

157. The need for a reasonable sum over a fairly short period was based on the specific and urgent needs of the Trust's clients - to be reunited with elderly parents while they were still alive. Thus, the absence of any grant for a period of two vital years deprived the Trust's few staff of any hope of delivering even the most basic level of service. Funding was both inadequate and insecure. Parents died who could have been found. Potential reunions between families and former child migrants were either delayed for years or the opportunities were completely lost.
158. Fortunately, the Trust could rely on the consistent goodwill and support of Nottinghamshire County Council which provided my secondment to this work. This bold, generous decision gave the Trust a lifeline of reliable support. The Council's financial support continued for about twenty years and took a variety of forms. For example, CMT's second book 'Empty Cradles' was launched at County Hall in 1994 where Nottinghamshire later dedicated the first UK memorial to former Child Migrants. Similarly Nottinghamshire provided a vital telephone helpline after the television mini-series 'The Leaving of Liverpool' and was a key supporter of the International Congress on Child Migration in 2002.
159. Requests for other sources of funding were usually met with the clear response that this was the responsibility of central government, given that the need stems directly as a consequence of UK Government policy. This explains the very low rate of positive responses to Nottinghamshire's approach to all local authorities in England and Wales for financial support for CMT.
160. Grants from Liverpool City Council and the UK Lottery Fund, private donations and royalties from CMT's books were also vital in helping to maintain the Trust's services. CMT has also been very fortunate in having key staff members who, whether paid or volunteers, have worked very long hours with limited resources.
161. The second stage of funding stretched from the report by the UK Health Select Committee in July, 1998 to the UK Government apology in 2010. During this period the Trust generally received £150,000 per year but this was reduced in 2004 to £100,000 before being restored to its previous level the following year.
162. CMT funding was moved from the Department of Health without consultation when children's services were restructured. This was an ill-considered decision as the Trust's work did not fit the priorities of the Department of Education. Consequently, the Trust was involved in prolonged and difficult negotiations to secure a better outcome both in terms of its funding and a return to the Department of Health.