

# NEEM TREE TRUST

## REPORT TO SUPPORTERS 2006/2007

When I last visited the boys' home in November 2006 it was during the monsoon season. Heavy rains continued for many weeks, much longer than usual, causing chaos to people's daily lives. There were constant power cuts, and illness swept through the local villages as well as the home. Although my visit was cut short by two weeks due to sickness and the appalling weather conditions, my stay at the boys' home lasted for over a month and I was able to see things at the sharp end. As a result of my observations, the Neem Tree Trust offered to pay for a



generator to be installed at the home and I am glad to say it has definitely helped to alleviate the hardships which were suffered by the children when the power was cut so frequently.

Due to the weather conditions, I was sadly not able to visit St Luke's Hospital during my visit this time but met up with Dr Jeyabalan, the Chief Medical Superintendent, and handed over to him the money which had been raised by his supporters, many of whom live on the Isle of Wight and in Scotland.

### FUND RAISING ACTIVITIES

Ken and I gave talks to the following groups in and around Bath and Wiltshire. We have said before that this is an excellent way of spreading the word about the boys' home and the children at St Luke's Hospital and this year the talks raised over £3800, over twice as much as last year. I was particularly pleased to be invited to talk to The Eltham Society in South London in May 2006 which, as they would say in India, is my "native place"!!



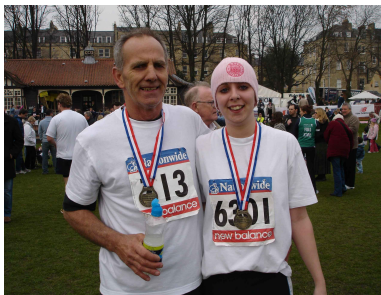
- Salvation Army, Bath
- Christchurch Wives, B-on-Avon
- Amesbury Baptist Church
- High Littleton Ladies Group
- Melksham Wives
- Eltham Society
- Weston TWG Gardening Club
- Batheaston TWG
- St Peter's Women's Guild
- Seend Mothers' Union
- CSRF Calne
- Keevil Mothers' Union
- Oldfield Park Friendly Club
- Tangent Ladies Group, Seend
- TWG Trowbridge
- Westwood Mothers' Union
- Mens' Club, Oldfield Park, Bath
- Frome Adult Day Centre
- Gastard Ladies Group
- Radstock Methodist Wives' Group
- Warminster United Church
- Timsbury Wives
- Thornbury NWR
- Box Methodist Church
- Corona Society, Bath
- Corsham TWG
- Rushall Gardening Club
- Business and Professional Women, Bath
- Inner Wheel, Bath
- Fitzmaurice Place, B-on-Avon
- Bath Ramblers
- Salvation Army, Kingsdown
- Poulshot Ladies Group
- Lovemead Ladies Group, Trowbridge
- Salisbury & Bemberton TWG
- West Lavington Mothers Union
- Frome Adult Recreation Day Centre
- Paulton Ladies Circle
- Calne Morning WI
- St Peters' Guild, Devizes

The Neem Tree Trust were at the following events during the year, which between them raised almost £3,000.

River House Open Gardens, Avoncliff  
Winsley School Summer Fete  
Health and Wellbeing Weekend, B-on-Avon  
Fitzmaurice School Fayre, B-on-Avon  
Longmeadow School Cake Sale, Trowbridge  
Garden Party, Avoncliff  
Warminster School Sponsored Walk, Longleat  
St Laurence School Street Party, B-on-Avon  
June Auty's Indian Evening, Bath

Alison & Mike Wells' Coffee Morning, Winsley  
Vivienne Kynaston's Bring & Buy Sale, B-on-Avon  
Winsley Village Project Fayre  
Winsley School Christmas Fayre  
Bath Christmas Market  
Avoncliff Community Group Open Gardens  
Corona Society Curry Lunch, Bath  
Fitzmaurice Place Coffee Morning, B-on-Avon

If you live locally to Bath you may have seen the publicity which six of our supporters attracted when they ran the Bath Half Marathon on behalf of The Neem Tree Trust. We actually made the front page of the Bath Chronicle with a half-page photograph of the boys wishing our runners luck from 4000 miles away! This redoubtable and determined half dozen pounded the roads, pavements and towpaths of Wiltshire all through the winter months to get themselves fit for the race in March. One of the six, Graham Dove, went even further by pledging to run 50 race miles before he reached the age of 50 and made an incredible undertaking to double any sponsor money which he raised! Having completed the Watford Half, the Bath Half and the Taunton Full Marathon, his sponsorship came to £1,500 which he doubled, as promised, and between the six runners an amazing £4,400 was raised for The Neem Tree Trust, with more to come when we claim Gift Aid on the donations. We would like to thank our remarkable runners: Paddy Wall and his daughter Kayleigh, Pat Kinzett and her daughter Laura, Nick Harrison and Graham Dove and of course everyone who gave so generously by sponsoring their valiant efforts.



Some of you may have seen Ken and me driving around in a little white van. Due to the increasing number of talks and events which we are invited to each year, it was agreed by the trustees that the charity should purchase a secondhand van in which to store the items made and designed by the children in India and for it to be our means of transport for the charity. We purchased the van from Ricky Fenby of Frome who gave us a very decent discount, and the signage was prepared free

of charge by Chris of Vivid Signs, Westbury. We would like to thank both companies for their interest and support in the work we do on behalf of the children. The van has attracted a lot of interest in the charity and the four trustees, John Hoskins, Kathy Miller, Pat Kinzett and Ken Miller are pictured here beside the van.

Sale of goods amounted to just over £2,000, and we claimed back just over £3,800 from the Inland Revenue in the form of Gift Aid. Total donations came to over £26,800, including money raised from our Lottery Club and donations from Scotland and the Isle of Wight. I am therefore delighted to tell you that we were able to make grants to the boys' home and St Luke's Hospital amounting to almost £30,000 in total!!