

Us. The new
name for USPG



2012 in focus

The work of **Us** and the world church

Us.
every person
every community
a full life

Welcome to Us.

An introduction to our annual report by
the Revd Canon Chris Chivers, Us Chair of Trustees

Each year sees us participating in the life of at least a dozen provinces within the Anglican Communion. And this report for 2012 gives a snapshot of some of this inspiring work.

During this past year I have personally seen extraordinary work to develop community healthcare in Tanzania and to counter the stigmatisation of HIV and AIDS in Zimbabwe. These examples – like so many others – use the unique role and reach of the church to strengthen communities at the grassroots in a way that's holistic and life-giving.

Every person. Every community. A full life. That's always been our mission because it is Christ's mission, through the church and to the world, to bring people to fullness of life (John10:10).

Under Janette O'Neill's leadership we've given this work

new impetus, and an expanding appeal and presence. We've done so by continuing to look carefully and prayerfully at who we are, what we do, and how this may best be expressed as we move further into the twenty-first century.

Our change of name from USPG to Us during 2012 was but one part of this process. Our new brand emphasises continuity and community. It also draws upon the best of our heritage, namely the two organisations that came together to create USPG: the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel (SPG, founded in 1701) and the Universities' Mission to Central Africa (UMCA, founded in 1858). The message is clear: there is no 'them' in what we do, only 'Us'.

I am proud as Chair of Trustees to commend this report to you and the wonderful work of our staff and partners that lies behind it. ■



Us in Bangladesh

The first thing that strikes you about Bollobhpur Hospital is how small it is and how urgently its various buildings are in need of renovation. The next thing that hits you is the loving care of the nurses.

This rural hospital, run by the Church of Bangladesh with support from Us, treats local patients, and co-ordinates a nurse training school, a number of clinics and a community health programme.

In some ways the hospital is pioneering: it is reputedly the only hospital in Bangladesh with a geriatric ward, for example. But there is also a need for development. We are working with the church, hospital and communities to begin a major review that will lead to a more far-reaching health programme. ■

Pictured: Karpashdanga Clinic, Bollobhpur – new mum Annie.

Us in South Africa

The children at the local primary school in Chwezi are delighted with their new school uniforms. And their parents are happy that their children's school fees are being covered.

Life in this part of Zululand is challenging. There is food insecurity and few employment opportunities. A good education is the best hope for a brighter future.

During 2012, we teamed up

with the Anglican charity Hope Africa, the Diocese of Carlisle and the Diocese of Zululand to set up a vegetable garden project that has transformed the lives of 126 families across six parishes.

Participants helped set up the gardens, which are now producing healthy crops of potatoes, cabbages, onions, spinach and beetroot. As well as supporting vulnerable children through school, profit from sales of produce are being used to buy more seed, tools and other equipment.

This self-sustaining project is a good example of a community becoming empowered to look after their own development needs. ■

126

The number of families across six parishes in the Diocese of Zululand whose lives were transformed by a vegetable garden project and set-up with the help of Us, Hope Africa and the Diocese of Carlisle



Us in Palestine

St Phillip Church in Nablus, on the West Bank, doesn't get many visitors. The town of Nablus rarely features on the itineraries of pilgrims to the Holy Land. But Fr Ibrahim Nairouz made it clear by his warm welcome that the arrival of the Us pilgrimage group was greatly appreciated.

It was a moving encounter. The Christian community in Palestine is in decline, as it is throughout the Middle East. Already in a minority, the Christians in Nablus also face the constraints imposed by neighbouring Israel, whose Security Wall and numerous

army check points heavily restrict the movement of Palestinians, even preventing access to hospitals, employment, schools and other amenities. Faced with such isolation and difficult circumstances, it is little wonder Fr Ibrahim and his congregation were heartened to know we had not forgotten their small community.

Twenty-four pilgrims went with Us to the Holy Land last November as part of our advocacy work on behalf of the church in Palestine.

Us pilgrim Anne Bonger recalled: 'Seeing the discrimination faced by Palestinians was heart-breaking and a motivation to keep pressing for justice.' ■

Above: The Us-supported St Luke's Hospital, Nablus.

Us in Malawi

The 9,000 inhabitants of Likoma Island are isolated in many ways. It takes five hours to reach the island by boat from mainland Malawi, and it can be expensive. Consequently, many products and services are hard to obtain. If the ambulance at the Anglican-run St Peter's Hospital breaks down, it can take a long time to find a mechanic to visit.

But despite these challenges, St Peter's continues to thrive. In 2012, Us and the Anglican Church

34,000

The number of people engaged in an Us programme helping four hospitals to engage more closely with communities.

launched a programme that is bringing St Peter's and the local community closer together. Medical staff are meeting villagers to discuss how they can work together to improve health. This listening process has led to developments in preventative healthcare and more focused hospital services.

The same process is also being applied at the three other Us-supported hospitals in Malawi: St Anne's in Nkhotakota, St Luke's in Malosa, and St Martin's in Malindi. Maternal health and sanitation have improved, while malnutrition and malaria have fallen. ■

Us in Zimbabwe

The women nod enthusiastically and make it clear that it is vitally important to look after AIDS orphans and challenge the stigma linked to HIV.

We are in the village of Mhondoro, an historic place in Zimbabwe because it was here, in 1985, that the first person in the country came out as HIV-positive.

We returned to Mhondoro in

2012 for the launch of a national programme we are funding to tackle HIV stigma and improve access to HIV testing and treatment. The programme has the support of faith-based and secular organisations, including the Anglican Church in Zimbabwe.

The programme uses a questionnaire to measure levels of stigma and discrimination so that agencies have hard facts to work with, rather than relying on supposition and hearsay. As a result, HIV programmes and policies can be developed that will have more impact. ■

1985

The year the first person in Zimbabwe came out as HIV-positive.

2012

First national programme launched to tackle HIV stigma in Zimbabwe.

Anglican Board of Mission, Australia



Us in the Philippines

2012 was a landmark year for the Episcopal Church in the Philippines because it saw two previously separate strands of work come together. Until 2012, the church's education and social development programmes were run as two different, albeit complementary, strands of work. But now they have been brought together – and given the title 'biblical development'.

This can be seen clearly in the small community of Pangao, where the local church ran a series of bible studies that led to a development project to install a system for running water (pictured). The people of Pangao heard how Jesus asked the 5,000 'What have you got?' They asked themselves the same question and realised they had skills and resources to do development themselves.

Us works in partnership with the Episcopal Church to support this biblical approach to development. ■

Us in Zambia

Twenty-five volunteers had been gathered from across Zambia: five volunteers from each of the country's five Anglican dioceses. They were meeting to discuss a new programme being supported by Us. Each volunteer is being trained to go out into parishes – many of them rural and isolated –

to listen to communities, hear their concerns, and inspire change.

The church is ideally placed to do this work because it is at the heart of the communities it serves. The details of the programme are still being worked out, but already two main concerns have been highlighted: maternal health and violence against women.

What happens next is very much in the communities' own hands. The volunteers are a catalyst to support the communities as they focus on their needs and concerns. ■



Us in Brazil

The church, at its best, is about open doors. That's another way of saying that everyone is welcome.

Life for Levi Santana (pictured), a priest in training from High Wycombe, must have at times seemed like a series of revolving doors: born in Brazil, with Jewish ancestors who fled persecution in Portugal, and with a great great grandfather who won freedom from slavery by fighting for Brazil in a war against Paraguay. Levi's is now a British citizen. But he returned to Brazil for three weeks in 2012 with our Journey with Us programme as part of his ordination training.

He stayed in the City of God, a suburb of Rio de Janeiro, where the doors of the small Anglican church are open every day, throughout the day, offering people a space to find refuge.

The impact on Levi was huge. He told Us: 'From my experience in Brazil, I realise that many of us are displaced. I was also reminded that many people are in desperate need of Jesus and the hope he offers.' ■

www.weareUs/journey

Us/Leah Gordon



Us in Sri Lanka

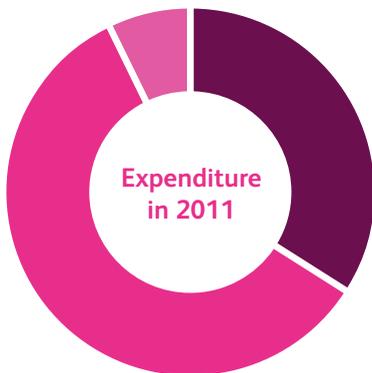
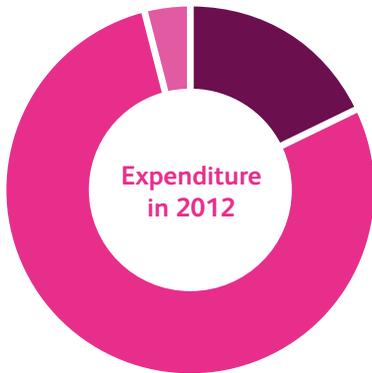
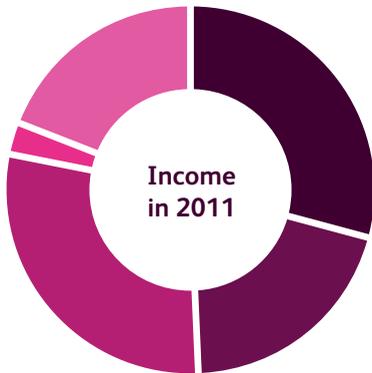
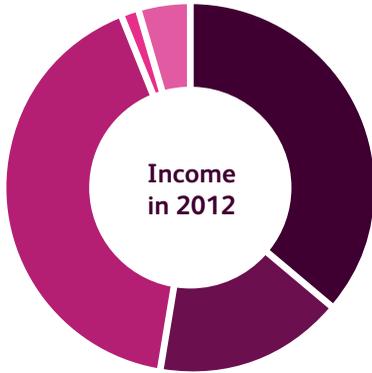
The cricket pitch is at the top of a steep hill in a tea plantation in Hatton. The local boys are laughing with glee at the prospect of Fr Andrew Devadason facing their bowling. The ball is delivered, and Fr Andrew's shot is – how shall we put it – less than impressive. With a wink he explains that no-one in the Sri Lankan cricket team protested when decided to commit himself to the priesthood.

Thanks to Fr Andrew, and

the local Anglican church, these children have the hope of a brighter future. Life on Sri Lanka's tea plantations is difficult: the work is hard, wages are low, and it is difficult to access healthcare. But the church is working with communities to improve education. There are nursery schools, teacher training, and students are entering university for the first time. With education there is the hope that change will follow. Last year saw Us renew our support for this work. ■

Above: Fr Andrew and medical student Sathi.

Summary of income and expenditure for 2012



Income

The world economy remains volatile, which has a knock on effect on disposable income. So, while our supporters (individuals and churches) have donated a generous £1.39m to Us, this figure is 12 per cent down on the figure for 2011. In total, our income for 2012 was £3.8m. This is an overall decrease in income of £1.5m compared to 2011. Last year's higher figure was due to the sale of the College of Ascension, which generated a gain of £1m, and a large legacy of £438k.

	2012 £'000	2011 £'000
Donations.....	1,394	1,588
Legacies received.....	639	1,081
Investment income.....	1,606	1,575
Hire of facilities, courses and similar income.....	2	36
Net gain on disposal of tangible fixed assets.....	175	1,033
Total Income	£3,816	£5,312

Expenditure

Our concern is to ensure that as much of our income as possible goes towards supporting our church partners around the world. During 2012, we spent £2.9m, representing 78 per cent of our expenditure on global work, an increase of 98 per cent on 2011.

In line with many UK charities, the cost of fundraising was 18 per cent. Last year's fundraising costs included items such as our prayer diary and worship materials, which are now accounted for under heading of 'Mission, education and worship'. Governance costs have also fallen, leaving more money for our global programmes.

Percentage spend	2012	2011
Cost of generating funds.....	18	34
Global work.....	78	59
Governance costs.....	4	7
Total %	100	100

This summary financial information has been extracted from the full audited annual accounts, which can be seen on our website.

Thank you from Us

We would like to say a huge thank you to all supporters and churches whose generous donations make our work possible. This includes all gifts made through legacies and in memoriam – we continue to give thanks for our departed friends and loved ones.

We would like to add a particular thank to the following organisations for their generosity:

- Anglican Board of Mission – Australia
- Diocese of Oxford
- ECHO International Health Services Limited
- Holy Trinity, Sunningdale
- Richmond Team Ministry
- St Andrew, Sonning
- St George the Martyr, Shirley
- St Matthew with St Luke, Oxford
- The Archbishop of Canterbury's Anglican Communion Fund
- The James Kinnison Charitable Trust
- Westminster Abbey
- Bishop's Outreach Fund, Oxford
- Anglican Church in Denmark

We are **Us**. We are a Christian charity working in partnership with Anglican churches around the world. Together, we work with local communities to improve health, put children in school, tackle discrimination, nurture leaders, give a voice to women, and much more. Founded 1701.

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Registered number 438966 / CHY7998