

The East Sheen Chengannur Trust

Registered Charity No 293567



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Welcome to our latest newsletter which will also be available to view on our website.

KERALA FLOODS UPDATE

Thank you so much to everyone who contributed to our brilliant total of nearly £10,000 for our flood appeal. The money was promptly sent out to Jacob our Project Manager who was already involved in assessing and distributing aid almost from day one. The majority of the funds have been used and distributed. Jacob has recently sent the following update:

“ As you all are aware, Kerala was badly affected by an unusual flood in August 2018, causing much loss to both life and belongings. Almost 80% of our sponsored families were affected due to this. The cause of the floods were both man made due to excessive storage of water in the hydro dams and also natural due to the very heavy rains on those days. All our friends in the UK and elsewhere were very worried and concerned about their wards and we are thankful that you extended a big helping hand in the relief works. You would be happy to know that we managed to reach out to all the above families and also outsiders too and helped by supplying them the following:”

<u>Item Given</u>	<u>No given</u>	<u>Approx. cost each £</u>
Emergency Provision Kits	116	6
Food processors (Mixies)	22	37
School Uniforms + books	26	12
Mattresses	29	45
Wooden bed frames (Cots)	10	100
Plywood for cots	24	12
Refrigerator	3	180
Fans	4	15
Sewing Machines	4	67
Steel Cupboards (Almirahs)	13	100
Pressure Cookers	2	18
Water Pumps	2	45
Gas Stoves	2	16
Bicycles	2	66
Iron Boxes	2	10
Study Table	1	22
Rice Grinder	1	45
Church Worship Books	1	66
House Repairs	5	200



In these pictures are Usha and her two daughters and a grandchild. Their house was totally washed away in the floods and a few friends and relatives are helping rebuild. We gave them £220 for the

concrete/metal pillars. Scared of more floods at some point in the future, and being near the river banks, they, and other people, are now building houses on pillars which is turning out more expensive but may be important protection. While they build they're living in the little hut seen in the top picture.

INDEPENDENT LIVING FOR YOUNG MAN

Jacob works hard to assess all the numerous requests for aid and he is very careful to ensure any money given is spent correctly on what has been agreed. He chooses many very worthwhile cases and the following account is a good example of how small actions can make a big difference to individuals' lives. Jacob writes:

"SANDEEP is a differently abled young man of about 22 years . His father Sreedharan left him when he was only 6 months old and he was also a mentally disturbed person. Ever since then, his mother Shobana was looking after him but sadly she too passed in March, 2018 leaving Sandeep alone in this world. Sandeep is not a pushy guy and very reclusive in nature. He has not finished his schooling and though he is trying very hard to get some sort of a job, nobody wants to take him on because of his slow nature. He is being looked after by his aunt Omana who already has her own family to look after. Omana is trying to settle him down so that Sandeep makes a living on his own. This is all the more important because Omana's husband does not like Sandeep and so he cannot be taken to her house.



When his mother died, the community got together and improved the ramshackle shed that they were living in. They put a tin roof on and also some layers of hollow blocks as a base for the house. Omana wanted to complete the house somehow for him and sought our help. So we chipped in about £250 to put metal sheets around his house and make the floor more even. Sandeep is very happy about it and has started living in there on his own. He is on the look out for a job now. He is thankful to the Trust for making this possible for him. In picture are Sandeep and Omana in front of his house."

HELP TO DISABLED SCHOOL



Despite concentrating on our flood relief we've continued to assist other people and organisations. We managed to buy a wheelchair for Lilly Buds School in Chengannur. This is run by the local Lions club but they are finding it difficult to meet their ongoing costs and so came to us for help. Initially they were aiming to have about 10 children but they have over 30 with more enquiries all the time. The age range is between 5 and 26. As they all have to be transported to school and back from their homes, they incur a lot of expense in running and maintaining a mini van. The children are attended by a physiotherapist, a vocational training teacher, 3 teaching staff and 3 non teaching staff. Most of the children are from very poor

backgrounds and so cannot afford to contribute any fees to the school and they receive no government funding although they intend to apply but this could take around three years. Apart from normal teaching, they also have physiotherapy, behaviour therapy, music therapy and vocational training sessions. The school have requested more help from us and Jacob will be reviewing this. If anyone would like to contribute towards this please do get in touch. Some of the children and staff are seen in the picture along with the wheel chair that we donated.

DONATION

We received a payment to our bank on 23 May 2019 for £80 with the reference 'Andover Sc'. We don't know who this is and would like to thank the person or organisation so if it's you please let us know together with the fund you would like it to go to! Thankyou