



Recent Projects...

Malawi

- 45,000 square miles
- Population 11.9 million
- No of Dentists - no figures available
- HIV infection rate - 16% 1 in 6 adults HIV+
- Life Expectancy 40 years



For three decades Malawi suffered under the dictatorship of self-elected President-For-Life Kamuzu Banda. His reign was characterised by oppression, fear and corruption. In the mid-1990s Banda buckled under popular pressure to



hold elections, and lost - finally giving Malawians a taste for multiparty democracy. The repression of the Banda years has gone, but some of the old burdens remain, and the new burden of HIV has devastated the country. The WHO estimates

over 1 in 6 of the population are HIV+. 1999 figures estimate that more than 70,000 adults have died of AIDs.

In November 2004, Dentaid refurbished and supplied one complete surgery for Mulanje Mission Hospital in Malawi.

The hospital is located in the south of the country, only 15km from the Mozambique border. Mulanje is a very densely populated area and the hospital is the only church hospital in Blantyre Synod. As the hospital is so close to the Mozambique border, it often receives patients from this neighbouring country. There is a high incidence of HIV/AIDS.

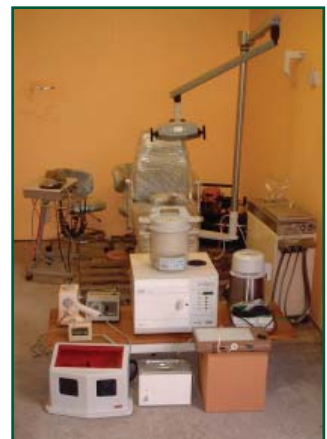
Mulanje Mission Hospital has tried to get dental equipment from various sources in the past but without much success. A group run by a church in Northern Ireland was able to help the hospital with a few items that were donated by dentists, but the hospital had problems with both installing and maintaining these.

A UK dentist and his wife, Mr & Mrs Hanlon contacted Dentaid for help with supplying a dental surgery for Mulanje Mission Hospital. They first became involved with the hospital in 2000, when Mrs Hanlon worked there as a midwife tutor and administrator in the hospital's nursing school. Mrs Hanlon retired in 2002 but stayed on in Malawi, doing some work as a volunteer. Mr & Mrs Hanlon have been the sponsors for this project.

The Dentaid Surgery

Having the complete Dentaid surgery will enable the hospital to offer a full-time dental service to the surrounding population, drastically improving the care that is available.

With an incomplete surgery, staff retention had been difficult at the hospital. However, with the new equipment, attracting dental professionals will be much easier.



The Project