 to 2015. A marvellous total of £6,581 was received which will cover the projects we had committed to. Thank you all!

Yours in Christ

Sr Janet Cooper