

BALANCE SHEET as at 30th June 2009

www.btsociety.org



BRITAIN-TANZANIA SOCIETY (UK)

THIRTY-FOURTH ANNUAL REPORT and ACCOUNTS

FOR THE PERIOD 1ST JULY 2008– 30TH JUNE 2009



FUNDS	20008-9	10,627.88
less distribution T.D.T.		1,000.00
Profit Brought Forward		2,545.82

12,173.70

ASSETS		
HSBC	7,275.62	
Deposit HSBC	5,605.08	12,880.70

Creditors		
Subscription paid in Advance	-484.00	
T.D.T.	-223.00	-707.00

12,173.70

Notes to Accounts

Membership subscriptions are taken into account on a cash basis but accrued or shown as paid in advance if appropriate.

Grants and contributions are taken into account when received.

Expenditure is included on accrual basis.

Examiner

I have examined the above statement of assets and liabilities and the accompanying income and expenditure account which are prepared and drawn up in accordance with the books and vouchers of the Society and from explanations given to me.

(Signed)

Peter Marsh

Wakefield

12th July 2009

Note The executive committee agreed to pay £1000 to TDT from the total held in Funds.

I. THE U.K. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

(1) <u>Ex officio</u>	President	HE Ali Hassan Mwinyi
	Vice-Presidents	Sir J. K. Chande Elizabeth Fennell Derek Ingram Professor Esther Mwaikambo
	The members of the Executive Committee of BTS (Tanzania)	
(2) <u>The Officers</u>	Chair :	Ronald Fennell
	Vice-Chair :	David Brewin
	Hon. Executive Secretary:	Jill Bowden
	Hon. Membership Secretary :	Ann Brumfit
	Hon. Treasurer :	Betty Wells
(3) <u>The Members</u>	Richard Barton-Wood	Danny Mwasandube
	Abubakar Faraji	Robin Newell
	Roy Galbraith	Peter Park
	David Gibbons	Mary Punt
	Peter Hill	Hildebrand Shayo
	Aseri Katanga	Leo Tesha
	Julian Marcus	Tim Watkins-Idle
	Claire Mercer	
(4) <u>Co-opted</u>	Yusuf Kashangwa	(Director, Tanzania Trade Centre)

II. THE TANZANIA DEVELOPMENT TRUST COMMITTEE

(1) <u>The Trustees</u>	Trevor Jaggar	Robin Newell
	Danny Mwasandube	Peter Park
(2) <u>The Officers</u>	Chair :	Robin Newell
	Vice-Chair/ Educ. Officer:	Julian Marcus
	Treasurer:	Danny Mwasandube
	Secretary:	Peter Hill
	Project Officers:	Ron Fennell, David Gibbons, Julian Marcus, Sally Parson
3) <u>The Members</u>	Richard Barton-Wood	Aseri Katanga
	Jill Bowden (ex officio)	Claire Mercer
	Elizabeth Fennell	Tim Watkins-Idle

BRITAIN-TANZANIA SOCIETY INCOME & EXPENDITURE A/C Year ending 30th June 09

<u>INCOME</u>	2008-9	
Bank Interest Received	53.92	
Ordinary subscriptions	7888.50	
Group subscriptions	289.00	
Arrears	295.00	8472.50
TOTAL INCOME		8526.42
<u>EXPENSES</u>		
Bond Membership	105.79	
OPERATING EXPENSES		
AGM	1151.25	
Stationery	14.80	
Postage	1213.15	
Printing	767.00	
Room Hire	78.25	
Travel	39.00	3263.45
Seminars	232.81	
H.C. Reception	-210.48	22.33
TANZANIA AFFAIRS		
Expenses	188.30	
Printing	2693.64	
Sales	-292.91	2589.03
TOTAL EXPENSES:		5980.60
Net Profit (Loss)		2545.82

You can help the Tanzania Development Trust by

- *Buying BTS Christmas Cards—see the Flier and the TDT report*
- *Donating through Just Giving: Go to www.justgiving.com/tdt*

- School textbooks and equipment for Uroki Lutheran Secondary School in Kilimanjaro Region collected by Heidi Twilley and a group in Barnt Green near Birmingham;

- Books for Hamamni Secondary School, Stone Town Zanzibar assembled by Polly Cranfield and a group of Sixth Formers at Ellowes Sports College Dudley; and Science Equipment for a new secondary school Cheju Marine in Zanzibar, supported by TDT, Elimu Africa a US NGO and Aseri Katanga's Computers4Africa; this was donated by LABAID in Amersham;

The fourth shipment will be medical equipment from DevonAid to go to the District hospital at Korogwe, Tanga Region.

We are particularly grateful to Ms. Patricia Germain of BA World Cargo for the guidance and assistance she has given on the rather complex documentation. We have also found Anania Mwabungu the General Manager of Faith Logistics Ltd invaluable in facilitating the clearance processes in Dar es Salaam.

14 FINANCE

The Society continues to be in a healthy state financially. **Betty Wells**, the Treasurer, does a great job maintaining the accounts and following up on subscriptions. She comes down to London from Yorkshire for all committee and other meetings.

The balance at the end of the year was over £12,000 after an allocation of £1000 to the Development Trust for project support. Income and Expenditure Statements are on the following pages.

15. CONCLUSION

At the end of another busy year the Society is in good spirits. There are many more opportunities for us to contribute to the strengthening of friendship between the two countries. I hope that we shall see an increased number of members actively involved in the work and enjoyment of BTS. Please do not hesitate to contact members of the Committees with your ideas and requests.

Robin Newell, Chair of the Development Trust is handing over the leadership of TDT in the autumn after serving for five years. During that time he has transformed the work of the Trust and greatly increased its grant giving capacity. Jill Bowden may also be handing over as Executive Secretary. Her skill and experience has been a tremendous asset. On behalf of myself and all the members I would like to thank them both very much and wish them well in the future.

Ron Fennell Chair BTS

III. THE TANZANIA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

(1) <u>Ex Officio</u>	The President	
	The Vice-Presidents	
	The members of the Executive Committee of BTS (UK)	
(2) <u>The Officers</u>	Chair	Hon. Paul Rupia
	Vice-Chair	Dr Cuthbert Kimambo
	Acting Hon. Exec. Secretary	Nancy Macha
	Hon. Treasurer	Dr. Strato Mosha
	Projects Officer	Chuwa Eliapenda
(3) <u>The Members</u>	Edward Bejumula	Mrs Prudence Eliapenda
	Paddy Hoon	Hon. Mahmood Kombo
	Mrs Gloria Mawji	Ms Zakia Mohammed
	Prof Gelase Mutahaba	Michael Njumba
	Dr Sam Nyantehe	Ms Jitto Ram
	Ashwin Sampat	Hon. Beatrice Shelukindo



Front cover: BTS reception for the Tanzanian Bishops and wives. Danny Mwasandube with H.E. Mrs Majaar and Dr Majaar, Philip Parham, Archbishop Mokiwa and Trevor Jaggat.

Left: Bishop of Hereford and Liz Fennell with Dr and Mrs Majaar and one of the visiting wives

REPORT OF THE CHAIR OF BTS (UK)

1. RELATIONS WITH GOVERNMENTS

The Society's relationship with the governments is as important as our expanding contacts with communities in Tanzania in strengthening the friendship between the two countries. This friendship is our fundamental purpose.

Her Excellency Mrs Mwanaidi Maajar, the Tanzania High Commissioner has supported our work and attends many of our events. Members have been privileged to be invited to dinners at her residence, and a reception on Tanzania National Day. The book launch of "The Magic of Mikandani" by Trade Aid hosted by the High Commission was a great success.

The British High Commissioner Philip Parham and his wife Kasia during their stay in Dar es Salaam were strong supporters of BTS. They travelled extensively in the Regions. The new website he developed has proved very useful for UK visitors to Tanzania [<http://ukintanzania.fco.gov.uk/en/>]. Kasia on her part has done a tremendous job helping with a programme for disadvantaged boys who survive on the streets of Dar es Salaam. Their story is presented in a book "DogoDogo" written and illustrated by the boys themselves produced by Kasia and published by Macmillan (ISBN 978-9-987-37302-4). It is being used as a reader in many schools in the country and getting wide circulation by members of the Society here.

Diane Corner, the current High Commissioner appointed last Spring has already been in contact with BTS (TZ) and will address their annual Meeting in November.

Stephen O' Brien, MP, is Chair of the All Party Group on Tanzania and a committed member of the Society. He chaired a fascinating meeting in November in the House of Lords convened by the Africa Research Institute on *Bunge Lenye Meno, A Parliament with Teeth*. A number of members of the Society took part – coming from as far away as Edinburgh – and heard the Auditor General, Ludovic Utuoh, present the case for parliamentary oversight of government following the Richmond Power Supply contract scandal. At a subsequent meeting, Ludovic led an open discussion on political changes and corruption in Tanzania.



H.E. Diane Corner presenting her credentials to President Kikwete

Executive Committee will present a proposal for the election of Trevor Jaggas as a Vice President of the Society, a proposal fully endorsed by the UK Committee.

Members paid a courtesy call on the British High Commissioner in her office on the 21st April 2009 and were invited to the Queen's birthday celebrations at the residence on 18th June 2009 where they had an opportunity to meet Diane Corner and Peter Stoker.


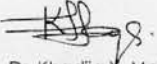
The Chapter provides us with a very reliable perspective on news and issues of concern to BTS UK. Members who visit Tanzania find their advice most helpful.

Pictured on page 12, are members of the committee of BTS (TZ) with H.E. Diane Corner, Sir J K Chande is on the High Commissioner's left.

13. BRITISH AIRWAYS GENEROUS ASSISTANCE

We were very fortunate indeed to have been selected by British Airways as one of its Charities of the Year in 2008. This has been a tremendous help for institutions in Tanzania linked to charities, towns or schools in the UK. *The airline granted four free air freight consignments of 500 kgs each.* The shipments were allocated as follows:

- Medical equipment for Muhimbili School of Nursing, assembled by Petronella Mwasandube, much of it from an NGO - Aid to Hospitals Worldwide;

	MUHIMBILI UNIVERSITY OF HEALTH AND ALLIED SCIENCES
	SCHOOL OF NURSING
British Airways World Cargo	P. O. BOX 65004 ■ DAR ES SALAAM ■ TANZANIA 29 th June 2009
RE: LETTER OF APPRECIATION FOR RECEIPT OF AIR CARGO GOODS (MEDICAL EQUIPMENT FOR SKILLS LAB) FROM LONDON, UK TO DAR ES SALAAM, TANZANIA	
Kindly refer the above heading. The School of Nursing would like to express our sincere gratitude for the services you rendered us in February 2009. Shipping our medical equipment (valued at £ 5000) donated by the British Tanzania Society (Registered Charity No.270462) is highly appreciated given the current financial crisis that befalls major companies such as yours.	
The received medical equipment is a step towards establishing a skills laboratory that the School of Nursing has never had since its inception. We sincerely hope that your esteemed company will still support such charity organizations in future to allow them to serve other deserving institution in the country and elsewhere.	
Sincerely  Dr. Khadija Y. Malima Ag DEAN SCHOOL OF NURSING	

11. SCOTTISH GROUP

Ann Burgess reports that the Group continues to meet in Edinburgh. There are approximately 80 members and friends on the mailing list although many are unable to attend meetings. Despite having to change venues there has been a full programme of meetings. The Group is closely involved with the Tanzania Edinburgh Community Association (TzECA), and, on an individual basis, supporting charities and projects in Tanzania.

Meetings included:

In June, Frederick Longino spoke on 'Accusations of child abuse linked to beliefs in witchcraft and religious exorcism' – the focus of his PhD thesis; and a number of people described projects with which they are involved in Tanzania.

In October, Matt Norton described the schools project he heads in Kenya and Tanzania.

On December 5th several members attended the large and very successful Launch party for TzECA which was attended by the Tanzania High Commissioner.

In January there were talks by: Niwael Mtui (on the methods used to measure the seroprevalence of contagious bovine pleuropneumonia (her PhD thesis), and by Monica Mhoja on the 'Dignity Alert and Research Forum' an INGO concerned with human rights of African women, children and young people.

In April, after discussion with TzECA the Group held a joint TzECA/BTS Round Table meeting at which people who are involved with charities and projects in Tanzania discussed their positive and challenging experiences.

The Group is now part of the Scotland Africa Directory (www.cas.ed.ac.uk/organisations/index.html)

I congratulate *Ralph Ibbott*, *Chairman*, Ann Burgess the Secretary and their team on their extensive programmes which include so many Tanzanians working or studying in Edinburgh – Mwalimu Nyerere's alma mater.

12. TANZANIA CHAPTER

The Tanzania Chapter's year is a calendar year. Two Executive Committee meetings have been held on 2 April and 4 June. Meetings are scheduled for 3rd September and 5th November 2009. The AGM will be held on the 21st November at the Tanzania Central Library and the guest speaker will be HE Diane Corner, the High Commissioner. The



2. EVENTS

In July 2008, we were fortunate to have been able to entertain Tanzanian bishops and their wives attending the Anglican Lambeth Conference in Canterbury. Some of our members met the bishops from Tanzania and a number of other countries on their arrival at Heathrow and guided them to their UK hosts in the dioceses. On 28 July BTS hosted a lunch in Canterbury for the twenty six Tanzanian bishops and their wives, led by Archbishop Makiwa, and their UK hosts. There were 102 guests, including many Society members. We are very grateful to Danny Mwasandube and members of the Kiswahili church in London who provided many tempting dishes of Tanzanian food and to Julian Marcus who was the overall organizer.

The Trust arranged a special meeting in January to define more clearly the basis upon which the TDT reviews applications for assistance. Julian and Ann Marcus provided a lunch. The outcome of the meeting is better guidelines (accessible through the BTS website) and a revised application form which will help the many community applicants present their cases to the Trust more clearly.

We held a reception in February in London to say farewell and to thank Philip Parham and his wife who were on their way to the British Mission at the UN in New York, where he will be Deputy Head of Mission, and to welcome Diane Corner and her husband Peter Stoker before they left for Tanzania. The Tanzanian High Commissioner was a guest of honour, as was Mrs. Sarah Brown, the Prime Minister's wife, and David Blunkett MP (see the May Newsletter for a full account of the occasion). A large number of members attended.

Members of the Society enjoyed colourful inter-faith celebrations of the Sixtieth



BTS members Abubakar Faraji and Jairo Nyaongo with BTS Chair Ron Fennell

Anniversary of the Commonwealth at Westminster Abbey. Her Majesty the Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh and President Museveni of Uganda were present.

A number of members also attended the Tanzania Day Service at the Abbey later in April.

Members also went to a conference on Education in the Commonwealth chaired by Valerie Davey, formerly MP for Bristol West and a member of BTS. The speaker was Lord Kinnock.

A summer lunch at Danny Mwasandube's home in July in Dorset was strictly in the 2009/10 year. But it was a great event to round off the year especially as many had a chance to

meet members and their families whom we know only by name or email and who find it difficult to get to London. The summer traffic jams did not deter them and we ended up with over forty people who enjoyed wonderful food prepared by Danny, Petronella his wife and Jolly Sirikwa.

Some events are arranged at short notice so it can be difficult to inform people. Please consider giving your email address to Ann Brumfit, the Membership Secretary, so that we can keep you informed.



Guests enjoying the BTS Summer Party at Petronella's and Danny's house

3. VISITS to TANZANIA

Many BTS members go to Tanzania each year to work with charities or on business assignments. We unfortunately do not hear about all of them. Committee members who visited included Richard Barton-Wood, David Brewin, Paul Harrison, and Sally Parson with her husband climbed Kilimanjaro to raise money for TDT. Leo Tesha spends time each year in Kilimanjaro Region and my wife and I were there for nearly six weeks in the Autumn. Hildebrand Shayo had two trips to advise on opportunities for exports to the EU and one for the Ministry of Natural Resources and Tourism funded by the government of Finland. Aseri Katanga went more than once working with Computer4Africa, a charity he chairs. And Abubakar Faraji was also there. Thus 10 out of 24 committee members were there and we know of many others from link groups.

This, together with our friends in the Tanzania Chapter, may help to explain why we are usually able to respond constructively to requests for advice and assistance. All of the committee members who go bear their own expenses. There is no call on BTS or TDT funds.

The journey Liz and I made in Tanzania took us to 10 Regions and 24 projects – twelve of which are covered by Robin Newell's TDT report, nine projects are those TDT assisted in the past and five were new requests. As always, we were overwhelmed by the hospitality and generosity of the many people we met. The Tanzania Chapter gave us a hearty welcome at two different parties. We had extensive discussions with the British High Commissioner at the beginning of our stay. On the last day in Dar es Salaam we had the honour to be invited for tea by the President of the Society, former President Ali Hassan Mwinyi, and made a point of congratulating him on his recent climb of Kilimanjaro.

Executive Committee, the Society continued to play a vital role in increasing the awareness of Tanzania, its needs and aspirations among the British public. He commended the growth of the TDT under Robin Newell's able leadership.

The Treasurer's Report, which showed an increase in subscription income and a healthy balance, was accepted.

Robin Newell introduced the Annual Report of the Development Trust Committee. The diversity of assistance to projects in many Regions was noted and the invaluable support by a number of other trusts as well as members of the Society.

Officials of both committees were elected: Ron Fennell became Chair of BTS and Jill Bowden Executive Secretary.

Tracy Bracher gave a moving presentation about the problems facing albinos in Tanzania. The meeting was followed by informal discussions over refreshments and visits to stalls set up by a number of link organizations

10. MEMBERSHIP

Ann Brumfit, the Membership Secretary is pleased to report an increase in membership during the past year and we note that student membership has returned to its former level. The Society is eager to welcome new members. They will bring new ideas - improving our understanding of life and work in Tanzania and enabling us to strengthen our support for communities in their struggle for development. I would like to thank Ann for all the work she does.

Comparative figures for previous years are given in the table below. We also have 18 Honorary Members.

	<u>2009</u>	<u>2008</u>	<u>2007</u>	<u>2006</u>	<u>2005</u>
Ordinary members - individual	370	361	373	368	360
- couples	180	175	187	195	179
Total Ordinary Members	730	711	747	758	758
Student Members	37	29	38	34	34
Total Individual Members	767	740	785	792	792
Group Members	26	22	23	24	24

Roy Galbraith continues to do excellent work in notifying members of a wide range of meetings organized by the Royal African Society and the Royal Commonwealth Society. In the coming year we will arrange a seminar on the current economic situation in Tanzania. Roy invites members to suggest other topics and venues.

7. LINKS.

We recognize the strengths of the many Links throughout the UK with which we are associated. I should like to thank **Peter White** for the very useful and comprehensive list of UK organizations active in Tanzania which he produces. It can be accessed from the website.

As we travel around Tanzania each year we discover connections between communities in both countries that we were not always aware of. I hope that as you read this Annual Report and maybe discover we have inadvertently left you out you will not hesitate to get in contact with us.

We also hope that some of the link members will join our Committees and assist in the administrative work of the existing officers.

8. COMMITTEE MEETINGS

The Executive Committee and the Tanzania Development Trust Committee each met on four occasions, on Monday 15th September 2008, Thursday 27th November 2008, Friday 27th February 2009 and Wednesday 20th May 2009. During the year, Paul Harrison resigned from being a Co-opted Member of the Tanzania Development Trust Committee, due to work commitments. He will, from his new location in Nairobi, continue to support the Committee's project work in Tanzania.

I am very grateful for the support all committee members give to the work of the Society. Our Tanzanian members Danny Mwasandube, Hildebrand Shayo, Abubakar Faraji and Aseri Katanga, despite their heavy workload, continue to make valuable contributions and provide important links to the Diaspora and make new connections in Tanzania.

9. ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2008

The 2008 AGM was held at the School of African and Oriental Studies (SOAS) on 11 October. In his address the Deputy High Commissioner, Mr Chabaka Kilumanga, emphasized the role of the Society in fostering co-operation and understanding between the two countries. He praised the work of the outgoing Chair, Mr. Trevor Jaggard who had done so much to enhance the ties between the two countries.

Trevor in his remarks noted that, after serving for 17 years as a member of the

It is difficult to select which part of the trip was most exciting, maybe the visit to Nkonkwa on the shore of Lake Tanganyika. It took five days to get there from Dar es Salaam and the last leg of the journey involved 10 hours along bush tracks. We spent two nights there sharing the house of Pastor Damas, the project manager. Nkonkwa has no electricity, no mobile phones, no email, no bank - teachers have to take the boat to Kigoma to collect their salaries. Three weeks before we arrived 6 people died of cholera at the neighbouring village of Buhingu. The primary school has 650 pupils and 6 teachers – only three were present when we were there. Each child only had three out of the seven periods in a day with a teacher in the classroom; the rest of the time they were on their own and very little school work was done..

The Nurse's House ... is really good and attractive house. I will send you the photos after the full completion of this House and the new village Nurse. I have been with the District Medical Officer in his office here in Kigoma discussing about the issues. He has processed already that whenever the House is completed the Nurse can be sent across. I know that you continue to seek funding that will manage to complete these two teachers' houses and for other new projects. We are more grateful for the work you are doing on behalf of us. Thank you in advance. Best wishes, Pastor DAMAS

The teacher's house and the nurse's house which TDT financed are vital to the welfare of the village. A nurse has already come to live in the village since Pastor Damas' letter.

4. VISITORS from TANZANIA

Perhaps not surprisingly, we do not hear of many of the visitors from Tanzania who have connections with BTS.

- Our Vice President, Sir Andy Chande and his wife had dinner with BTS members
- Andilile Ibrahim, Director of the Mango Tree Project in Kyela which looks after over 10,000 orphans in 63 villages, stayed with Peter and Eirlys Park in Cambridge and later with the Fennells .
- Two visits were made by Dr Elly Macha who is the blind Executive Director of the AU Federation of Blind Societies. She was hosted by David Gibbons and the Fennells
- The Hon. Mahmood Kombo MP and his wife Zakia from Zanzibar joined us for an early Christmas lunch

- Flora Mboya, an experienced physiotherapist who is studying for her Masters at Southampton University, stayed with us at Christmas.
- Leticia Kashasha, Principal of the Livestock Training Institute at Buhuri in Tanga Region spent a night with the Fennells on the completion of a course in Devon..

5. PUBLICATIONS AND PUBLICITY

Tanzanian Affairs.

David Brewin continues to maintain a very high standard in the regular issues of *Tanzanian Affairs*. A prominent politician in Zanzibar, whom I met during a visit to Zanzibar in November 2008, spoke in glowing terms of the balance and quality of the commentary on events in Zanzibar and said his ministerial colleagues were on the look out for further issues.

Much of the content of *Tanzanian Affairs* during the year was devoted to the determined efforts of the authorities to deal with corruption including the arrest or removal from office of many very senior politicians and businessmen on corruption charges, eventually culminating in the resignation of the Government and the appointment of a new Prime Minister and ministers. Significant stories were published on President Kikwete's growing international prestige, the failure of efforts to bring the two main parties together in Zanzibar, land use planning, connectivity for remote schools, the controversy over whether Tanzania and/or Zanzibar should join the 'Organisation of the Muslim Conference' (OIC) and how the credit crunch is affecting Tanzania.

The macro economic situation is well summarized in the report of a meeting organized by President Kikwete and the IMF in March (see *Tanzanian Affairs* No 93). With the severe global recession there is increasing concern among members about

"I would very much like to continue my subscription to Tanzanian Affairs and always look forward to reading it."

BTS Member, Minnesota, USA

the impact upon poverty and human welfare in Tanzania.

Donovan McGrath joined the editorial team of *Tanzanian Affairs* during the year. Lecturer in Media and Communications at SOAS and part-time Lecturer in Swahili, he holds a BA (Hons.) degree in African Languages and Culture and a Master of Arts degree in Film and Visual Culture. He co-authored the book "Colloquial Swahili" and has taken over responsibility for the section headed "Tanzania in the International Media". Jacob Knight continues as a co-editor and does a sterling job in maintaining the journal's website. Mary Punt is Distribution Manager and Debbie Simmons is responsible for Advertising. John Cooper Poole is in charge of

book reviews assisted by Marion Doro in the USA. David has a great team. I am grateful to them.

Newsletter.

Members all over the country and abroad look forward to the Newsletter and find its broad coverage fascinating. It continues to be published three times a year (January, May and September) and is also available (in colour) online via the BTS website. The editor, *Richard Barton-Wood*, aims to include notices of meetings and news about members and events, both in the UK and in Tanzania. The Newsletter contains regular reports of seminars and other features of interest to members. Richard likes to include updates on some of the projects supported by TDT as well as news of initiatives by other NGOs and any organisations working in Tanzania. All this depends on him receiving copy in good time, preferably with digital photographs. Letters, comments and opinions from members are especially welcome! Richard's email address is abbeygarth@hotmail.com

Website

The Society's website (www.btsociety.org) has proved to be a useful tool for informing the public about ourselves. But as web technology moves on rapidly, the site is becoming rather dated, both in its look and feel to users and in its ease of use. Also, there is just one site for both the Society and the Tanzania Development Trust which could be confusing.

Therefore, *Tim Watkins-Idle*, the website manager, after extensive discussions with the Committee, has arranged for two new linked sites to be commissioned which will be clearer and more interactive. They will have more information about the Society and the Trust, and be easier to maintain and update. For example, the new Trust website has a map of Tanzania with pins indicating where we are supporting projects, and when pins are clicked there will be details about the particular project.

Draft sites have been built, and feedback from a variety of people has been collected for incorporation into second drafts, which we expect will become the new sites in a few months time. I thank Tim for all his hard work and look forward to the new websites being available.

6. SEMINARS

A successful seminar on *Trade and the East African Community* was held on 29 November 2008 at SOAS, in collaboration with the Centre of African Studies, and the Royal African Society. The speakers were David Potts of the Department of Development and Economic Studies University of Bradford and Simon Cowan Africa economist, Citibank. The illustrated presentation gave a comprehensive review of developments in Tanzania since Independence, highlighting the central role of foreign exchange, commodity terms of trade and government policies.