



# THE RĀHULA TRUST

(Child Sponsorship Programme)

Registered Charity No. 1075742

2015

## PROGRESS REPORT FOR 2015

We are very happy to let you know that the Rahula Trust had a very successful year due to your generous support. The number of children in Sri Lanka whom we are sponsoring has increased by another 50 students this year, but at the same time we stopped payments to 37 students who have completed their studies in universities and advanced level examinations. Most of them have found the work which they would like to continue for the rest of their lives. We congratulate them. We should also mention that the number of sponsors increased during the year. There are number of new sponsors who have started to sponsor children.

**DONATIONS:** The Stewarts Law Foundation £3,000.00, Mr Karuna Basnayaka £700.00, The Anonymous Donor Trust £500.00, Mr Samantha De Silva £300.00, Mrs Vourneen M Doyle £300.00, Mrs Q T Dissanayake £200.00, Dr. Mihiri Coxhead £200.00.

South Ruislip Tesco Express store staff has raised some donations and Tesco Charity Trust has started sending that money to the Rahula Trust.

There are many more people who have made donations to the trust. We should like to convey our sincere thanks to each and every one of them. Without their support we could not continue.

### FUND-RAISING EVENTS

Navindu Katugampola & Rachel, Harshini Katugampola & Nik raised funds for the Rahula Trust asking their friends and relatives to donate money to the Rahula Trust instead of presents on the occasion of their marriage. These events raised over

£5,000.00 for the Rahula Trust. It was top up by Morgan Stanley Foundation by another £3000.00 We wish them a very happy married life.

The fund raising was done through Virgin Money Giving. That is an excellent way to raise funds for the charity.

**GIFT AID:** During the year 2014-15 we have received £11,963.63 from Her Majesty's Revenue and Customs under the Gift Aid scheme. We would like to request our supporters to sign a Gift Aid form if they have not already signed one. This is a great help to us.

**WHAT YOU CAN DO?:-** If you cannot afford to make a big donation, but would still like to make a difference, the child sponsorship is one of the easiest and most effective ways to do so! You just set up a monthly standing order of £12.00 (that's just 40p a day) and help a child receive an education! It can be done through Standing Order, Direct Debit, Pay Pal or Virgin Money Giving. Sponsoring a child also allows you see the big difference you make in a child's life! You receive regular updates on the child's progress.

No deductions are made from the sponsor's payments for administration. We are very grateful for work done by volunteers in our England office and Sri Lanka, which helps to keep our costs very low. All sponsorship payments therefore go 100% to the charity's work for and around the sponsored child. Our child sponsorship scheme ensures that your donation will go directly towards improving the education of your sponsored child.



*Sponsored children in Mahiyanganaya*



*Some sponsored children in Kekirawa, Sri Lanka*



*Sponsored children in Padavi-Sri Pura*



*Sponsored children in Meepawala (Galle)*

## PROVISION OF SCHOOL EQUIPMENT TO 200 NEEDY CHILDREN REQUESTED BY SERVE

The project was located in the Western Province of Sri Lanka in the Districts of Colombo and Kattaramulla along the identified locations of Angulana, Uswatte, Moratuwella, Modara and Thotawatte.

The project supported 200 identified children from these 5 communities belonging to multi-religious and multi-ethnic communities. The children come from families facing severe economic constraints where the parents have a low educational level and have no stable avenues to earn an income. The main reason that makes these children drop out of school and discontinue their education is limitations in obtaining basic needs such as school books, school clothing including shoes etc.

The beneficiaries were children struggling due to economic diffi-



*The Moratuwella social worker handing over educational equipment to a student.*

culties to continue their education with regular attendance. (Therefore to overcome these difficulties faced by the children, the social workers based at the centres identified the needs of these children in providing them with school related equipment.) The shoes were a major source of financial difficulty as it was beyond the financial means of the parents

living in these poverty stricken communities. All the students were given exercise books and other school equipment.

The list of children who were provided with the school equipment are as follows:

Target Area	Girls	Boys	Total No of children
Angulana	32	33	65
Thotawatte	26	22	48
Uswatte	19	13	32
Moratuwella	17	14	31
Modara	11	13	24
Total	105	95	200

We received a sum of SLRs.294,152.79 and the total expenditure was SLRs.294,150.00. This comprises SLRs. 178,875/= for shoes and SLRs. 115,275/= for school equipment.



*The Executive Director handing over educational equipment to a student.*



*The Modara social worker handing over educational equipment to a student.*

SERVE said, "We would wish to express our sincere gratitude to the Rahula Trust for the kind and generous gesture in coming forward especially at a time when SERVE was in need of urgent support to meet this basic need, in order to fulfill their right to education. This will thus ensure and help the children to enjoy the free education facility provided by the Government and continuity of their education."

### NEPAL EARTHQUAKE



*At the recommendation of the Rahula Trust Mr Saksena & Mrs. Wijitha Satyapala have donated £1,400.00 to the Metta Centre in Nepal as a relief fund to distribute food, water, medicine and other necessary items which was immediately needed. The Metta Centre has arranged to distribute those necessary items. We would like to thank Mr & Mrs Satyapala for their generosity.*

### COMPUTER CENTRE, MADANWALA



*The computer centre in Madanwala Pirivena, Hanguranketha, was started with donation of 10 computers from Colombo Project recommended by the Rahula Trust. We are very happy to let you know that now this computer centre has been developed into a fully-equipped computer centre with the help of "NENASALA" project.*

### VIHARAMAHADEVI CHILDREN HOME



*The Rahula Trust spent £3237.00 to conduct additional tuition classes in Maths, Science, English, Music and Dance at the Viharamahadevi Children's home. The management of the home wrote to us that children have benefited tremendously from this help and 2 students have passed their A/L examination last year with excellent results and 5 students are waiting for their results this year.*

## Paleng Children's Centre, Malealea, Lesotho



The Kingdom of Lesotho is a landlocked country in southern Africa completely surrounded by South Africa. The Rahula Trust has begun to support Paleng Children's Centre, Malealea, Lesotho with a donation of £700.00 in January (£500 from the Rahula Trust and £200 from our trustee, Bob Parsons). In July 2015 the Trust made a second donation of £2,000.00.

### Objectives of Paleng

To create spaces where children of the valley can engage with activities that promote literacy, numeracy and thinking skills in an informal way. To create a place where children have access to books in Sesotho as well as in English. To create a place where children can gain access to a range of stimulating materials that promote problem solving, out-of-the-box thinking, to play, create, build and maximise the potential that every child is born with.

Their report says that *'that the books that Rahula helped purchase will undoubtedly help the students develop literacy skills and improve their English, both of which are important life-long skills. The funding from Rahula has given us the opportunity to greatly improve our avail-*



*able resources. The Paleng Centre is already much loved and much used. We thank Rahula Trust and Bob Parsons for believing in us.'*

The grant has funded 80 books for the Paleng library, 3 tablets to promote learning of computer/technical skills, writing materials, teachers' workshops, fuel allowance to reach more children. The need is very great. A teacher said: *'I have had mothers beg me to teach their child to read as schools are failing the children in Malealea.'*



Another member of staff has written: *'The children are hungry to read. Illiteracy is a problem in the area. It is not well taught in schools and there are other factors such as it is common for boys to be removed from school at times for shepherding duties. Books are not available in this valley. Paleng is the only place that these children can freely access books.'*



### METTA CENTRE AND SPONSORSHIP IN NEPAL



**SAMYAK YOUTH GROUP:** *They have increased the number of children they are supporting and the Rahula Trust contributed £1750.00 for those children they are sponsoring.*

**METTA CENTRE:** *For the education of their children, the Rahula Trust contributed £1,000.00. The number of children in the centre has increased.*

### SHABWALI SCHOOL IN KENYA



*The Trust has continued its support of Shabwali Secondary School, located near the town of Kakamega, Western Kenya. In March 2015 the sum of £2,120 was donated in order to fund the purchase of 2 laptops, 2 projectors and 1 desktop, all of which will help teachers to prepare their classes better and to teach more effectively.*

## The Rahula Trust Summarised Accounts Year ending 30th September 2014

	Total 2014 £	Total 2013 £
<b>INCOMING RESOURCES</b>		
Sponsorship	47,554	45,543
General Donations and Gift Aid	27,566	32,261
Investment income	511	608
<b>Total incoming resources</b>	<b>75,631</b>	<b>78,412</b>
<b>RESOURCES EXPENDED</b>		
Costs of generating funds	1,029	101
Charitable expenditure	75,669	66,662
Management and administration	374	369
<b>Total resources expended</b>	<b>77,072</b>	<b>67,132</b>
<b>Net incoming resources</b>	<b>(1,441)</b>	<b>11,280</b>

*The financial information has been extracted from the annual accounts. For further information please ask the Secretary for the full annual report and accounts and examiner's report.*

### Summary of Expenses for Projects in 2014

Sponsorship Sri Lanka	£55,598
Viharamahadevi Children's Home	
Teaching Project	£3,228
Anuradhapura & Matala	
Teaching Project	£5,789
Tawalama Pre-School	£1,250
Sponsorship Nepal	£1,750
Nepal - Metta Centre	£1,500
Kenya - Shabwali School	£2,344
Madanwela Pirivena Project	£5,000



#### Trustees of the Rahula Trust:

Ven. Tawalama Bandula  
Mr. Martin Evans  
Professor Rohan Kariyawasam  
Dr. Robert Parsons, M. B. E.  
Mr. Richard Jones  
Mrs. Pat Smith

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Designed and typeset by Ven. T. Bandula

### Financial review

*Our voluntary income has fallen slightly this year to £75,120 (2013: £77,804).*

*Sponsorship income increased to £47,554 (2013: £45,543). It is encouraging to see that sponsors are not only willing to continue sponsoring children but also that new sponsors are coming forward. Expenditure on sponsorship increased this year to £57,298 (2013: £53,234).*

*In addition to providing educational sponsorship to children, we have continued to provide grants to projects such as providing teachers for after-school tuition and libraries, computers and other equipment in schools; and these amounted to £17,861 (2013: £13,279).*

*Our Trustees continue to demonstrate their commitment to the charity both by providing financial support and giving their time in administering the charity.*

*We are proud to be able to state that 100% of funds raised from our donors are used for the benefit of the children, as all work for the Charity is done on a voluntary basis. Fundraising and governance costs are kept extremely low and are more than offset by investment interest and Gift Aid we receive. (Martin Evans - Treasurer - 2 January 2015)*

### OBITUARIES

We are sad to report the passing away of Mrs Malkanthi Kumari Abeyratne and Mrs Clara Abeyawardena, both long-standing supporters of the Rahula Trust. We appreciate their support and wish them peace.

### OUR THANKS

*We wish to express our sincere thanks and appreciation for the support we receive, both in money and in time, from so many generous people. Without your support the Trust could do nothing and we are deeply grateful for the many forms of support we receive.*