



The Marlborough Brandt Group
Annual Report 2015



Together with my colleagues I believe that the nations of this world not only have to but are able to live in peace. We think that the task is to free mankind of oppression, from hunger and distress. New links must be developed which substantially increase the chances of achieving freedom, justice and solidarity for all. This is a great task for both the present generation and the next.

The shaping of our common future is much too important to be left to Governments and experts alone. Therefore our appeal goes to youth, to women's and labour movements; to political, intellectual and religious leaders; to scientists and educators; to technicians and managers; to members of the rural and business communities. May they all try to understand and to conduct their affairs in the light of this new challenge.

Willy Brandt
The Brandt Report, 1980

The Marlborough Brandt Group

Annual Report 2015

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WGEC competition winners from Pewsey Vale School
working with their Gambian partners, making tiles from recycled plastic

The year did not, as previously, begin with a trip to Gunjur – which, for me, had to wait until April.

Instead the year began with questions being asked as to why I, or anyone else from Marlborough, go to Gunjur in the first place. The questions were being put to me, to the Trustees and to the Executive by Justin Walker who had asked MBG, TARUD and the GCL if he might write a paper on our relationship as part of his MSc. This initial exercise was revealing for many of us as it focused our minds on what we do, why we do it and why, in spite of many changes to the practicalities of linking, our hearts are still very much in it.

In March, Justin spent time in Gunjur and made his own assessments and observations which he shared more widely within the community on a return trip in April joined by Nick and myself. With us also on a return visit were long term member and friend Barney Rosedale, particularly interested in the progress of a recently established business scheme, and two others for whom this was a first encounter. Oxford student Alice Duffy was

there with a view to a possible future in international development and Janneke Blokland, a curate in Marlborough, was there because Nick is very persuasive and she was curious. This curiosity has led to her becoming one of latest trustees in which role she is a welcome addition.

During this trip, we were introduced to those young entrepreneurs who had received loans from MBG in order to start their businesses. We visited their places of work, checked their progress and found their enthusiasm and application encouraging. Hairdressing salons, Internet cafes and hardware stores were doing business in and around the market square, role models for other budding business men and women who were hopeful applicants in our next round of loans.

We also visited those students whose college courses we're funding and are happy that, as with the business scheme, this seems to be the right thing to be doing at this time.



MBG funded students at the Gambia Technical Training Institute in Serrekunda



Business is brisk at the Gunjur internet café

What we are doing and why was the subject of a workshop facilitated by Justin which produced much discussion amongst the members of both TARUD, the Gunjur Community Link and the Village Development Committee who were present. It was clear that there was both confusion and disappointment over the visa issue but a strong hope that it could be overcome.

And with the future purpose of the organisation clearly so different from its past, a meeting was held in Marlborough on a Saturday in October to ask the question "What Next?" particularly in the knowledge that our founder and director had announced his intention of stepping down.

Various options were explored and subsequently decided on at a trustees' meeting. George Cooper, Lili Loveday and Trevor Kearney, also appointed as new Trustees at the AGM, helped us reach the decision to advertise for a new salaried Director. The funding of this two year appointment is made possible thanks to receiving a generous legacy and a substantial grant.

The rest of the year was spent working out what we were looking for in our new director, sifting through the encouraging number of applications from a strong field and eventually interviewing six candidates. For this time consuming, challenging and responsible undertaking, I would like to thank the Trustees whose hard and committed work resulted in the appointment of Karen Bulsara who in February was able to take up the post offered to her in December.

And so a new chapter begins.

Many chapters have led to this next one, over the thirty four years since our outgoing director (in so many ways) founded the organisation and started the story. A story which has been filled with colourful characters, plot twists, sub plots, moral dilemmas and love stories along the way. And, as with all the best stories, a central character. Ours has been Nick, without whom there would have been no story.

Anna Quarendon

One of the fun things about WGEC is that we never know what is coming next. So after a lean year of funding, we have found ourselves suddenly well resourced with 3 exciting new projects about to start or already underway.

The VIBE challenge has been funded by the wonderful Arkleton Trust and it's been a real pleasure to be working with funders so open-minded to new ideas, supportive of the work we do and understanding of how its impact can be hard to capture in conventional terms. With their backing, we have this year run in the UK a secondary school challenge around business entrepreneurship with the fabulous prize of a week's study visit to the Gambia for the winning team and their teacher. Finalists from Abbeyfield in Chippenham and Nova Hreod in Swindon did excellent presentations but it was a group of five year 10 boys from Pewsey Vale who came up with an amazing scheme to turn discarded plastic into floor or roof tiles who were the very worthy

winners. The competition also ran in Gunjur with young people being encouraged to enter their ideas for new businesses – the best two were given a start-up grant by the Arkleton Trust.

October half term saw us visiting the Gambia with the winning UK team and a very memorable trip it was too as the boys attempted to turn their dream into reality. What had worked brilliantly in a kitchen under controlled conditions suddenly didn't seem quite so simple when we were confronted by an unreliable open fire, a large rusty oil drum for melting the bags and an audience convinced that this process was going to work! However the boys admirably kept their cool and after much experimentation and modification,



Author of *One Plastic Bag*, Isatou Ceesey (centre) with WGEC UK & Gambian competition winners



Pewsey Vale and Gambian students share competition ideas at the Upper Basic School

the tiles started to be produced. How far this project will go, we are not too sure but certainly the potential is there and given the mountain of plastic which has already been collected from the streets of Gunjur, we feel that the project has a part to play in making the village a more sustainable place to live.

One of the pluses of the visit and the project was making contact in a roundabout way with the extraordinary Isatou Ceesay about whom the book 'One Plastic Bag' has been written. Isatou is one of the those Gambian women who give you heart for the future; committed, articulate, a real mover and shaker who, appalled by the rubbish in her own village on the north bank of the river Gambia, has started her own recycling projects and now 'employs' hundreds of women across the Gambia.

During the visit, the boys also took part in a 6th form conference with students from 3 senior secondary schools from the region, experienced a night away in a lodge with some remarkable Gambian plumbing, helped

me run another conference for Gambian teachers with a link in the UK and generally threw themselves into the life of the village. We were very proud of what they achieved there. We hope to run the competition again next year with some modifications based on this year's experience.

Thanks to a grant from the Co-operative Society and Swindon & Wiltshire Community Fund, we were able to run another successful **Global Spotlight Competition** in Swindon this year. Five Swindon primaries took part – with each team flagging up a global issue that is important to their community. WGEC then ran a series of in-school workshops to help the children develop their ideas ready for the competition final on themes ranging from climate change, fairtrade, children's rights, industry to animal extinction. We had some fantastic presentations from all the schools, but it was Westlea Primary whose brilliant work on children's rights won them a trip to London to meet with their South Swindon MP, Robert Buckland, in the Houses of

Director's Annual Report 2015

It feels very strange to be writing my last director's report for the MBG Annual Report but I write with great optimism for the future now that MBG is in the excellent and capable hands of Karen Bulsara, our new Director, with thanks to the generous legacy from the late Janet Henderson and a wonderful grant from the Brewster Maude Charitable Trust.

It has been another busy year with the future of MBG 'hanging in the balance', providing a somewhat unsettling backdrop for everyone involved. But with thanks to all and to our partners in Gunjur, MBG's work has continued productively and lives have continued to be changed as a result. Sadly, our link exchange programme which was at the heart of all that we stood for, learning from each other through living with each other, has been completely undermined by the impossibility of getting visas for young Gambians to come to the UK. However, visas are being issued to professional Gambians so there is potentially still some scope for exchange visits.

Our very well attended 33rd annual Brandt Lecture was given in the Marlborough College Memorial Hall by Baroness Cox, Chief Executive of HART (Humanitarian Aid Relief Trust). Her lecture entitled "The Pain and the Passion – the

Privilege of making a Difference" drew attention to the vital need for consultation with the communities with which Hart is working in Myanmar, Uganda, Sudan, South Sudan and Nigeria. Two resonant quotes from her lecture were "Pity weeps then turns away. Compassion weeps and puts out a hand" and "I cannot do everything; but I must not do nothing".

Our close, longstanding and trusting relationship with a small community in The Gambia puts us in a unique position to be raising issues impacting on that community and with policy makers. Over the past year, we have raised a number of problems with policy makers in the UK, in particular with the Department for International Development, and in The Gambia.

Unemployment amongst young men

The focus of so much international development for the past 30-40 years including our work in The Gambia has, quite rightly, been on women and girls' education. In a Gunjur context, we have come to realise that we have a major problem with unemployment amongst young men in particular, with anecdotal evidence of an increase in drugtaking and a small rise in crime in the community. In addition, elders in the community have expressed the concern that Islamists may take over this disaffected population and give them a cause to follow. Scale this up to Boko Haram in Nigeria, Al Shabaab in Somalia or Isis in the Middle East and one can understand their concern. We corresponded with Justine Greening making the point that while women and girls'



Baroness Cox delivers the 33rd Annual Brandt Lent Lecture



Westlea Primary School win the Swindon Global Spotlight Competition with their presentation on children's rights

Parliament to discuss their global issue. What a great example of local children learning about democracy, active global citizenship and how they can make a change!

We were also delighted to learn that we had been awarded funding from the Heritage Lottery to run **Trade Roots**, a 2 year programme with 10 Swindon primary schools around migration and the global connections of industry. This is an extension of The World of Work project that we ran last year in Trowbridge so we feel we know what we are doing and are up and ready to run with it. Schools are recruited and we shall be kicking off in January.

And then just like a London bus, along came our third tranche of funding for the year – a grant from the Ministry of Defence to run pilot after school Commonwealth Clubs in 5 schools with high percentages of military families on the Salisbury Plain. We are particularly thrilled to have been awarded this, as we have actually been bouncing the idea around since the 2012 Olympics, the time when we felt that Britain came of age as a rainbow nation. So with a little judicious tweaking, we have managed to secure the funding and will be ready to start the clubs in January. Many of the schools on the Plain have high percentages

of Service children from Commonwealth countries such as Fiji, Ghana and Jamaica as well as non-Commonwealth nations such as Zimbabwe and Nepal so we are interested to see how the clubs will vary and develop on an individual basis. What will bind them all together are the values of the Commonwealth which we wholeheartedly support – human rights, good governance, democracy, the valuing of diversity and sustainable development to name but a few.

When we are not busy with funded projects, together with my invaluable volunteer Steve Atyeo, I continue to support our member schools in their global journeys, deliver training for the Global Learning Programme to teachers, support the Connecting Classrooms programme which is in its last phase under the present structure, plan for the next year's study visit, support the Consortium of Development Education Centres and try to predict what, in our crazy world of development education, might be the next Big Thing. Whatever direction the next year takes us in, we know that at the heart of everything we do will be Marlborough's link with Gunjur and the confidence it gives us that we are on the right track.

Caroline Harmer



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JAMMEH JAMMEH

JAMMEH JAMMEH

education was of paramount importance, it must not be either girls or boys but both.

We must be aware of the growing threat from Islamic fundamentalism. In countries with poor economic prospects, young men can become disaffected without a sense of purpose, which then leaves them vulnerable to the promises of a meaningful life from malevolent organisations. So it is important for us to recognise the need to find jobs and a sense of future for these young men.

Chinese fishing off the coast at Gunjur

Anyone who has been to Gunjur will know that the principal local industry is fishing on the beach one mile away. Senegalese fishermen catch the fish, and women from Gunjur sell the fresh fish locally and smoke and dry fish for export. In October 2015, the Chinese moved into the fishing village, posing a very real threat to local industries, namely over-fishing and environmental damage caused by the dumping of toxic waste projects at sea and on land.



FGM

It is a tribute to our close relationship with the people in Gunjur that during the year, we were able to raise the vexed question of FGM which is widely practised in The Gambia. We met with the principal NGO working in this field, Gamcotrap, to explore ways in which we might support efforts to bring about changes in attitude to this deeply embedded social custom.

The Director of Gamcotrap, Dr Isatou Touray, spoke at our AGM in July in Marlborough Town Hall in the presence of the Mayor of Marlborough and also members of the Gambian community from Bristol. Dr Touray pulled no punches with her graphically and disturbingly illustrated lecture which was largely addressed to the Gambians present with the question hanging over them “And what are you going to do about changing attitudes in your communities back at home?”

In the Gambia, we had the opportunity to raise the medical and human rights



Gamcotrap Director Dr Isatou Touray & MBG Director Dr Nick Maurice

aspect of FGM in a private meeting with Alhagie Lamin Touray, the senior Imam in The Gambia and Imam to the President; we were delighted when two months later, the President announced the banning of FGM and it was made formally illegal by the Government a week later. This of course is not ‘the end of the story’. There is still a lot of work to be done persuading women and men that girls should not be cut.

We were very fortunate to have Justin Walker undertake a voluntary study into of the relationships between MBG, TARUD, the Gunjur Community Link and the Village Development Committee as part of his research for an MSc at the Open University. His report was based on many hours of interviews in Marlborough and Gunjur and is available on our website. It raises lots of fundamental questions about the relationships and “how do we take this forward?” - this will be a challenge for the new regime!

I paid three visits to Gunjur during the year and was accompanied on the first visit by our Chair, Anna Quarendon, longstanding MBG supporter Dr Barney Rosedale, our Marlborough curate Janneke

Blokland and by Oxford undergraduate Alice Duffy. On the second visit, I was accompanied by two students from Cambridge and Oxford undertaking their research into climate change and on the third visit by Trevor Kearley, a newly appointed trustee of MBG and by Andrew Mallinson who has been supporting MBG as a volunteer marketing director - reports of their visit are available on our website. As always, these visits raise more questions than answers and are thus constantly stimulating for all concerned.

Business Programme

A focus of much of our attention during these visits was on the MBG supported business programme being run by the excellent Buba Touray working out of TARUD.

It was a joy to see first-hand how the businesses, whether beekeeping, tie dyeing, retailing, hairdressing or internet cafe were prospering as a result of the loans that they have received, not least as all the loans are being repaid on time and in some cases more than required in order to pay off the loan as quickly as possible. It was also good to meet the sixteen students at the

A Senegalese fisherman guts and cleans fish



Successful MBG loan recipient Omar Darboe in his hardware store in central Gunjur

Gambian Technical Training Institute who we are seeing through training in a variety of skills from computer studies, to plumbing and construction to secretarial work.

None of this work would be possible without the support of our many friends and donors who are listed in this report. We are immensely grateful. I would like to thank in particular David Du Croz and the St Peter's Trust for their great support of our series **"Brilliant Young Musicians in St Peters Church"** which, while it raises relatively small amounts, provides both a platform for extraordinary young musicians embarking on their professional careers and also for us to promote our work publicly.

And so, at the end of my time with MBG I should say "FAREWELL and THANK YOU!" to all who have so far accompanied MBG on this epic journey over the past 34 years since the link with Gunjur began. The number of people in UK and The Gambia who have been involved, have actively influenced and been influenced by that journey is countless. I believe Willy Brandt would be proud of what we have done and achieved, and are continuing to do. I also believe that we have risen to the challenge put forward by the American anthropologist Margaret Mead

who wrote:

Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world; indeed, it's the only thing that ever has. Always remember that you are absolutely unique. Just like everyone else! Never believe that a few caring people can't change the world. For, indeed, that's all who ever have.

Our MBG example has been followed by countless others through the work of organisations such as UKOWLA and BUILD. There was a time when we estimated that 4000 schools in UK had partners in the global South; 130 NHS Hospitals had partners in Africa and over 800 communities in the UK had partner communities, predominantly in Africa. Thousands of lives have been changed for the better as a result of the work and the example of MBG and I sincerely believe that despite all the awful things that are happening in the world at the moment we all, based in our small market town in Wiltshire, have made a significant contribution to peace, prosperity and justice in the world.

Nick Maurice

Climate Change in the Gambia

and the impact on development

MBG has, on many occasions, provided opportunities for young students to undertake a piece of research work in The Gambia while at university. In August, Alice Jones an undergraduate in geography from Cambridge and Tanglewest Douglas, a sixth form student from Oxford, undertook a study in The Gambia into people's perceptions of climate change. They questioned people at community and Government level and also international participants at a conference on the subject that was being hosted by the British Embassy. Their report makes interesting, if depressing, reading and we shared it with Justine Greening, Secretary of State at the Department for International Development. It was also quoted at the Paris conference on climate change in December.

Alice Jones sums up the findings of their report.

In our research, we aimed to look at the difference in knowledge and understanding of the community of Gunjur, and those Gambians in positions of authority who can implement change around climate change. We first interviewed residents of Gunjur and authority figures in Gunjur (such as the Imam and the Alikali) and then corresponded with Gambians in senior positions of Government and civil society, such as Mr. Tijang Bojang (Minister for Water) and Kebba Cham (Director at Child Fund, NGO). In our research, we included observations in the change of the rain patterns, sea level rise and perceived causes of climate change.

One of our key findings was that those who are most affected by changes to the climate are those who are least able to effect any sort of change. The actions of developed and industrializing countries are causing the climate change but the impact on the world's poor is disproportionate, including in The Gambia. Despite the best interests of the Gambian government and NGOs working in the country, there is much misinformation on the ground and poor communication means that changing opinions and behaviours is challenging. We believe that if the current rate of climate change continues at its present rate without a change in behaviour, the Gambia will struggle to maintain health standards; what is more, the social and economic development of the Gambia could halt or even go backwards because of the actions of the developed and industrialised world.

Climate Change in The Gambia can be read in full at www.mbg.org/research/climate-change



Mankamang Touray, Vice Chair of TARUD and Imam Alhagie Lamin Touray, Imam to State House discuss climate change with Tanglewest Douglas and Alice Jones

During the past year, the link has been continuing to promote opportunities for young people to visit Gunjur, either as gap year placements or by taking part in organised MBG student trips.

In January, Sophie Hay, Duncan Lorrain and Phoebe Studdert-Kennedy, three gap year volunteers from St John's Academy, travelled to Gunjur for a 3 month work placement. All three worked as teaching assistants in the Upper Basic School in Gunjur, Sophie and Phoebe teaching English and Duncan teaching Maths. In Phoebe's words, *"The most amazing part of the trip was the way in which we lived with families and really became part of them. I would highly recommend this trip to anyone"*.

The Upper Basic Head, Mr Jobe, really values the input the young people have as teaching assistants in the school, especially during January to March - the term prior to the national exams.

MBG has been sending young volunteers to Gunjur for years, and we know how life-changing the experience can be, equipping them with valuable life skills and enhancing their CVs in an increasingly

competitive world. We are proud that a number of our volunteers have gone on to careers in international development.

We have been busy recruiting 13 St John's 6th form students for the 4 week summer placement in 2016, which is being led by Sophie Hay, and assistant leaders Lauren Horwood and Darragh Bolger (both of whom were part of the student summer visit 2014). The group will be building an additional classroom for the Kulukochi Pre-School. They will be busy fundraising for the visit which is completely self-funded so they will need to raise project funds and cover personal costs. They deserve our support and congratulations; this is not an easy task in the present economic climate.

I have to thank the office staff for all their help and support during the past year, and a special thanks to the Gunjur Community Link for their continued support.

Anita Bew



Sophie Hay teaching students at the Upper Basic School in Gunjur

The Gunjur Youth Development Project (GYDP) continues to establish itself in the community, with support from St James Place (SJP). The GYDP is an initiative to engage the youth of Gunjur in vocational studies and provide entrepreneurial opportunity through business finance.

This initial 'pilot' programme has been devised and developed by the business steering committee and interested stakeholders in Gunjur through a community consultation. Gunjur is not alone in seeing and recognising the growing number of youth disenchanted by poor employment prospects in their own countries, and the opportunity a life in Europe may hold. This prospect is enticing many Gambian youths to seek entry to Europe by the Mediterranean Sea route, the 'back door'. In 2015 UNHCR ranked the Gambia in the top 10 nationalities seeking such routes to Europe; it estimated that 1% of the one million migrants were Gambians.

The programme starts at the Gambia Technical Training Institute (GTTI) providing two year training courses ranging from plumbing, electrical work, construction, business studies, computer science, software application to financial accounting and many more. The programme is currently managing to support sixteen students providing fees and expenses, allowing them to concentrate on studying. The success is evident with the first 8 completing year one and now moving on to graduating. The GTTI is vital to their future success and support the student's personal and professional development by looking to obtain work placements and experience opportunities.

The programme supports a range of businesses from small retail concerns, beekeeping to an internet café. The initial signs are encouraging with all the business reporting an upturn in activity and a high level of loan repayments. There are businesses looking to diversify their product portfolios

to access a larger market and even expand to different sites, these are not without their own challenges which the project is working to address through regular contact with the programme manager. The loan repayments will be invested into the programme and with further funding from SJP will support between 10 – 12 businesses in 2016. The programme is exploring the potential to fund not only trading businesses but start-ups with a real entrepreneurial spirit and desire to benefit the community.

The pilot is now in its second year and approaching a critical point of evaluation of its impact on the individuals, their families and community. The long term objective is to provide a cohesive programme supporting the youth of Gunjur with skills training, work placements, business mentoring and ultimately access to start up finance for their own businesses. It is the desire of all parties concerned that this approach will engage the youth in Gunjur and provide the required structure, access to finance for a bright and successful future in The Gambia.

MBG continues its commitment to support part of the salaries for the TARUD preschool teachers and offers encouragement for the schools senior management committee who are exploring new fundraising activities to support the teachers' salaries.

Darren Bew

My Gap Year in Gunjur

From January to March I experienced the most challenging, yet amazing three months I've ever had. Returning to the village of Gunjur in The Gambia, having visited for two weeks in 2012, was something I said I'd like to do but didn't truly believe would happen. When the opportunity arose to spend three months of my gap year there, the dream became reality!

The purpose of our trip was teaching in the Upper Basic (secondary) school. I was assigned two grade eight classes, age range 14-19, ability range U-A* and about 45 students in each. It was most definitely a challenge. The classrooms are the standard African school rooms of wooden benches, tables, and a blackboard. Corporal punishment is now banned in The Gambia but we witnessed an awful lot of it at the school, which was tough to see.

I was teaching English four mornings a week. At the beginning it was easy when everything was new but once the pupils got to know us, discipline became very tricky with one of my classes. However, there were plenty of lovely kids in the classes and teaching was fun a lot of the time, especially when the class were enthusiastic. At the end of the teaching some of the girls performed a song for me and I was given a letter from another pupil about missing me once I'd left, which was great. Due to my timetabling, I didn't have lessons on Tuesday mornings, so instead went to a primary school in the next village, Medina Salam, where I took children out in pairs for guided reading. I loved doing this as it's the age I want to teach in the future and it was really satisfying seeing the children make progress.

Over the course of the trip I faced a variety of challenges. The toughest time, for me, was when I was ill. Although on both occasions it was over in 24 hours, I found myself feeling very homesick and wishing I was with my mum. However,

my host family couldn't have cared for me any better – bringing me anything I needed, checking on me regularly and making sure I was comfortable. The biggest challenge overall was the teaching as it was something so totally new and different from anything I'd done before. Nevertheless, it was a hugely rewarding task and we all felt proud of ourselves for completing it.

In conclusion, it was a life-changing trip which will stay with me forever. It was the most authentic experience of Africa anyone could have and I will definitely go back. We met some of the kindest people you'll ever come across and have made some true friends who I really miss now I'm home. The most amazing part of the trip, in my opinion, was the way in which we lived with families and really became a part of them. The lifestyle was eye opening and made me aware of how much I take for granted, and changed my perspectives on what is and isn't necessary. I would highly recommend this trip to anyone. There is nothing quite like it.

Phoebe Studdert-Kennedy



Phoebe with her host family

MBG Public Benefit Statement 2015

We have referred to the guidance contained in the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit when reviewing our aims and objectives and when planning activities.

Our main activities and whom we have helped are described in this report. All our charitable activities are undertaken to further our charitable purposes.

Can you help us make a difference?

Do you have time and energy to help support our work in Marlborough?

WHY NOT BECOME A VOLUNTEER?

Relevant skills/experience could include:

MBG Events Organisers/Volunteers

Fundraisers and Bid Writers

IT/Technical Support

Child Protection/Safe Guarding

If you have a background in a particular field of work or any bright ideas for fundraising then please do get in touch.

Contact info@mbg.org or call us on 01672 861116

Financial Overview for 2015

A summary of the accounts will be available at the Annual General Meeting and copies of the full accounts can be obtained from the MBG office. The accounts have been prepared to comply with the Statement of Recommended practice for Charities and have been subject to independent examination by a firm of chartered accountants.

Income	2015	2014
Covenant and Gift Aid	£4,549	£2,695
Donations and Gifts	£35,066	£57,165
Global Education	£9,619	£9,808
Interest	£116	£90
Legacy	£78,500	
Membership MBG	£6,291	£6,865
Membership Global Education	£2,174	£4,294
Grants* (see notes)	£72,256	£50,773
	£208,571	£131,690
Expenditure	2015	2014
Public Events	£1,148	£330
Office Administration	£1,148	£330
Core Salaries	£10,920	£10,833
Global Education Salaries	£16,247	£16,689
Direct Charity Global Education	£7,673	£15,696
Direct Charity Links	£13,984	£14,833
Direct Charity Projects	£20,438	£26,492
Direct Charity Core	£19,453	£28,008
	£92,558	£115,674

2015 has been a busy year for MBG from a financial perspective for all aspects of MBG. At the start of the year MBG had committed core expenditure for the Business project in Gunjur as at that time we were not in receipt of any grants. Our Volunteer Director in 2015, Nick Maurice secured grants from several sources to sustain this project until the end of 2016. The education arm of MBG, Wiltshire Global Education Centre, has secured two large grants for work to be carried out in 2016. In addition WGEC secured a grant for a joint business project with MBG and Wiltshire schools and the community of Gunjur.

Our financial administrator has continued to be prudent with outgoing expenditure, keeping running costs to a minimum where feasible although there have been outlays beyond our control. It has been necessary to replace one of the administrative computers and to install a new heating system into the office due to the landlord's insurance. We have also installed lighting into the office. This will increase our electricity costs in the coming year.

More fundraising activities need to take place for raising money directly for projects where grants are not available and for sustaining the office. All volunteers willing to help in this area will be gratefully welcomed! In addition new members will also be valued.

Sufficient reserves are retained as required as a charitable organisation so that in the event of closure we are in a position to wind up the charity.

SUMMARY OF KEY POINTS RELATED TO INCOME AND EXPENDITURE

Income:

- Grants have increased this year because WGEC secured two major grants: the Heritage Lottery and Woodland Trust for £25,500 and a grant of £19,806 from the MOD. A grant of £2,000 from the Co-Op towards the ongoing Global Spotlight project and £11,400 from Arkleton Trust for a joint project with MBG. MBG received £13,000 from St James Place toward the Business Project.
- Our rental income for 2015 is down, as the person who shared our office gave notice.
- WGEC additional work had increased income for this year. This is due to Caroline giving more training/workshops.
- There is a decrease in membership for both MBG and WGEC. Please note on the annual accounts the balance shown as income from membership includes WGEC and MBG membership as well as additional work by WGEC; therefore on the accounts it does appear that income from membership has increased but the breakdown provided in this report gives a clearer picture.
- Income from donations is down. This is due to fewer fundraising events in 2015 and an increase in costs for holding events. Also there were no group link/educational/charitable visits in 2015.
- Capital and Reserves show a large increase in unrestricted funds; this is due to a legacy in 2015 of £78,500.00 from the late Miss Janet Henderson.

Expenditure

- Arkleton Trust (MBG and WGEC) and the Community Business project are the main projects for 2015 and the Business project is ongoing for 2016. It is important to note that the Arkleton Trust project is mainly UK based.
- IT and equipment costs are up due to the purchase of a new computer and printer for the office and the installation of a new heating system. Annual software licenses have increased IT costs.
- Volunteer expenses are down owing to fewer volunteers making claims and the Director not claiming expenses.
- Direct charity links and Global Education includes the cost of travel flights for the study visit and student summer visit in 2016 purchased in 2015.
- Running costs for insurance, rates, heating, lighting and water have increased.
- NI is down since a new government scheme started in April 2014 whereby the first £3000 NI is exempt for small businesses.

Theresa Ardley *Treasurer*

The Marlborough Brandt Group

OBJECTIVES OF THE CHARITY

The Articles of Association adopted in 2014 define MBG's charitable purposes as:

- (1) the promotion of education in the UK and The Gambia, to include sustaining the link established between Marlborough and Gunjur;
- (2) the prevention and relief of poverty anywhere in the world, but focussing particularly on The Gambia; and
- (3) the relief of sickness and preservation of health of those in The Gambia.

The purposes are set out in full in the Articles, a copy of which is on the website.

ORGANISATIONAL STRUCTURE

MBG is governed by a board of trustees, who are responsible for the financial probity of the organisation, for agreeing the strategy and ensuring that MBG's activities fall within its charitable purposes. The Trustees are elected by the membership at an annual general meeting. The management of MBG's activities is overseen by our Voluntary Director, Dr Nick Maurice, and delegated to an Executive Committee. During the year, Dr Maurice informed the Trustees of his intention to step down from the position of Voluntary Director in early 2016.

PATRONS

Professor Keith McAdam
Lord Judd of Portsea
Jon Snow
Robert Hiscox

TRUSTEES

Anna Quarendon
Theresa Ardley
Geoffrey Findlay
Robert Hiscox
Patrick Hazelwood
Sarah Giles
David Morley
Lilli Loveday
George Cooper
Janneke Blokland
Trevor Kearley

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Nick Maurice *Director*
Theresa Ardley *Treasurer*
Caroline Harmer *WGEC Manager*
Emma Henderson *MBG Office Manager*
Lesley Andrews *Fundraising Adviser*
Anita Bew
Darren Bew
Alex Davies *Duke of Edinburgh Award*
Ric Law *Disability Africa*
Barney Rosedale
Janet Polack
Gordon Hutt

STAFF

Caroline Harmer
Global Education Manager
Emma Henderson
MBG & Accounts Manager
Sarah Lively
MBG & WGEC Administrator

Relationships with related parties, other charities and organisations

In pursuance of its objectives, MBG signed a Memorandum of Understanding in 1998 with the Trust Agency for Rural Development (TARUD), a registered Gambian non-governmental organisation (NGO) based in Gunjur, The Gambia.

TARUD is governed by a Board of Trustees, and run operationally by a Programme Director. MBG is a member of the UK One World Linking Association, Think Global and South West DEC's and the Consortium of Development Education Centres.

The Marlborough Brandt Group is a Company Limited by Guarantee, registered in England and Wales, registration no. 0256 7458 and registered charity no. 1001398.

Governing instruments:
Memorandum & Articles of Association Incorporated 04.09.14

Mail Address:
The Upper Office, The Dutch Barn
Elm Tree Park, Manton,
Marlborough, Wiltshire SN8 1PS

Tel: 01672 861116
Website: www.mbg.org
Email: info@mbg.org

Acknowledgements

MBG has many sources of support without which we would not be able to function. We act as a conduit for the support of our beneficiaries in The Gambia and in UK and in company with beneficiaries; we would like to extend our most sincere thanks for all the generous support we have received. Here are just some who have helped in our work during 2013:

INDIVIDUALS

Lesley Andrews
Theresa Ardley
Steve Atyeo
Darren Bew
Sonia & Bill Buxton
Baroness Cox
Colin Crockin
Stephanie Dale
Alex Davies
Tanglewest Douglas
David Du Croz
Sarah Giles
Caroline Gowers
Janet Henderson
Robert Hiscox
Angela & Gordon Hutt
Alice Jones
Lord Judd

Richard King
Ric Law
Jonathan Leigh
Lilli Loveday
Andrew Mallinson
Michael Maude
Kate & Nick Maurice
Professor Keith McAdam
Tony Millett
Robin Nelson
Robin & Ann Notton
Anna Quarendon
Barney Rosedale
Jon Snow
Dr Isatou Touray
Justin Walker
Sue & Peter Webber

INSTITUTIONS

Abbeyfield School
Arkleton Trust
Brewster Maude Charitable Trust
Comic Relief
Community Covenant Grant
Cooperative Society
Gamcotrap
Heritage Lottery Fund
Heritage Lottery Fund
Hiscox Insurance
Kombo Sillah Association
Marlborough College
St James Place Foundation
St Peter's Trust
Swindon & Wiltshire Community Fund
Swindon Choral Society
Woodward Charitable Trust



The Marlborough Brandt Group

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