

Annual Report & Accounts 2015/2016

Table of Contents

MaK Directory.....	3	Risk Management	5
MaK Trustees for the year2015/16	3	Communicating with Volunteers and	
MaK Mission.....	3	Supporters.....	5
Who we are	3	Volunteers	5
What we do	3	Trustees' Report.....	6
Our approach.....	3	Chair's Introduction.....	6
Structure, Governance and Management ...	4	Financial Position	10
Trustees.....	4	Treasurer's Report	11

MaK Directory

MaK Trustees for the year 2015/16

Naomi Hamill (Chair)
Pam Dawes (Treasurer)
Natalie Harrison (Secretary)

Kelly Bucher
Louis Harris
Stephen Raw
Fazli Blakcori

MaK Mission

Our purpose

MaK supports recovery in Kosovo (and the UK) by providing opportunities, resources, and developing partnerships.

Who we are

MaK is an independent organisation, registered as a charity, operating throughout the UK and Kosovo with partners, volunteers and supporters of several nationalities. We have several partners in the UK and Kosovo. We have a core group of long term volunteers and many short term volunteers. We have many dedicated supporters in the UK. We also have two staff in Kosovo.

What we do

We help to relieve poverty, sickness and distress in Kosovo. To achieve the greatest impact, we work on three interlinking fronts:

- providing opportunities for young people and adults in Kosovo to learn new skills
- providing resources and developing programmes to address emerging needs
- developing partnerships with organisations in the UK and Kosovo with similar objectives

MaK works in the following areas:

- Education
- Construction of the Manchester
- Peace Park
- Art and Music
- Promoting justice and equality
- Collecting and Distributing Aid
- Family support
- Sport

Our approach

All our work comes from a needs-based approach. Through closely working with the community in Kosovo and the Kosovo community in the UK we establish projects to address emerging needs. All of our projects can be linked back to the main areas in which we work. We work within a network of partnerships. The key organisations which we have built partnerships with have all worked with MaK in both the UK and Kosovo: Castle Fine Arts Ltd., Eden Project, Imperial War Museum North, Municipality of Podujevë, Nova International (Great Run) and Yorkshire Sculpture Park.

We organise a summer school in the schools local to the Manchester Peace Park in Kosovo. We support ecology education and equip schools with computers. We arrange training programmes to increase skill and leadership potential. We are building the Manchester Peace Park in Kosovo to provide a resource for the community for recreation, rehabilitation and education. We have created a garden for reflection and a central arena for meetings and performance.

We are building play areas for children and various sports pitches for all ages. With the Eden Project we are developing a horticultural programme for Peace Park staff. We develop partnerships between artists in the UK and Kosovo to provide increased strength and opportunity through collaboration. We also support artistic projects that further our purpose including the creation and installation of sculpture work in the Manchester Peace Park in Kosovo. We work with musicians in the UK to raise both funds and awareness of Kosovo and we have developed a music programme involving records and performance of Manchester music and UK/Kosovo collaboration. Other projects benefit from the financial support and outreach generated from music events.

We have created Voices of Kosovo in Manchester, an archive, donated to City Library (Manchester) and the Imperial War Museum (London) and a new website www.vokim.org.

We aim to promote justice and equality by leading by example and undertaking projects that encourage peace and understanding. We support victims of war crimes to help bring those guilty to justice.

We encourage equality by actively supporting the professional development of women and young people and lead a women's business initiative involving 20 women from Podujeva.

We respond to changing needs. In the UK we arrange many short, intensive residencies for people based in Kosovo. We collect medical aid and educational equipment as needed. We support the Psychiatric Day Centre in Podujeva.

We organised the first Kosovo Run around the Manchester Peace Park. We build partnerships with sports organisations in the UK to provide sport event management training to young volunteers in Kosovo and we actively support these volunteers to organise this now annual athletics fixture.

We have introduced tennis to the children and young people of Podujeva.

We support families in South Manchester who were evacuated to the UK from Kosovo during the war.

Structure, Governance and Management

MaK is a registered charity (registration number 1087178). Its objects and powers are set out in its Constitution.

Trustees

MaK's governing body is called The Executive Committee (also known as the trustees). This body comprises of a minimum of four and a maximum of eight Members: 3 officers (Chair, Treasurer and Secretary) and at least one (up to five) other Members. They each serve a term of one year after which they can be re-elected to serve a further year. There is no limit on the number of terms a trustee can serve.

Executive Committee members are responsible for controlling the management and administration of MaK. They serve as volunteers. Executive commit-

tee members work together as a team, and have collective responsibility for the charity. Executive Committee members have, and accept, ultimate responsibility for directing the affairs of MaK, ensuring that it is solvent and well run, and delivering the charitable outcomes for the benefit of the public for which it was set up. Executive Committee members who are not officers take on other responsibilities

Risk Management

The Executive Committee has overall responsibility for MaK's system of internal control. Such a system of control can provide only reasonable and not absolute assurance against inappropriate or ineffective use of resources, or against the risk of errors or fraud. These risks are further heightened, given the difficult nature of communications, institutional and financial infrastructure in Kosovo. The risks that MaK faces throughout the year are assessed by the Executive Committee at meetings and more informally via email and telephone. Action is taken to mitigate the risks and where necessary the Executive Committee are able to respond quickly to deal with any problems.

Communicating with Volunteers and Supporters

In addition to the Annual General Meeting, MaK holds regular informal meetings to enable supporters to raise questions and interest. During each main visit to Kosovo, MaK holds meetings with staff, volunteers, local businesses and the community including local government leadership. MaK also

attends and arranges meetings with other partner organisations. MaK maintains two websites that provides information to the public on MaK's activities, and how people can make a donation and/or get involved in addition to Facebook pages.

www.makonline.org

www.vokim.org

Key volunteers from MaK frequently give talks to groups of regular supporters. MaK uses email to allow all staff, volunteers, supporters and others to ask questions of the Executive Committee directly. MaK also uses email and Facebook to disseminate timely information about events in the UK and Kosovo.

Volunteers

This year more than 120 volunteers contributed their time to MaK in a variety of ways in the UK and Kosovo. Several make a regular commitment ranging from a few hours a month to many hours a week. Some use their professional expertise, while others give their time and energy in work that is not related to their everyday jobs. Some volunteers may be retired or not in paid employment. MaK attempts to apply the principles of involvement and equality to its many volunteers. A few volunteers organise fundraising events and others contribute to and lead specific projects for MaK.

Trustees' Report

Chair's Introduction

2015-16 was another busy year for MaK, with all our regular events taking place, plus our very exciting Oral History Project. It has been a real privilege to be Chair of MaK at such a creative and industrious time and, again, I'd like to thank our amazing team of volunteers, both in Kosovo and the UK, and anyone who contributed to our Oral History project (VOKIM) in any way, for their time, commitment, creativity and willingness to share their lives. It has been really humbling to be part of VOKIM and it has made me think carefully about the fact that this project has brought MaK back to its roots; we have heard again the stories that have motivated us to work in Kosovo for change and to work for peace in all our work and it has reignited our enthusiasm to do this.

I must not forget the ongoing dedication of our regular volunteers and supporters- the dedication and perseverance shown by those who continue, year after year, to develop and support our work is magnificent. Thank you!

Please find below a summary of all that we have been involved with this year:

The Peace Park

The Peace Park continues to be used in a variety of ways by many generations of Kosovar people. MaK continues to employ 2 wonderful gardeners: Jakup and Rexjep. The Peace Garden within the Peace Park continues to blossom and the hornbeam hedge continues to develop. The trees and shrubs continue to do well and the gardeners continue to plant

new plants of their choice. They know the weather and conditions well and are best placed to make recommendations for new additions to the garden.

Summer Club

We held another successful two week MaK Summer Club in July/August 2015. The theme of Summer Club this year was the 5 senses and each day children did activities relating to this topic leading up to a huge, celebratory procession through the town. We were fortunate to have several UK leaders returning to help us: Lisa Jeffrey, Joe Killingley, Natalie Harrison, Andrew Luck, Kelly Bucher, Claire James, Alice Carroll, Emma Elliott-Walker, Ben Willner, Pam Dawes and myself. We were also pleased to welcome new volunteers from the UK to the group: students Isla and Tom Elliott-Walker, Richard Haythornthwaite, Mary Pattison and actor Vanessa Forsyth. We were again fantastically supported by a wonderful team of Kosovar volunteers as usual and we were again pleased that some of the children who have been attending Summer Club for years have now become junior leaders and continue to run MaK club on the park. We continue to see around 200 children a day at Summer Club and the children again approached the week with their inspiringly high levels of enthusiasm and creativity.

An exciting new development for Summer Club was that tennis coach Alice Carroll was able to get donations of tennis nets and racquets so that she could run professional style tennis workshops as part of our summer activities. What a fantastic experience for the children and young people, most of whom have never played tennis, especially with proper equipment, before.

MaK Club

MaK club continues to run on the park, when the weather allows! The deep snow of winter sadly puts a stop to the activities when it arrives! MaK club is being run by Evita Jakupi and Erisa Maqani and we have given craft equipment, tennis racquets and tennis net so that they can continue with the work that was started in Summer Club.

Summer Club

We held another successful two week MaK Summer Club in July/August 2015.

Oral History Project

MaK was awarded a grant by the Heritage Lottery Fund to carry out an oral history project about the history of the Kosovar community in Manchester. Recordings were made of: Kosovars in Manchester, various people involved in the early days of evacuation (including members of MaK and the military) and Kosovars who have returned to the Balkans. Exhibitions and art projects were included in the funded project. The first part of the project was completed in March 2016. Archives+ at City Library (Manchester) and the Imperial War Museum (London) received MaK donations of complete digital copies of the recordings and transcripts for their archives. This is an exciting development. Not only has this project recorded the history of the Kosovar community in Manchester, but it provides a fascinating glimpse into the origins of MaK and how MaK has developed over the years. Two books are being created by Manchester City Library, one for its own reference library and a second copy for national library in Kosovo.

Fundraising from the Great Manchester Run

Again, the Great Manchester Run was a significant event for MaK. 25 runners participated in the run on a very warm day (the weather made it a very tiring and challenging event) and the runners included some of the volunteers from the previous Summer Club. Jo Dudderidge also curated a stage and Paul Guest and Andy Dawes lead the 2 water teams at the finishing line. Armend Bagjora, Fitim Topanica and Liridon Islami were in England completing a sports residency and were able to complete the run.

Music Residency

Safet Berisha and Kaltrina Miftari, members of the Kosova Sinfonia, were invited to a music residency hosted by MaK in the UK. Safet has supported MaK's education and music programmes for 10 years. The musicians performed at Voices of Sanctuary which was presented at the second 'Voices of Kosovo' exhibition in Manchester alongside other artists. They also sang at both The Acorn concert hall and Eden Project in Cornwall. Safet and Kaltrina also performed in a primary school where they spoke of their own personal recovery and that of their country. They met many musicians, 3 of whom accompanied them beautifully at their classical concerts. Tickets were sold in aid of Syria Relief and a £1,500 donation was made by MaK. The music residency was very successful on many levels and Safet and Kaltrina hope to return to present more performances in the UK.

Sports Residencies in Manchester

Armend Bajgora, Fitim Topanica and MaK IT leader and national cyclist Liridon Islami attended a sport residency linked in with Nova international: Great Run. They shadowed

leaders from Great Run and gained a greater awareness of what is involved in the organisation of large sporting events.

Whilst in the UK, Liridon was able to visit a number of cycling venues to develop his vision for what can be achieved in cycling in Kosovo and was encouraged by Laura Trott, Chris Hoy and Bradley Wiggins.

Lorik Popova was introduced to tennis when Alice Carroll came as a volunteer to Kosovo in 2013. He proved to be a natural coach and is now being supported to develop a tennis coaching programme in Podujeva, led by coach Alice.

Women's Business Initiative

MaK's women's group (formed in collaboration with Women for Women) has grown to a strong group of 20 women and a small quantity of work has been produced and sold in the UK. The group is led by designer Arja Suddens and textile artist Chloe Hamill. The Kosovo co-coordinator is Rinna Sheholli. The group is becoming very cohesive and the women are empowered by their ability to earn money for themselves; many of these women have never had this opportunity before. Much of the focus at this stage is on teaching the women new skills and on and trying to develop a commercial approach to hand embroidery. A textiles response to oral history was included in the MaK oral history project involving embroiders in both the UK and Kosovo. The results were stunning and will be developed further next year as new sponsorship was received.

IT Installation

Through our partnerships further computers were donated. The preparation of machines was completed by Computers for Charities

and transportation was carried out by Hope and Aid Direct. The next financial report will cover the building of additional computer suites (15 have been created) in Podujeva schools by MaK. IT Kosovo projects continue to be superbly led by Liridon Islami a student and MaK leader in Podujeva.

Skateboarding

Following a 2015 MaK skateboarding event in Manchester, skating equipment was donated and purchased for young people in Kosovo. In 2015 Kelly Bucher drove this equipment to Podujeva and developed the Poduejva Skate club (which developed into Kosova Skate Club) for interested children. The club is independent from MaK and led by MaK trustee Kelly Bucher and a partner in Kosovo.

New Green Club, Podujeva

Young MaK leaders in Podujeva and their teachers run a MaK supported Green Club at Naim Frasheri primary school. This allows young people to develop their ecological awareness and to continue to use the Peace Park as a way of educating themselves and others about key issues. Plans have been made to strengthen MaK's link to serve this school, including teaching.

Psychiatric Unit

MaK remains in contact with staff at the under-resourced Podujeva Psychiatric Unit and one of our priorities is to increase our support for this vital facility. Support was given by MaK to begin to create a garden at the unit and the nursing staff have been encouraged to use the Peace Garden in the Peace Park for therapy. We continue to look for partners for this unit in the UK as they are in need of support and guidance to help the community in which they work.

Eden Project

In November MaK was invited to return to visit Eden and a team from MaK, (including Safet Berisha and Kaltrina Miftari from Kosovo), met with various members of staff to report back progress on the Peace Park. Safet and Kaltrina performed at Eden Project and Penzance.

Sculpture

Stephen and Matt Raw are planning a symposium on public sculpture with Manchester Metropolitan University. Part of this project will focus on Manchester Peace Park and will allow us to develop the artwork that the people of Podujeva have access to.

Art Flags

The flags are still looking excellent following repairs in the UK and will be maintained by the MaK women's group in Kosovo which now has machines.

Music Memorabilia

MaK continues to collect memorabilia.

Donations in kind

In addition to skateboarding equipment funded and collected by Kelly Bucher a large amount of baby and children's clothes (donated by Wallington Craft Club), was flown to Kosovo and was distributed to both the antenatal clinic below the MaK base and to MaK's women's group. Tennis equipment and nets funded by Alice Carroll and Bowdon Bowling Lawn Tennis Club were also donated.

New members

MaK continues to grow and develop with new members taking part in several events including the Runs (Manchester and Kosovo) and Summer Club. The group brings many skills with them, including art, sport, dance, music, building and teaching. The group includes teachers, sixth-formers, university students and designers. MaK is focusing on developing leadership in Kosovo and has many strong young leaders there with a variety of talents, including musical, scientific and teaching skills.

Key Kosovan leaders

Armend Bajgora continues to play a key role for MaK in Kosovo, ensuring that the work is supported throughout the year, including the work of our gardeners. Armend also facilitates our volunteer visits to Kosovo and he has continued to visit the UK to escort athletes. Armend continues to offer MaK his full commitment and we are particularly grateful for his excellent support for our summer club.

Thanks also go to Fitim and Sanije Topanica who provide an excellent base in Podujeva for our volunteer teams. We are very grateful for their warm welcome and their continued support.

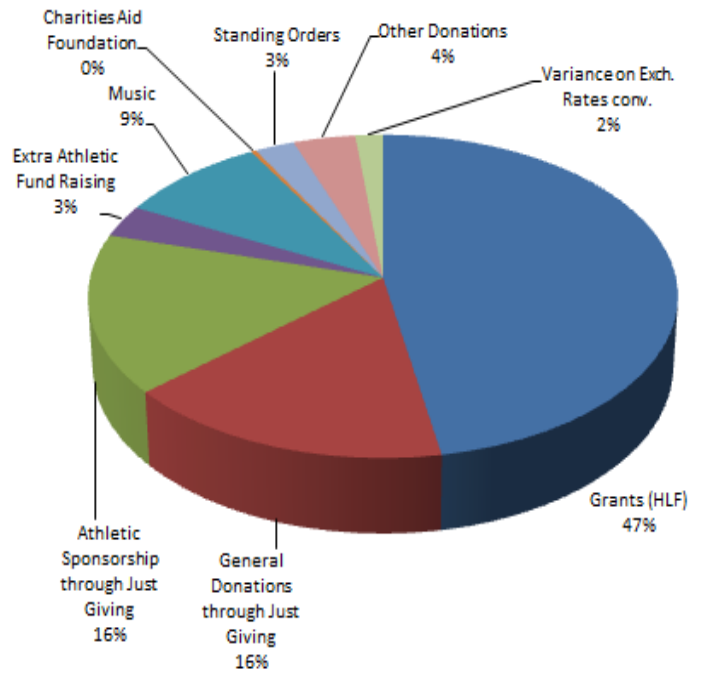
MaK is made up of volunteers from different countries and different walks of life. We are from different backgrounds, ethnicities and religions and we have different perspectives and future hopes. However, what is always seen in MaK is a desire to work together for the good of everyone involved. We learn together and from each other. We develop friendships which are deep and meaningful and we share in hard work whilst enjoying ourselves. Thank you to everyone who is part of this rich and diverse work.

Naomi Hamill

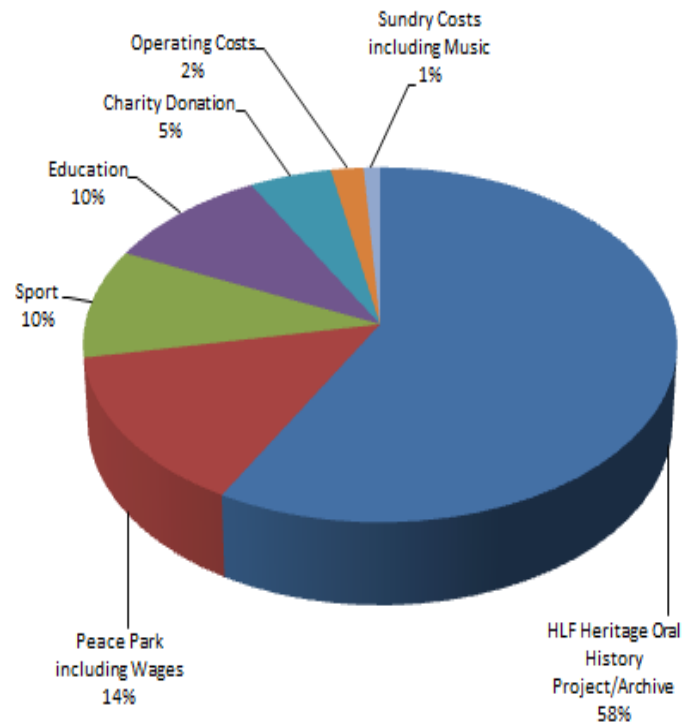
MaK Chair

Financial Position

Total Income 2015 - 2016
£24,515 + opening balance
in the UK and Kosovo of
£13,279 gives total funds of
£ 37,794



Total expenditure 2015-16
£31,565 of which 97.1%
(£30,637) was spent on projects and
2.9% (£928) on operating costs.



Treasurer's Report

2015 - 2016 £24,515 + opening balance in the UK and Kosovo of £13,279 with a £992 transfer to the Kosovo account giving total funds in the UK and Kosovo of £ 37,794

2014 - 2015

£30,054 + opening balance in the UK and Kosovo of £4,486 giving total funds of £34,540

2013 - 2014

£13,962 + opening balance in the UK and Kosovo of £8,180 giving total funds of £22,142.

Our opening balance was **£13,279**. Our income was **£24,515** this financial year giving a total (including a £992 transfer to the Kosovo account) of **£37,794**.

Expenditure was **£31,565**.

Of this 97.1% (£30,637) was spent on projects and 2.9% (£928) on operating costs.

We have continued to receive some support from donors, grants and fund-raising events. Much work was also spent this year our heritage project funded by HLF. This project was completed on target in March 2016 and payments were paid in 3 installments, the second being received this financial year.

At the end of the financial year the balance in our account was £4,854 and £1,375 (€ account) giving a total of £6,229.

Education is a MaK priority. We spent £3,119 on our educational work in Kosovo, including our Summer Club, IT projects and women's project.

Another priority project remains the 22 acre Manchester Peace Park in Kosovo.

Payments were £4,362 including wages for Peace Park staff of £3,854.

MaK spent £3,221 on sport including Great Run, Kosovo mini marathon and UK residencies for Kosovar athletics leaders.

Our annual operating costs, including insurance, were £928.

Exceptional donations were kindly received from: A. Suddens, V. Forsyth.

Athletics has continued to be a highly successful fundraiser with a total of £4,701 received through the Great Manchester Run (+ MaK stage donation, see below). MaK again provided a running team of 25. In addition to this, 20 volunteers ran the finish water station at the Great Manchester Run which led to a further £400 grant (included in this total).

MaK introducing tennis (new to the region) strengthening MaK's role in sport leadership. We believe sports sponsorship can be developed still further.

Additional income of £2,234 was received from music events. This year the Run organisers again invited MaK to provide a Manchester music stage. Music receipts include a donation of £800 from Nova International (Great Run) for stage programming. Jo Dudderidge again curated a very successful stage and artists, as always, performed free. A 2 week music residency was organised for two of Kosovo's finest musicians. Two concerts were performed. A charity donation (Syria Relief) was made from the concert proceeds and donations.

Gift Aid was applied for. This was paid out in the next financial year.

Other donations and socials raised £1,534. This includes £600 from standing orders.

Just Giving is very successful. The direct link to fundraising www.justgiving.com/mak/raisemoney proved to be highly effective, raising £7,905 including Gift Aid mainly through sports sponsorship and monthly donations.

Special thanks are given for the continued support of several MaK supporters who loyally donate monthly through Standing Orders and CAF and also to churches which continue to support our work.

New fundraising initiatives are most welcome. We want to retain the long term support of churches, clubs, schools, companies, musicians and private individuals who have contributed so much to MaK's growth over the last 17 years.

We are delighted to have received new support, including several new runners amongst the 25 strong Great Manchester Run team and to have new relationships with museums, musicians, artists and universities in the UK through our oral history project and wider activities throughout this year. We are grateful to the team which led our oral history project this year enabling the story of the Kosovar community in Manchester to be recorded and shared. We hope more donors will be reached.

MaK funds jobs in Kosovo, employing gardeners for the Peace Park. In 2015 - 16 we continued our commitment to this and strived to complete and develop the site. This will continue.

It must be noted that, as well as our cash input, the bulk of our work is achieved through volunteering with considerable donation in kind. Volunteers raise their own costs, including flights, and donate skills and labour ranging from children's work, art and design, management, building, digging and planting, curating, administration, translation, PR, giving hospitality to

Kosovar visitors training in the UK, to artists and musicians donating work and performing for MaK.

This year **16** UK based MaK volunteers worked in Kosovo. Each paid their own expenses (travel to airport/flights and accommodation) totaling **£6,080** averaging a minimal **£380 per person with the addition of individual food and travel insurance costs**. We recognise this as a substantial form of giving on the part of numerous highly committed, mainly UK based volunteers, including students, many of whom make repeated trips to lead projects with MaK in Kosovo.

The contribution of all our members and supporters is received with grateful thanks – MaK could do little without this and certainly would not be close to completing a 22 acre Peace Park, leading highly successful children's work, or have collected many computers for more IT suites this year. This year's achievements reflect fully the range of volunteer efforts and the considerable scale of donations in kind MaK receives, seen particularly in our IT (donations from Money Plus Group, Manchester, and Computers for Charities), park construction, education and community projects.

We want to encourage increased regular giving either by standing order or e-giving. Some of the challenges of the next financial year are to develop our sport sponsorship, to reach new donors and also to encourage regular giving.

It is clear that involvement in our Summer Club and construction teams increases commitment and giving. This often results in long term support including volunteering and a commitment to funding future projects. Our financial needs for the ambitious projects we are developing are considerable.

MaK builds up assets of sports memorabilia, music related memorabilia, and vinyl which are successfully auctioned. We continuously collect for auction and are grateful for the support of Kelly Bucher in the music area.

MaK is extremely grateful to Andrew Slade for his generous support in the preparation of our accounts.

MaK is extremely busy and our diverse projects are thriving. MaK's greatest asset is its ever increasing team of committed volunteers, who donate skill, time and effort to achieve MaK's aims: the relief of poverty, sickness and distress.

Pam Dawes (Treasurer) January 20th 2017

Patrons

Badly Drawn Boy
Colonel David Vassallo
Dr Mireille Gomes

Thanks

Special thanks to all who make MaK's work possible.

This year MaK is extremely grateful to the **Heritage Lottery Fund** for guiding and funding our new heritage project, **Voices of Kosovo in Manchester** www.vokim.org, and to all the leaders and contributors to this project in Manchester and Kosovo.

Thank you to accountant **Andrew Slade** for his kind assistance.

Thank you our leaders in both the UK and Kosovo for continued support for MaK's diverse educational, environmental, arts and sports projects.

Long term educational support has made a significant impact on children's summer activities. School resources in Podujeva are improving educational opportunity for thousands of students. This year we are particularly grateful for the support of **Liridon Islami** for his continued leadership of our IT project in Kosovo, to **Alice Carroll** for developing tennis in Podujeva and **Kelly Bucher** for establishing her new skateboarding club.

Thank you to **Money Plus Group, Computers for Charities** and **Hope and Aid Direct** for ongoing donation of equipment and for support in the preparation and delivery of MaK's school IT project.