

GRACE THIRD WORLD FUND

Manx Registered Charity No 7277

NEWSLETTER NO 17

July 2018

CATCHUP

Deputation: Between the last newsletter and this one, Timothy Babu has been over to the UK for a two week Deputation visit. Timothy and I visited approximately 12 different venues between London and Glasgow to speak about the work, and we hope that folk found it as encouraging as we did.

Chairman's Visit: I made my annual visit as chairman in March 2017 accompanied once again by James Caley.

Donation of Land: Our sponsors will already know this, through the Sponsors' Quarterly newsletters they receive. During 2017 we were given a donation of 40 acres of land in Hyderabad. Long story short—a missionary organization in Canada had heard about the work we do in India, and wished to donate the land to help us. There was a problem in that all the land had to be sold, and transferred into the name of PLET—the charity which runs the school etc in India. As everyone knows, the wheels of law grind slowly and this took quite a considerable part of the year 2017 and was not finalized until part way through 2018. The chairman of the missionary organization in Canada was able to pay a visit to GCH in October 2017 to see the work for himself.



2018

2018 has been a good year for the charity. The original vision of a children's home and separate school look set to be realized, and the children are well and healthy. No big changes as far as the Grace Children's Home are concerned, as there are 105 children now living there, and until the school is built there is no room for more. Some of the children were taking exams, and some were visiting family members whilst we were there, so we didn't see all the children in GCH this time. We were able to take them some treats in the form of rock and toffee which proved to be very popular!

APRIL VISIT



A party of eight supporters visited the work in India this year. My wife Sue and I, along with James and John from the Isle of Man. Martyn and Selina from Glasgow and William and Jessie from China. It was the first visit by John, Selina, William and Jessie, but the others have been regular visitors.

Everyone found the trip encouraging, and our sponsors will find accounts of their impressions from two of the visiting party in the next Sponsors' Quarterly.

KING'S IDEAL SCHOOL

We were all taken on a tour of the school where the children seemed to be working very hard. One of the new programs they have taken on board is a method of learning English called British Council. The older students learn by computer and it is proving to be very effective.

The school itself, which all our children attend, is very encouraging. It has a very high standard of education, and to date there has been 100% pass rate, which is creating a very good reputation with the Indian Education Authorities. As has



been said, the 40 acres of land in Hyderabad donated by Carey Ministries in Canada, has now been sold and the funds are to be used in the building of a new school building on the GCH land. This will free up more room to take in more needy children.

GROUND BREAKING!



All being well, work on the new school building will begin later on this year, but in April, we were all able to take part in a 'Ground Breaking Ceremony'. This was a very big and well organized occasion, and we were all asked to ceremonially break the ground on the site of the new school and given a mango tree to plant. Then there was the unveiling of a plaque upon which was engraved the names of the 2018 visitors.



AGRICULTURE & NEW VENTURES



Timothy is always thinking up new ways of making money to support GCH. This year we went to visit a goat farm and a silk worm farm. Apparently, goats are very popular in India—not only as food, but also as pets! Close by, one of Timothy's co workers Sai, takes care of a Silk Worm farm. Both these ventures are doing very well, as are the sale of cashew nuts which grow in the same area.



The buffalo have been replaced gradually by cattle, because the milk yield is higher, and the manure is more beneficial to the land and crops. As the buffalo pool was no longer needed, it was stocked with fish instead.. There are also goats on the land along with hens and Guard Geese. You certainly wouldn't want to argue with angry geese!

THE LEPROSY COLONY



As always we visited the Leprosy Colony, which we support as and when we have funds. We took some rice and each member of our party was asked to distribute some to the families in the village. The rice is heaped up on the floor and we are given an old paint tin to fill up and pour the rice into a sack held by the ladies. Quite hot work, as Selina discovered!



The charity also helps by purchasing medications for the children and sometimes clothing. Money is sent with the monthly sponsorship.

PREM KUMAR

We have mentioned a young man called Prem Kumar—a pharmacist whose life was changed for ever by a motor cycle accident. He is almost completely paralysed, and although he can move his head and arms, he cannot even sit up. The charity has been able to help him during 2017/2018 by sending £50 a month to help with his medication. A supporter in the IOM had a special fund raising evening for him, and this money is being used to care for Prem. It was hoped that a special wheelchair could be purchased, but at the moment that is impossible as he cannot sit or hold his head up.

Our next thought was to arrange for a physiotherapist to come to the home. This was not as easy as it sounds, because the physiotherapist would have to be paid, and most were unwilling to come to where Prem Kumar lives as it is outside the city unless the payment was quite high. We have enough funds, thanks to the kindness of our musical fundraiser and others, to pay for physio for five days a week for 6 months.



DATA PROTECTION LAWS

On a practical but very important issue, most people will by now be aware that new Data Protection laws came into force on 25th May 2018. GTWF are adopting the 'opt out' policy, which means we will keep your name and details on our mailing list unless you advise us otherwise. To facilitate this, we have enclosed a form with this newsletter. If you do not want to continue hearing about GTWF and would like your name and address to be **removed** from our mailing list, would you please complete and return the form to us. We will then immediately delete your details and you will not receive any further communications from Grace Third World Fund. This is very important, so please take the time to return it if you are no longer interested in GTWF. We understand folk change their interests over the years, and will not be offended.

IN CONCLUSION

GTWF continues to thrive and be able to sponsor the 105 children in Grace Children's Home. The future looks very promising with the prospect of the new school building. Looking back over the past 20 years it is amazing to see how the work has grown.

The new school will, of course, mean that we will eventually be able to take in more children. So if you would like to sponsor a needy child, please write to us for a sponsorship standing order form. £25 a month will change the life of one child in India completely and for ever. It may seem like a large amount when you see other sponsorship schemes asking for £2 or £3, but our sponsorship scheme is all inclusive and will pay for one child's every need—food, education, clothing, medical expenses—whatever a home and family would provide for their child, until they are old enough to leave and find employment. And even then, they will be helped by GCH staff until they are secure.

Look at the photo here and of the young people who either live at GCH now, or came back to see Timothy and the staff. They look upon it as their home. They were excited to see us too, because we represented people far away in the UK who care enough to help them. To those who support these children, thank you on their behalf.

Ray Richardson (Chairman)



Photos taken during the 2018 visit to India



Ground Breaking Ceremony

The first cut by the Chairman

Unveiling the plaque



Some of GCH Children

We were all asked to plant a mango tree



GCH goats

Rachel, Praveena (Kumar's daughter) and Jessie



Kumar and Kumari saying goodbye

Timothy and his family with Sue and Ray



Please remember—if you do not wish to receive these newsletters, please let the Secretary know at 37 Belle Vue Park, Peel, Isle of Man, IM5 1UE or gtwf@manxnet.com, so that we do not use our funds unnecessarily