



The Leprosy  
Mission  
Scotland

# ANNUAL REVIEW 2020





Looking back, the start of 2020 seems almost unrecognisable.

We had not long launched our new big idea to  
**MAKE LEPROSY A THING OF THE PAST**

We had exciting plans to try new fundraising ideas, some of which were beginning to attract new supporters.

I was looking forward to launching a new fundraising campaign with a local celebrity chef.

And then the bombshell landed, Covid-19, the coronavirus. None of us have been left unscathed.

The virus has been indiscriminate in its devastation around the world.

In the communities we serve, lockdown risked causing as many deaths as the virus. For day labourers and those who were already scratching out a living day to day, lockdown meant, no work, no money, no food or medical care.

Our teams in Asia and Africa had to abandon long term goals to transform lives and start simply saving them.

They were on the frontline risking infection to bring love and care to those in need in some of the most vulnerable communities in the world.

But it was thanks to you that they were able to access PPE to protect themselves. It was thanks to you that emergency medical teams and food parcels could reach and save lives in peril.

I was amazed and moved by your response to help at a time when we were all facing huge uncertainty and fear. I was inspired by the phone conversations I had with many of you where you shared your desire to help.

As the pandemic continued I think we all gained a deeper understanding of what it means to be isolated and separated - something that people affected by leprosy have known for years.

I pray that this moves all of us to step up to do more to eradicate leprosy, one person at a time.

In this Annual Review you can read about how your support, your gifts and your prayers, have touched people in need this year. As well as emergency support, you have ensured that work to spot, treat and stop leprosy has continued to make strides forward.

Your support has helped people to survive today and to find strength and hope for tomorrow.

We keep hearing about a “new normal” after the pandemic. Thanks to the medical care, social care, education, advocacy and research that you make possible it will become normal for there to be Zero Leprosy.

You will have finished what Jesus started and made leprosy a thing of the past.

I’m looking forward to that day, and to the journey we will take together to get there.

Thank you and God bless you,

*Linda*

Linda Todd  
 Chief Executive

# 2020

## ERADICATING LEPROSY, ONE PERSON AT A TIME

In 2020 we supported projects that will make leprosy a thing of the past in 6 partner countries in Africa and Asia:

Bangladesh, India, Myanmar,  
 Nepal, Nigeria and Tanzania



As part of The Leprosy Mission Global Fellowship we will make leprosy a thing of the past.

There will be Zero Leprosy.

Zero leprosy means achieving the “Three Zeroes”  
 Every project we supported works towards these goals.



### Zero Transmission by 2035

Leprosy will no longer be actively spreading in the community  
 The number of new cases being detected will soon drop to zero



### Zero Disability

Leprosy is the world’s leading cause of preventable disability  
 The right care and prevention will mean an end to physical disability and mental health problems because of leprosy



### Zero Discrimination

130 laws in 29 countries discriminate against people with leprosy  
 Superstitions and myths lead to fear and rejection  
 When their voice is heard, people will achieve justice and dignity

### OUR PLAN TO ERADICATE LEPROSY:



leprosymission.scot



“During 2020, the world knew the disruption of social ties and livelihoods due to the coronavirus pandemic. The world discovered the unbearable pain of separation from family members, friends and social environments.

The world realised that inequalities can kill and witnessed how the state can either protect or violate the right to life. All this had been known for decades and centuries by persons affected by leprosy.”

**Alice Cruz**, UN Special Rapporteur on the elimination of discrimination against persons affected by leprosy.

# A future free from leprosy

were worried that Rupa had developed the disease too. They took her straight to The Leprosy Mission's Premananda Hospital in Kolkata, India, knowing that, if it was leprosy, Rupa could be at risk of developing life-long disabilities, just like her father. They knew that the faster they acted, the better chance of Rupa being diagnosed early enough to prevent any serious complications.

Now 11 years old, Rupa is completely cured of leprosy and she's very happy that there are no longer any visible patches on her skin. Her parents are pleased about this too.

Sadly, her father continues to face daily struggles due to complex ulcers that just won't heal. He has been admitted to hospital at least six times for treatment of the ulcers. Now, he needs surgery on them and plenty of bed rest to allow them to heal. In addition to his ulcers, leprosy has taken away his sight and left him without any feeling in his feet, which



**Rupa first found out she had leprosy when she was eight years old.**

**When her parents, Radha and Samir, noticed two patches under her eyes they knew they had to act quickly.**

Her father had been diagnosed with leprosy many years before and now they

# LEPROSY SPOTTED

means that when he cuts or scrapes the skin, he doesn't feel it and infections can develop. When he was diagnosed with leprosy at 25 years old, he did not have access to treatment to cure him. And, his disabilities are, sadly, the devastating result of leprosy not being spotted or treated in time.

It is so clear why Rupa's parents are relieved their only daughter is now free of the disease and of any lasting effects.

Rupa is enjoying life. She is in class 5 in school and she loves to play, study, draw, dance and sing. She is excited about the future and hopes one day to be a doctor: "Because I want to serve poor people," she says with a great big smile. "Now I am free from leprosy, that's why I'm very happy."

# 2020 SPOT IT

**Early detection is vital to preventing transmission and disability.**

Nearly all of the problems caused by leprosy can be traced back to it not being spotted quickly enough.

A key part of making leprosy a thing of the past is finding and recognising the early signs of leprosy in time to prevent long term consequences.

In 2020, projects supported by people in Scotland ensured leprosy was spotted in their communities.



# 542

people were diagnosed with leprosy many others are referred to us after being diagnosed elsewhere

# THANKS TO YOU

Medical staff and community volunteers were trained to recognise leprosy



Leprosy was diagnosed in hospitals and during community outreach



Veronica's leprosy was spotted early before it could cause any lasting damage



# 279

health workers and community volunteers were trained to recognise the early signs of leprosy, to diagnose it themselves, or to refer someone for the correct diagnosis



# Medication is just the beginning

She is just 15 years old.

The first sign that there was something wrong was when she started to get blisters and lesions on her legs. Within a month they were so bad she was more or less bed-bound, unable to do anything.

Her parents took her to a local hospital but they didn't know what was wrong and gave her cream to apply to her legs. It didn't help.

They went to the regular government hospital where she was just given a saline

solution to wash her legs and referred to a private hospital.

Her mother couldn't afford the fee for tests at the private hospital and so they had to leave without getting any further forward.

They finally remembered about another hospital on the other side of the city, known for being skin specialists.

A local partner of The Leprosy Mission, they had finally found somewhere they could get answers and help.

She was diagnosed with leprosy and started on the treatment that will cure it. The full treatment was going to take months but within just a few weeks her legs were healing nicely. She was also diagnosed with a painful secondary condition related to her leprosy which will also require months of treatment.

Nobody outside of the immediate family knows that she has been diagnosed with leprosy.

They are afraid of the impact on her education – could she be thrown out of

# LEPROSY TREATED

school?

They are afraid for her, and her sisters' future marriage prospects

They are afraid of more general prejudice against her, and the whole family – especially if her Dad loses his job because of it.

Treatment for leprosy and for reaction can sometimes darken the skin – they are afraid of this too

They are so afraid that she won't show her face or tell you her real name.

She is now cured of her leprosy and still getting treatment for her ongoing Reaction.

Her story shows that while spotting and treating leprosy have been crucial to her health, stopping it from devastating her family's life is a bigger task, requiring much broader support.

# 2020 TREAT IT

Within 2 days of treatment, a person is no longer infectious.

Leprosy is curable! The drugs to treat it are free. A course of treatment to cure leprosy lasts 6 or 12 months.

By getting the treatment to people who need it fast they can be cured before leprosy causes permanent nerve damage which could impact the rest of their lives.

In 2020, projects supported by people in Scotland ensured leprosy was treated affectively.



# 639

operations treated or corrected the effects of leprosy, including reconstructive surgeries and amputations



# 5109

Physiotherapy sessions helped people to prevent or overcome an impairment because of leprosy



# 7756

Assistive devices were made to help prevent or overcome disability or maintain independence, including protective shoes, walking aids and prosthetic limbs

## THANKS TO YOU



People were cured of their leprosy with Multi-Drug Therapy

People (including Sunil, right) received the operation that they needed



Photo: Hannah Davey





# No longer an outcast

On one of those stays he met Mahwe, who was visiting her grandmother. He helped her with a problem with her phone.

They became close, fell in love and got married.

You would think this would be the happy ending to his story. But leprosy was to have a devastating impact on this young couple's whole life.

Because of Phyo's leprosy, Mahwe's family have disowned her. They refuse to let Phyo, Mahwe or their son come to their village and have completely cut them out of family life.

Can you imagine the pain of your parents not wanting to see your child, their own grandchild?

They only have each other.

And now they have you. Thanks to you there will always be a bed available at Mawlamyine Hospital for people like

**Phyo was diagnosed with leprosy when he was 19 years old.**

**He was so scared of it that he ran away from the hospital and his mother had to bring him back to be treated.**

Because of leprosy, Phyo has lost virtually all sensation in his foot. He has had recurring ulcers because of this, requiring long stays in hospital while they heal.

# LEPROSY STOPPED

Phyo. The recurring ulcers on his leg require regular hospital treatment.

Without Mawlamyine Hospital he says that **"I would have died"**. He says thank you so much for your support, and he wishes that everyone can support more in the future and continue supporting leprosy patients.

As well as physical treatment, thanks to you, people like Phyo and Mahwe can receive counselling at the hospital to come to terms with pain and loss of being cast out by her family.

They may have been abandoned by their family But they know that both the hospital, and you, will always be there for them.

# 2020 STOP IT

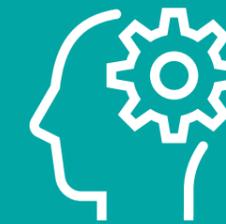
**We will achieve zero transmission by 2035.**

Spot it early and treat it fast - thousands of people will no longer be able to spread leprosy to their families, friends and neighbours.

Medical research will find new ways to tackle the spread of leprosy.

Stop the wider impacts of leprosy too. The disability, the discrimination and the fear.

In 2020, projects supported by people in Scotland ensured leprosy was stopped from causing more harm.



# 489

People received education or training that will lead to more secure employment, lifting families out of poverty and giving hope and dignity



# 1401

Counselling sessions helped overcome mental health issues caused by discrimination, stigma or injustice



# 24

Research papers were published leading to better understanding of leprosy and its treatment, strengthening our ability to stop it completely

## THANKS TO YOU



Researchers are discovering new information about leprosy and how we can eradicate it

Vocational Training teaches valuable skills to stop leprosy leading to a life of poverty



Groups like IDEA are tackling prejudice and unjust laws in their communities



Counsellors like Sita can support people through their challenges caused by leprosy



As in the NHS, Leprosy Mission staff have continued to risk their own health by serving on the frontline.

Despite every safety precautioning being taken, many frontline staff globally have contracted Covid. Tragically, at the time of writing, six have lost their lives to the virus.

In Autumn 2020, two much-loved team members at Purulia Hospital in India died as a result of Covid.

Inspired by his Christian faith, Dr Ujjwal Hembron (above) felt called to serve as Superintendent at Purulia which he described as “a special place”. He believed that Purulai should be “a home to people who have been outcast and abused”. You can read more about his work and his care for people affected by leprosy at [leprosymission.scot/ujjwal](http://leprosymission.scot/ujjwal)

Hospital driver Nitya Mardy was a well-known face at the hospital and in the nearby leprosy community. In this rural setting, he ensured that patients and staff could get to the hospital safely - transport links are poor and the roads are dangerous. He drove doctors to the leprosy community to provide treatment, bringing back anyone needing inpatient care.

The team at Purulia, and the whole Leprosy Mission family mourns the loss of our colleagues and strives to honour their memory by serving patients with the same compassionate, servant heart.

# A year like no other

**Here in Scotland, and around the world, the Coronavirus caused fear and distress to millions of people.**

In response to the virus The Leprosy Mission around the world responded quickly to meet the local needs of people affected by leprosy and the wider community.

Thanks to your quick response to the crisis, hospitals were able to prepare by purchasing PPE and other equipment to protect staff and existing inpatients. They could also prepare to treat local people infected with the Covid-19 virus.



Community health and rehabilitation teams visited communities of people affected by leprosy to ensure they knew about social distancing, proper handwashing, and wearing face masks. They delivered hand wash and masks to people who needed them. Especially to communities where supplies weren't available, or affordable, locally.

Working in partnership with churches and other local groups helped to spread health awareness messages to as wide an audience as possible, including people who may not have access to official government advice.

# COVID-19 CRISIS

In the poorest communities, any form of social distancing had an immediate impact on people's ability to work, to earn and to eat. Food began to run out very quickly.

Food parcels were delivered to needy families and communities to help them survive periods of lockdown in their countries.



Self-help groups, and other support for people affected by leprosy which happens in groups had to be suspended. But the network of established groups provided a vital, direct route to get help to families that need it.

As in previous crises, like the Nepal earthquake of 2015, in some places it was easier and more effective to give small grants which families can spend locally rather than sending bulky parcels of food and supplies over long distances to remote communities.

Thanks to your love and compassion, even in a time of fear and hardship here in Scotland, thousands of families were helped to stay safe and healthy.

# 2020 IN SCOTLAND

People across Scotland helped to eradicate leprosy in many ways during this tumultuous year



**2895**

people made a donation to help make leprosy a thing of the past

**12**

people made a gift in their will



**24**

people pledged to leave a gift in their will

**3297**

people received prayer materials to pray for people affected by leprosy and for us to finish what Jesus started



With churches closed and events cancelled, countless supporters spoke to us on the phone about their hopes and fears and their determination to help eradicate leprosy



Online meetings and services meant that many who might not be able to attend in person were able to join in fellowship across the country

# Finance

## Summary of Accounts

This summary financial information is not the statutory accounts but has been derived from the audited financial statements as approved by the Trustees, and other financial information. The full statements have been audited and given an unqualified report. Copies of the full statements have been submitted to the Office of the Scottish Charity Regulator and Companies House. The summary below may not contain sufficient information to allow for a full understanding of the financial affairs of the charity. The full accounts, including audited report, may be obtained from The Leprosy Mission Scotland on the website [leprosymission.scot](http://leprosymission.scot)

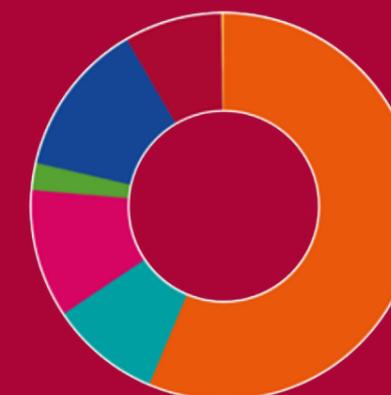
## Statement of Financial Activities

	2020	2019
<b>INCOME</b>		
Donations	399,126	318,954
Legacies	61,263	801,196
Government Grants	10,736	0
Investment Income	305	1,141
Trading Income	864	2,984
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>472,294</b>	<b>1,124,275</b>
<b>EXPENDITURE</b>		
Expenditure on raising funds	231,117	193,320
Expenditure on charitable activities	573,698	620,960
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURE</b>	<b>804,815</b>	<b>814,280</b>
<b>NET INCOME (EXPENDITURE)</b>	<b>(332,521)</b>	<b>309,995</b>
<b>RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS</b>		
Total funds brought forward at 1 January	931,206	621,211
<b>TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD AT 31 DECEMBER</b>	<b>598,685</b>	<b>931,206</b>

# 2020

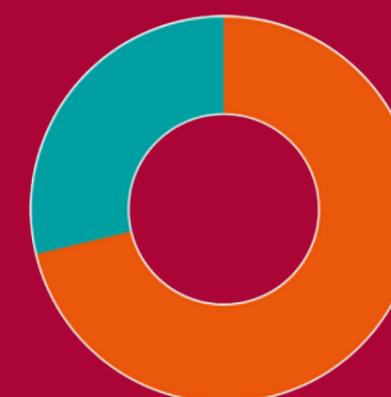
## WHERE YOUR MONEY GOES

Income - £472,294



Individual Donations	£265,995	56.3%
Churches, Groups and Companies	£43,888	9.3%
Trusts	£50,725	10.7%
Government	£10,736	2.3%
Legacies	£61,263	13.0%
Gift Aid	£38,808	8.2%
Other	£879	0.2%

Expenditure - £804,815



Charitable Activities	£573,698	71.3%
Costs of Generating Income	£231,117	28.7%



## leprosymission.scot

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