



Arobanam Children Fund

www.arobanam.com

22nd Annual Charity Dinner

Saturday 22nd April 2017

At 6.30-10.30pm

Manor Park Hall

Malden Road

New Malden

Surrey

KT3 6AU



Programme

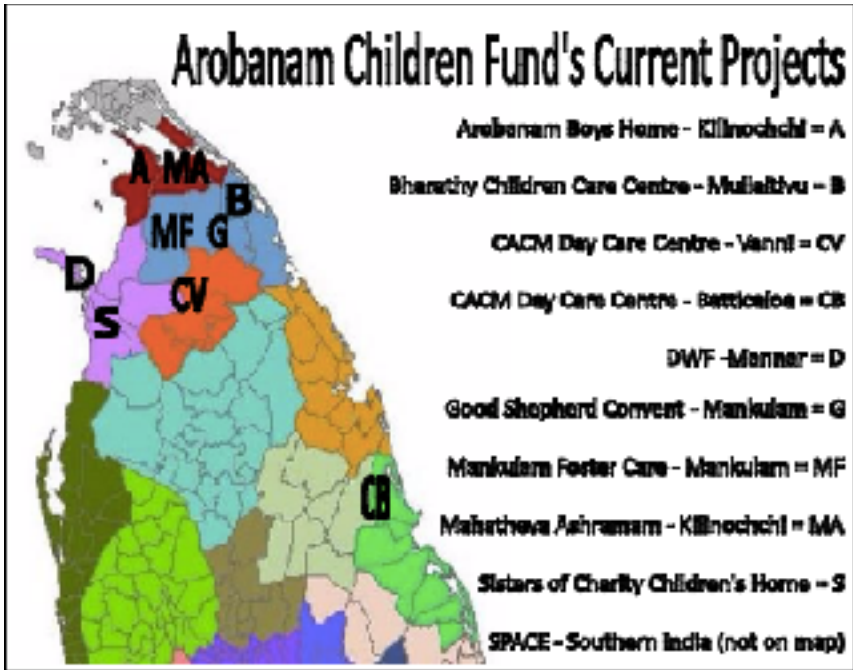
Doors Open	6.30pm
Chairman's Address	7.15pm
Lighting of Kuthuvilakku	7.20pm
Slide Presentation	7.30pm
Guest of Honour's Address	7.45pm
American Auction	8.00pm
Dinner & Music Interlude	8.45pm
Raffle Draw	9.45pm

Vote of Thanks

10.00pm

Doors Close

10.30pm



Project	Children Total
Mankulam Foster Care & Good Shepherd's Convent	
Mahadeva Ashram - Kilinochchi	
Arobanam Boys Home - Kilinochchi	
Sisters of Charity - Cheddikulam	

Mannar Foster Care (DWF)	
Bharathi Children's Care Home - Mullaitivu	
Day Care Centres (CACM) - Vaharai & Northern Vanni	
Anaiyoor Refugee Camp (SPACE) - Madurai, India	
University Funding (DWF)	
University Funding (Mankulam)	

Arobanam Children Fund

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Tel No: 44 (0) 208 761 4918

Registered Charity No. 1082803

www.arobanam.co.uk



22.04.2017

Ladies and Gentlemen

I have great pleasure in welcoming you all for our 22nd Annual Charity Dinner. This year we have chosen Surrey as our venue which is likely to be our ongoing location, reasons for which I will explain later.

Unfortunately, most charities are facing many challenges working in Sri Lanka with the recent introduction of new rules governing children's homes. As you are aware, Arobanam Children Fund has been running a very successful sponsorship scheme, where we currently have 188 families sponsoring children both in Sri Lanka and India. Allocating a child to a family is adversely affected by these new regulations. This is due to the courts involvement in removing children from children's homes to reunite them with relatives who may be living in a different part of Sri Lanka. Although, this in the face of it sounds desirable, it creates unintended upheaval to the children by disruption of their education by moving them to a new area which involves leaving their friends etc.

From the perspective of ACF's administration, it has become a huge burden maintaining our database and ensuring it is continually up to date. For this reason, we have recently considered discontinuing allocating a child to a UK sponsor however this was unanimously rejected by the Trustees. I appeal to our former members and other interested persons who can spare the time to join Arobanam to continue this vital service to the needy children who deserve a better life.

While our organisation has been assisting children from Sri Lanka and India, the time has come to think of other communities too. To date we have provided some help to the earthquake victims of Nepal. Our committee have already discussed and decided in principle to open Arobanam to assist children from other parts of the world. We live in an unjust world where 20 million people are currently facing starvation in parts of the middle east and mainly Africa, of which 3 million are children. The recent political scene also points to rich countries wanting to cut foreign aid, which will only make the situation worse. Charities will have to try and fill that gap. Obviously Arobanam has its limitations and our contribution can only be a minute part of it.

Finally, as you all know we were holding our annual function in different areas to make it easier to our sponsors living in other parts of the country. Unfortunately, due to high costs of venues, we have decided to hold all the future events in Surrey and in more humble surroundings. I kindly ask our sponsors to accept this decision.

Please have an enjoyable but thoughtful evening, remembering that if we all get together we can bring some relief to some of these children.

Thank you

V Ramakrishnan
Chairman ACF UK

Mahadeva Ashram - Killinochchi

Dear Chairman and Committee Members
Arobanam Children Fund
UK

Annual Dinner Koochale-2017

First I would like to express my sincere thanks and gratitude for supporting our helpless children in our home in various ways.

I pray that your Annual Dinner will be a successful one.

At present 436 children are maintained by us. Your organisation is supporting continuously from 1996.

You are providing money for children food and maintenance while you are providing money for supplying of milk to small children. Due to your efforts and assistance children's nutrition status are increased and active in education & sports.



At present children entered University & studying degree courses while 2 of them are following management course at the University while they are doing Chartered Accountancy Course too. These are harvests of your support and assistance we suppose. 3 more children are selected for admission this year also.



Our Children at national karate level competition



Our Children at national level Karate competition

Further our children participated divisional, district and national levels sports and they secured various medals. Please see the photos & news items which will speak to their performance.



Our Children at district level karate competition



Our Children at national level competition



Your contribution at present goes to small numbers of children. We need more assistance to other children of our home.

Your support and assistance will be highly appreciated & commended by our committee

Thanks
Kind regards

I. Sureshbabu,
Chairman
Mehodeva Suvasthale Children Home
(asanthiagar, Kinnocchi)

Our Projects – ASSETS

We are pleased to announce our involvement with a new endeavour targeted at empowering children with special needs. ACF are partnering with ASSETS (Association to Empower the Special Need Children), an organisation founded by a group of medical professionals operating in Kilinochchi who follow the doctrine that ‘disability is not inability’.



Our children at ASSETS

Beautiful pictures by our children at ASSETS



These doctors identified an urgent need to provide assistance and resources to children with disabilities in the remote villages outside of Kilinochchi where such services are scarce. Two founder members: Dr. Jeyaruban, a psychiatrist and Dr. Murali, the Medical Officer of Health in Kilinochchi, have spent years treating and working with children with varying intellectual, physical, psychological and emotional disabilities. They discovered that these children were often neglected and abandoned by their own families because many lived in abject poverty and therefore, did not have the means to provide even the basic needs of food, clothing and medicine.



As such, ASSETS was formed and a Hostel was set up in close proximity to ‘Sivapoomy’ a school specialising in providing education and vocational training to children with disabilities ensuring they are no longer overlooked or forgotten, but are given the opportunity to live an independent and free life with a real chance for a future.

Our Projects – Tuition Scheme ABH

We recently identified that a number of our children at Arobanam Boys Home, Kilinochchi were underperforming at school. Many of these children had their schooling interrupted as a consequence of the civil war and displacement. As such, we have now launched a new tuition scheme to provide these children with extra classes in core subjects (Math’s, English, Science & Tamil) to ensure they are given the best opportunity for education. The tuition scheme costs £235 per month and is currently being funded through our contingency fund which is not a sustainable solution. We urgently require your support; please consider donating towards this scheme. Visit our website www.arobanam.com for details.



Our Projects –Day care centres

One of our central beliefs has been to promote early education for children particularly given pre-schools are not state funded in Sri Lanka. With your help, we have been able to ensure our day care centres continue to operate successfully. Each centre maintains an intake of approx. 25 children and we are also able to fund uniforms for them. We will be providing individual reports on each of our centres in the next newsletter.



Arobaran Children Fund

Registered Charity No. 100902

Statement of Accounts for 12 months

1st of January to 31st December 2016

	2016	2015
INCOME		
Individual sponsorship of children	50,769.00	57,702.00
ANNUAL LUNCHEON	2,480.00	9,812.00
Donations	10,240.00	7,870.00
Special Events	200.00	75.00
Virgin Money Giving	8,100.00	3,803.00
London Marathon	8,160.00	-
Milk Aid	375.00	90.00
SN Aid	12,059.00	11,654.00
Meal Enthusiasts Appeal	-	1,200.00
Summer Fun Day	-	2,006.00
Bicycle appeal	-	75.00
HOOD HEAT	-	2,044.00
Interest Received	1,700.00	1,906.00
	<u>98,119.00</u>	<u>90,208.00</u>
EXPENDITURE		
Remittance of funds to India		
Society For Peoples Action (SPACI)	6,028.00	8,208.00
Remittance of funds to Sri Lanka		
Child development Initiative	3,006.00	1,870.00
Harbour Festoon	10,808.00	10,796.00
Maria's Ice Cream van	21,060.00	10,807.00
Mihachova Ashram	14,207.00	10,004.00
Church Of Annamoni Ceylon Mission	17,570.00	16,120.00
Beeth Children Care Centre	6,160.00	4,900.00
Arobaran Day Home	7,207.00	5,006.00
Assets	206.00	-

Remittance of Funds to Nepal earthquake Appeal		1240.00
Other expenses:		
Annual Dinner	1760.00	5740.00
Bank Charges	600.00	600.00
Professional Fees	16.00	-
Devises Post-Debit Expenses	-	1740.00
	<u>2936.00</u>	<u>8180.00</u>
Funds Of Income/Char Expenditure	<u>3,123.00</u>	<u>2,861.00</u>
Represented by:		
Liabi Electronic TRF Ac	5006.00	3044.00
CAF Cash Ac	5707.00	-
CAF Sdtd Ac	1408.00	-
Liabi Extra Ac	4154.00	1,860.00
Liabi Education Ac	20,194.00	20,195.00
Source Trust Bank	<u>77661.00</u>	<u>86,120.00</u>
	<u>1,09960.00</u>	<u>1,14,419.00</u>
Commercial Bank Of Ceylon	P/s	<u>294,871.00</u>
		<u>88,87.00</u>

Our Fundraising

We are delighted to report that Myooreesh Maheswaran successfully completed the Virgin Money London Marathon on Sunday 24th April 2016 in aid of ACF.

We extend our congratulations to Myooreesh for this amazing achievement and for his outstanding efforts in raising **nearly £8,000** for our charity! His fundraising will make a huge difference to the children we assist and will also inspire them to achieve their own goals.



A Fond Farewell

After pioneering our largest project to date, the Mankulam Foster Care and managing the scheme for over seven years, we bid a fond farewell to Fr. James Pathinathan and Sr. Mary Rajesh who have been transferred to new posts in Jaffna.

Although Fr. James will continue his commitment as ACF's patron, neither will be involved in our project at Mankulam and it will be taken over by the incoming Parish Priest and Sister in Charge. Both Fr. James and Sr. Rajesh have been pivotal figures to ACF and crucially, instrumental to the development and growth of our charity.

We extend our heartfelt gratitude for their tireless service over the many years and we wish them well. They will be greatly missed by us and all the children at Mankulam.



Vote of Thanks

Arobanam Children Fund Committee
wish to express its gratitude to...

- Our Children's Sponsors
- Our Chief Guest Mr. Hubert Ferdinand
- Our Guest entertainer, Praveena Ravishanker
- Our Event caterers, Curry Leaves, New Malden for their special considerate offer this evening
- Manor Park Hall administration for their kind cooperation and the use of their facilities
- Our Friends and Families for their continued support in helping to organise this annual event
- Last but not least, you the audience for your cordial presence and helping to make tonight a success.



**A Man Never Stands As Tall
As When He Kneels To
Help A Child**

