



CATENIAN

BURSARY FUND

To Directors, Provincial Charity Officers (for forwarding to Circle Charity Officers) to include in their next report –

The ONLINE/ZOOM meeting took place on 12 November 2024

The Chairman opened the meeting with prayers as usual for this Zoom meeting. Kevin Campbell (Association Secretary), Andy Smith, Kevin McKenna, Jean Harkin and Habib Karam had sent their apologies due to prior commitments.

Secretary's Report

Karol Grabowski has now assumed full responsibilities as the Secretary to the Board of Trustees, following the retirement of Terence Donnelly at the end of his 9-year term as a Trustee. KG now has access to the email account and Google Drive thanks to some considerable work carried out by our IT support team. Similarly, he is now able to manage the Charity Commission website and maintain correct details of all Trustees.

Steve Fenech, Provincial Director for Malta, shared an extensive report and some photos from the recent Individual Projects carried out by 17 students from the



Students from the Chaplaincy of the University of Malta receive their Bursary Fund Awards

University of Malta Chaplaincy who spent some time during the summer carrying out voluntary work at a number of locations in Africa alongside the Sisters of Mother Teresa.

Numerous requests for assistance appear at regular intervals via the Fund's email address, some of which are outside the remit of the Bursary Fund and are distributed either to various GBNC Work Groups or to local Circles for their consideration. One of these has been a request for support for a Missionary Experience in Iquitos, Peru; the two Augustinian Missions priests in Malta who are leading the project have been contacted with details of how volunteers might apply for some support from the Bursary Fund.

Lourdes and Individual Projects Applications

A number of Individual Project Awards have been adjudicated recently, many of these for Cardoner projects with the Jesuit community in Australia who are organizing projects in South-East Asia; a small number of UK applications have also been received.

Some early adjudications have been made for Lourdes pilgrimages, mainly for the Liverpool diocesan group, a pilgrimage led by Ampleforth School and for a selection of HCPT pilgrimages. Currently there are about 40 Lourdes awards to send out.

Financial report and Investment Portfolio

The change of our Investment Managers eventually took place by the end of June when the bulk of the money from BRI enabled CCLA to purchase units. The balance this month stands at £570,569.00. There is also roughly £35,000 as cash in the Fund's account.

Flame 25

The Association has been a major sponsor of this event for the last decade and will support it again in March next year. This event gives the Bursary Fund the

opportunity to put out their message to almost 10,000 young people, our target market. The Trustees have developed a close working relationship with The Flame leadership team under Fr. Dominic Howarth from Brentwood diocese who has requested a short video from the Trustees.

The FLAME 25 organisers are insisting that safeguarding rules are strictly adhered to so only Trustees on a pre-agreed list will gain admission.

Website Refresh

The latest iteration of the Bursary Fund website is now operational, though there have been a few minor issues with the final implementation. It is our intention to use this update opportunity to make donations to the Fund easier and the IT support team is placing the donations form in a more prominent place on the main Association website.

Terence Graham Award

This award is made in memory of Terence Graham, a deceased brother from Leicester 53 and Kirby Muxloe 329, who left a generous legacy in his will. During the pandemic, the award lay dormant but Trustees received notice that St Mary's University, Twickenham had recently chosen two potential candidates. Trustees agreed to pursue both on condition that they met the criteria for the award which are similar to those of the Individual Projects.

Trustees then discussed the possibility of approaching a Catholic institution in Scotland to see if they would be able to offer a similar award to young Catholic university students.

Karol Grabowski

Secretary and Trustee

Catenian Bursary Fund