

THE NEEM TREE TRUST NEWSLETTER - NOVEMBER 2022

Thank you very much for the support you have given us in raising funds for the Boys' Home in Tirunelveli and St Luke's Leprosy Hospital, Peikulam, south India.

FUNDRAISING ACTIVITIES

Once again John Kendall, Patricia Kinzett and Kathy Miller each held a Christmas shop in their homes last year which generated £4416.00 and £39.00 came from other miscellaneous sales.



The following organisations generously made donations to The Neem Tree Trust amounting to £649.00

Winsley PCC
Ashton Mill Services, Melksham
Oakley Holidays

We claimed Gift Aid of £4,100.00 from the Inland Revenue on donations from UK taxpayers.

Donations in memory of loved ones are very special gifts and are deeply appreciated by our charity. It is a wonderful way to celebrate someone's life and we would like to acknowledge donations to The Neem Tree Trust in memory Jean Mounter, Magan Patel and Phyllis Prior.

In October 2021 we sent out our annual newsletter again by email to supporters giving them an update on the children's progress and inviting them to make a donation to The Neem Tree Trust for the benefit of the children at the boys' home and the patients and children at the Leprosy Hospital. Donations from individuals and organisations for both the Boys' Home and St Luke's, including regular standing orders, amounted to £25,651.00

SCHT BOYS' HOME

During our Financial Year 2021/2022 the Trust provided a grant of £20,000 to the SCHAT Boys' Home.

On the 1st May this year the boys were taken on a trip to Kanyakumari, the southernmost tip of India where three oceans meet - the Bay of Bengal, the Indian Ocean and the Arabian Sea. The Neem Tree Trust provides funds to help with the daily running of the boys' home but we are extremely pleased that we can also help to pay for trips such as this one which would have been a unique experience for these underprivileged boys. Arrangements were made by Mr Selva Antony, a dedicated local supporter of the home for many years, and local well-wishers took very good care of the boys throughout the day.



ST LUKE'S LEPROSARIUM

During our Financial Year 2021/2022 the Trust provided a grant of £22,000 to St Luke's Leprosarium.

Dr Haebus, Medical Superintendent at St Luke's, has recently informed me that they are in need of help with a new kitchen. This is an important and integral part of the functioning of the hospital as all the meals for the patients and staff are provided in-house.

The kitchen functions every day throughout the year and the work in the kitchen starts as early as 4.30am and on some days goes beyond 10.30pm.

They use three kinds of fuel - LPG, Biogas and fire wood. As you can see from these pictures the kitchen building is an old structure and is in desperate need of renovation.



It is around 3000 sq ft and they have plans for the installation of a new roof and alterations to the floor and water supply to provide proper drainage and waste disposal.

They also have plans for installing steam boilers for cooking, if funds are available.



The estimated cost for the basic renovation is around £7,500.

Another pending project for St Luke's is the need for building additional staff quarters. It is very difficult to find decent accommodation for staff in nearby Peikulam village. Most of the staff find it very challenging to come to work from far away areas but all St Luke's existing staff quarters are occupied. They plan on building three houses each of 500 sq. ft to accommodate more of their staff.

The cost of building three extra staff quarters is approximately £16,000.

We have received a generous donation from one of our supporting organisations but we would like to assist more if we can.

OPEN GARDENS CORSHAM

On the 26th June this year Christina and Richard Cornish opened their beautiful garden for the benefit of The Neem Tree Trust. The weather was perfect and many of our supporters came to enjoy tea and cake, catch up with friends and spend a leisurely afternoon wandering round and admiring the garden. There were stalls selling plants, books, Neem Tree Trust items and also interesting collectables from our friend John Kendall. Proceeds from this really enjoyable event came to an amazing £1875. I would like to thank Christina and Richard and everyone who supported us on the day and who worked so hard to make it a success.



JOHN'S TREASURES & COLLECTABLES @ SEEND



KATHY'S CHRISTMAS SHOP @ AVONCLIFF



If you would like to visit John's Christmas shop at Seend, or my own Christmas shop at Avoncliff, please let us know by telephoning me on 01225 865789, messaging 07511 385861 or emailing me kathymiller@neemtreetrust.org.uk

CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVAL AT HOLY TRINITY CHURCH, BRADFORD ON AVON

The Neem Tree Trust has been invited once again to stage a tree at the Christmas Tree Festival at Holy Trinity Church, Bradford on Avon. This year the festival will run from 6th - 11th December 2022.

Local charities, clubs, organisations, businesses and individuals have the opportunity each to stage a tree based on whatever theme they choose. There is no charge for a space or for entry to see the display although donations from visitors are invited and refreshments will be available. Proceeds go towards improvements to the fabric of the church and its upkeep, helping to make it warm, welcoming and available for community use.

If you live locally do come along to see our tree and all the other beautiful trees which make the church look quite spectacular on the run up to Christmas.

