



Friends of TREAD

in partnership with TREAD India Trust

giving hope and a new future to needy Indian children

Winter News 2018/19

Charity Reg. No. 1081400

David Centre at Girkinpalli Welcome!



David Centre is one of three which are part of Project 200+. The number attending there has been drastically reduced during 2017 from about 250 to 60 after the demise of the support from Compassion International following their withdrawal from India. Mandy and Colin as trustees were able to visit David Centre in November for a few hours for their first time in 10 years along with friend Cilla. The journey is long , including a river crossing to Odisha state in a small ferry boat .This visit was only made possible after obtaining the necessary permission from the authorities in view of the ongoing security issues affecting the area for many years now. The remaining children and staff were excited to be visited and the air of desperation and thankfulness was tangible in the knowledge that our ability to maintain this work is limited unless we can find a new partner. The banners, held by the children as we

arrived , tell the story and we were very affected by the scene. A number of the children and parents gave moving testimonies about the benefits and opportunities offered to them by the centre and its staff and we were treated to much singing, dancing and Cilla's puppet show . There are many children in the village who are no longer officially part of the project and they and their families miss the support and friendship. A number of these children still visit the site and help with jobs, so that they still feel part of it. Then on to Podia, where we met children, parents & staff from the Sarah and Hannah Projects , a very similar story of concern for the future unfolded. Cilla performed her energetic puppet show again to the delight of all both young and grown up. These three sites are all situated in poor remote places and are now very vulnerable unless we can find in a short time a major partner to help us keep the projects going .

We are sending £3084 a month for the Project 200+ sites but only half of this is coming from regular giving. We top up from our reserves but these will be depleted by June 2019 and we expect that we will then be unable to continue to support the project fully . The monthly cost per child is £20 if you would like to assistor any other amount .

Grace Tailoring Centre

Meet the 2018 /2019 intake and their tutors . On our trustee visit we joined the new set of students who had just arrived to begin the one year course. 23 young women dropped to 21 after 2 left for health and family reasons. We were told that the remaining students are very committed but sadly two were unable to return after the Christmas break due to opposition from their village elders. 16 of them are boarding. This is the largest number ever and has posed a slight problem with accommodation. The existing facilities used for several years in the Daniel cottage of the Sarah site are now cramped , so it is intended to shift the training area to the now redundant second Sarah hall and to use the existing training area as extra accommodation for the boarders. Interestingly many of the girls are educated to a much higher



standard but have been unable to gain suitable employment in their locality and are looking to empower themselves with this course. The increased numbers of boarders does cause a financial problem at **£25 a month per student** with some of them unsponsored. Perhaps you would consider helping with as much you can afford.

Project 200+ News and Updates

The activities cover almost every aspect of life including their personal care disciplines, education, social interactions and spiritual development as reported below:-

"We care and guide the children on their school studies and better education. Most of them are from needy, orphan, semi-Orphan, very poorest and vulnerable families from the Community Children are growing physically, socially and educationally & spiritually by the support of FOT. there are five Children got success on competitive State Government Model English Medium School exams

It is so glad to say that our children are well aware on how to wish elders and give proper respect in the family, school, community and society The project has provided health awareness on different types of diseases like Malaria & tuberculosis to the both children and parents as it is a malaria affected and poor community"

Cilla Meets Mini !



Cilla Tayler and her puppets joined the recent trustee visit to India. The picture shows a touching moment, when Cilla met Mini , who she sponsors as part of our orphan assistance programme. We met all of the current orphans and a few who have now left the scheme and moved into employment and marriage. Cilla has visited Goa

several times in the past with her puppet ministry . However this was her first time to Telangana and Odisha states where she observed a greater level of poverty as we travelled around and met some of the children and the families in their villages. Education is their way to the better future which they strive for .

TREAD2India at TDCC

Alex Grant and his team of TREAD2India runners have been struggling manfully through setbacks and injury to achieve the target 4858 miles. They missed the one year deadline but are planning to complete it at the Hastings Half Marathon on 24th March. The picture shows Siddi Sampath 15yrs one of the senior 10th standard members of the



Trinity Day Care Centre , who modelled Alex's shirt and displayed his medal from the Hastings 2018 event. Alex with his wife Elizabeth visited TDCC in 2012. Hepsi writes "The beautiful photo with cherubic smiles is taken in the favourite place of the children the play ground. In the playground , which is neat and tidy, there are a few beautiful plants. Staff and children water and take care of them and they are beautifully trimmed. There is play equipment like seasaw, swings , slide etc which children enjoy a lot. Children play volleyball , cricket, kabadi , skipping and many other games. Play time begins after children return from School. It is a pleasant sight to see all the children at play. The Project officer and tutors join the games. This is the place where children sit for evening devotion after their play time. There is wave of joy and happiness everywhere in TDCC premises . Its all made possible with the loving and generous support of Friends of Tread , sponsors and well wishers. Tread and TDCC specially thank Alex and his team for their noble cause. Children are praying twice daily for Alex and his team. His group photo and medal are placed on the TDCC notice board" More on the website as below.

How You Can Help

Whenever you buy anything online, you could be collecting free donations for Friends of TREAD!

- There are over 3,000 shops and sites on board ready to make a donation, including Amazon, John Lewis, Aviva, Thetrainline and Sainsbury's – it doesn't cost you a penny extra!

1. Head to <https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/tread/> and join for free.
2. Every time you shop online, go to easyfundraising first to find the site you want and start shopping.
3. After you've checked out, that retailer will make a donation to your good cause for no extra cost whatsoever!

There are no catches or hidden charges and Friends of TREAD will be really grateful for your donations.

- [Pass on this newsletter to other people—more copies are available or can be found on our website](#)
- If you're feeling active, how about getting your friends, family and colleagues to sponsor you for Friends of TREAD? FOT is registered with Virgin Moneygiving to make this easy for you—details on our website.
- [Maybe you belong to a club or group—would they hold a coffee morning/auction/other event for Friends of TREAD?](#)

Thank you all for your continued support and please help us to spread the word—these children and their families need our help and are so grateful to you all.

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New Data

Protection Regs

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We can then send info such as this newsletter to you directly.