

THE EAST SHEEN-CHENGANNUR TRUST

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SYMRISE FUNDING AWARD



You may remember this time last year we were put forward for possible funding by our supporter Phil Cook. He works for Diana Foods in Holbeach in East Anglia who annually give donations to charities under the name of the Symrise Project. We were delighted to be awarded 4000 euros which we'll put to our Building fund. Last month Russell and his wife, Jackie, were invited to their factory to give a short presentation on the Trust and accept the donation. In the picture Phil Cook their Operations Manager is presenting the cheque to Russell & Jackie. Thank you very much to Phil, Symrise, Diana Foods and all our supporters who voted for us.

HELP TO LOCAL SCHOOLS

Pandanadu is a small village close to Chengannur. We managed to distribute 35 bags and 5 books each to 35 needy children from poor backgrounds in that area. Schools are unable to supply equipment etc and often parents cannot afford to buy the basics for their children. Two priests were present along with the elected representative of the village Dr. Shibu. They thanked us for our wonderful gifts. We had also helped another set of students from the same village a year ago. The children were a happy bunch when they returned home, their hands full!



Vrindha is the head teacher at a local play school situated in the village of Budhanoor about 5 miles from Chengannur. She has about 12 children and also a maid to help the children. We managed to buy them a pressure cooker (to cook children's afternoon free meals), plates and glasses to have their lunch and five mats for the children to sleep on in their afternoon break. It cost us about £50. The children were very happy with the gifts and Vrindha conveyed her thanks to us.



Back in 2000 our supporter Rob Dubery very kindly set up our website and he's since been maintaining it. All his work has been free of charge to us. He's now moved out of this field of work and has other commitments so has to stop but we would like to offer our special thanks to him for the years of help he's given us.

WEBSITE

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SPONSORSHIP HELPS IN MANY WAYS.....Sponsorship generally covers basic needs of the children such as school uniforms and food but sometimes we and/or our sponsors chip in extra money for something special. Here's a few recent examples....

HOUSE...Aparna has been sponsored for some years and her mother Ambika recently sent a letter for her sponsor after we helped finish her house. She said... *"We are very happy to let you know that we managed to complete our house. This would not have been possible but for your timely help. You have been helping us for almost 10 years and words are not enough to thank you. This is something that we would have never achieved on our own."*



We are very happy to let you know that we moved into our house on 01/04/2017. It was a joyous occasion for all. Our house consists of 2 rooms, 1 bathroom, Hall, a sit out and a kitchen. All our well wishers from our church gathered in front of our house for prayers which must have gone on for more than an hour. About 150 people were present including Aparna's friends and teachers from school, and family friends etc. We managed to serve them fried rice and chicken prepared at home by a cook. Some gave us cash presents and we also got some ceiling fans, a dinner set and kitchen utensils as gifts. We managed to put tiles in the hall and also in the sit out which looks neat. My brother who is a tile layer helped us with that. Some basic works are left but we moved in on that day and so we are so very happy about it. We remember you all specially and thank you for your wonderful gift to us in the form of a proper roof over our head.

Even now we get scared thinking of our old house. Often I have seen snakes crawling on the roof to catch mice which was scary for all of us. I tried not to let children know of it at the time. In the wind and rain we used to get scared thinking that the trees will get uprooted and fall on the roof top. Under all these circumstances, moving into a new house of our own was a dream-come-true and the feeling in my heart is one of comfort, satisfaction and peace and so thank you for making that possible. Much love, AMBIKA"



SEWING MACHINE. Here are a happy sponsored family: Usha with her two children Parvathy and Pradeesh standing next to the sewing machine which we managed to buy for them. Usha stitches ladies dresses which are brought to her by her friends from the village and she earns about a pound a day, valuable support to keep her family going.

SHOPPING CART.

Jithin and Mithun are also sponsored. Their father is not well after a bike accident. Recently their mother Lilly who was the sole earning member in the family had to undergo an operation. She has recovered but isn't able to do the regular work that she used to do as a domestic maid. They wanted a



trolley cart for selling biscuits, snacks, stationary and toiletries so that they can earn a small income. We had this made by a local blacksmith. They report that business has started okay and they are able to take back a small amount of profit from that on a daily basis. Manoj and his wife Lilly takes turn to be at the shop as their house is located quite close to it. .