

Chairman's Report for Year April 2016 - March 2017

As presented at the AGM, 24th August, 2017

P O Box 26 336
Epsom, 1344

This year has, once again, been a very busy time for all the team at MAA.

Property

It started in May 2016 when we moved all our stock from basement rooms in buildings G16 and G17 into the drearily named G6 building.

Moving help was provided by friends and families, a team of young men from De La Salle College in Mangere and a truck and driver provided by AlSCO.

This beautiful heritage listed building, although about 125 years old, cluttered, musty and unused for about 10 years, was cleaned and ventilated by the Auckland District health Board. It provided us with a work and storage area about ten times that of G17.

There were some initial issues with asbestos (now certified clear) and roof leaks.

This building now provides us with a lockable medicines area, security and fire alarms, multiple exit doors, toilets, hot water, a kitchen, an office and meeting room, plenty of light and loads of strong metal and wooden shelving. We feel very blessed to have the rooms we do. Stock is better sorted and arranged and we now have room and tables on which to work and pack orders.

As we now have so much room, we have been able to allow two other aid groups (VOSO and Hearts for Kids) to store their goods in our building. Our Executive can now meet in our new office-meeting room, whereas we previously had to borrow the board-room in the Auckland Surgical Centre. Once again, we acknowledge the help and support of the ADHBd for providing us such a useful place.



Sponsorship - Van

AlSCO have again demonstrated their support of MAA by having our MAA van cut and polished, sign-written and maintained. Our Toyota now looks very professional as it travels the city.

MAA is keen to acknowledge the help and support given by AlSCO, particularly through under-writing many of the costs of running a commercial van. We thank you.



Executive – new members

Mid-way through 2017, two new men who we had approached, joined our Executive. Paul brings his experience in freighting and logistics and Peter, being a lawyer brings this helpful knowledge. Very quickly we took advantage of the wisdom they both brought to the Executive, when, for example, we discussed at some length, our liability when goods and medicines are being exported in our name. As a result we have reviewed and improved several of the forms end-users complete.

Fund-raising

In November 2016, we held our major fund-raising event. Although this was a great deal of work, it was a huge success and brought in enough funds to keep MAA running for about 18 months. Our guest speakers (Nurse Michelle Yates and Dr Amanda Mitchell) talked of their medical aid work in Bougainville, which was assisted by goods supplied by MAA.

Joint Venture Fund-raising

At the 2015 AGM Dr Jackie Smallbridge spoke of her surgical work in Uganda. From that, MAA has become part of a new Joint Venture fund-raising project.

Kokako Coffee in Grey Lynn, roast and sell Bukonzo Coffee, which is grown nearby Jackie's project in Uganda. For every pack sold, \$1 is set aside and banked into an MAA account to help fund Jackie's next fistula project in Uganda.



Web-site

This has finally been completely re-written and updated. All obsolete and irrelevant references have been removed. www.maa.org.nz

Thanks:

As Chairman, I wish to thank again and again, the busy team of about 12 who volunteer their time to work Wednesday by Wednesday. Without their commitment, MAA would collapse in a moment. Special thanks is due to Dr Mary, who manages the team and the whole MAA operation. Mary is the anchor, which keeps everything running smoothly.

Thanks also to:

The ADHB who permit us to function from their property

PWR and Propharma who move and store so much stock for us

AlSCO who supply much 'first-aid' product and funding for our van.

and finally -

The Trustees, the Executive and the Office Holders who enthusiastically guide MAA along its path

Murray Kerr,

Chairman, Medical Aid Abroad, Auckland.

August, 2017

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Canterbury Branch Report of MEDICAL AID ABROAD

for year April 2016 to March 2017

We have continued to operate very successfully from the excellent set up CDC Pharmaceuticals lets us enjoy. We are very grateful for their help and cooperation.

Very shortly we will have to relocate within the warehouse and CDC are doing everything possible to see us in a similar set up as we have now.

The excellent facilities have enabled us to develop our service, attract more helpers and set the scene for the next generation to take over when we finally accept that age has caught up on us.

We have been able to supply local Doctors and nurses with medicine to take overseas with them and are regularly shipping 2 cartons a week to Auckland HQ.

Thanks to Don Hawke [in Auckland] for our smooth two-way communications that makes our supply system very efficient .

Thanks go to ProPharma for their continued support both in collecting product from their pharmacies and shipping our cartons to Auckland.

Alistair Douglas, Christchurch, 23 August, 2017