

NEW ENGLAND COMPANY

Newsletter: September 2004

Visits to Canada and the West Indies

Recent visits to Canada and the West Indies have been made by members of the Court of the New England Company. In the autumn of 2003 Mr Charles Winnifrith visited Canada, where he attended the Synod of the Ecclesiastical Province of Canada in Quebec, travelled north to Whitehorse and Dawson City in the Yukon, and then took part in the Council of the North at Edmonton. The last visit to the West Indies took place in 2002, when Bishop John Waine was able to see a number of projects assisted by the Company in Jamaica, Belize and Nassau.

Mission expenditure in 2003

In 2003 the Court awarded grants totalling £205,957. They comprised:

Canada	C\$262,000 (£108,617)
West Indies	US\$155,000 (£97,340)

Litigation in Canada

The past four years have seen the work of the Anglican Church in Canada disastrously affected by lawsuits brought against the Canadian Government, who in turn have joined the Church as defendants. The New England Company has also been joined as a defendant itself. The Company has been advised that it is in a strong position, and is vigorously defending itself. Nevertheless, some £246,000 has been expended on legal fees up to the end of 2003. It is inevitable that this expenditure will adversely affect the future work of the Company, which is unlikely to recover costs even in the event of a successful outcome.