

"A man never stands as tall as when he kneels to help a child"



Arobanam Children Fund Newsletter – January 2019

<http://www.arobanam.co.uk>

Time for reflection and focus for the Year ahead

As we step into 2019 it is important to take a moment and reflect on the year that has passed, before we look to the year ahead. ACF would like to take the opportunity to thank you once again for your support. Without you we would not be able to help the many children, some of who have basic needs such as food, shelter and education. Wishing you and your families a wonderful New Year.

Visit to ACF homes

In the early part of 2018, our Chairman, Mr Ramakrishnan and member, Mr Thiagarasa made a visit to most of the ACF assisted homes.

As well as providing an opportunity to visit the homes, we were also able to have a face to face meeting with Patron Fr James and Dinesh – the ACF project coordinator. We are delighted to report that Dinesh was resided at the first ACF home, Arobanam Boys Home many years ago. Dinesh grew up in the home under the care of Fr James. As a result, Dinesh is passionate about his work and extremely grateful for all that ACF has provided and future opportunities for children in the area.

A full update of the visit will be provided at Annual Dinner in March 2019, however, please see below for a picture of Dinesh (our coordinator) and the ABH building restored using funds raised by one of our sponsors, Mr Manorajah



***SAVE THE DATE 16th March 2019* for the Annual Arobanam Charity Dinner**

For the 24th year running we will be holding our annual charity dinner. Please save the date and we hope you join us for an informative evening

Flooding in the Northern Provinces

December 2018 we sadly witnessed severe flooding in the Northern provinces of Sri Lanka. Over 55,000 from nearly 18,000 families were affected due to heavy rains and floods in all the five of the following districts Mullaithivu, Kilinochchi, Mannar, Vavuniya and Jaffna. Tens of thousands were displaced and as a result had to be temporarily housed in shelters and churches. Arobanam Children Fund worked with DMC (Disaster Management Center) and other NGO's to distribute over 300 emergency relief packages to the local people. Thank you to those who supported our online appeal.



London Marathon



Christena Shivashankar has kindly chosen to run the London Marathon in aid of Arobanam. We are truly grateful and ask that you support her by donating anything you can towards her efforts.

<https://uk.virginmoneygiving.com/Christenaruns2019marathon>

New projects:

Sivapoomi Trust – Kilinochi:

ACF received a request from Aaru Thirumurugan, the President of Sivapoomi Trust to provide a driver to transport special needs children from their homes to the school and back in the Kilinochchi area.

This school has a capacity of 100 but currently running with only 43 students. Mr Thirumurugan explained that although there are several such children in the area, often the parents themselves are reluctant to bring them to the school questioning the value of their attendance to school.

Provision of this driver will enable them to utilise an already available bus to bring such children, educate, provide them with lunch and take them back home.

ACF will be supporting this initiative from January 2019.

Good Shepherds Welcome home:

Sister Rajesh has been in touch with ACF to inform us of a new project that she is involved with. In Jaffna, it has been noted that there are approximately 50 sexual abuse cases on a monthly basis. From when the incident is reported, it takes between 4-6 weeks for the case to close and for the child to be relocated to a new home. In addition, in many of these cases the affected child is also pregnant.

This home would be available for children to keep safe and provide the children with counselling, medical and other services. The children will also part take in small activities with a view to send them back to school once they are ready.

Stay in touch with ACF - ACF is committed to protecting the privacy of personal data that we maintain. Further to the EU's General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR), we would like to verify that you are happy to continue receiving emails from us which can include our newsletters, information about events and fundraising. Please email us back 'YES' to confirm you would like to receive our emails. You have the right to withdraw your consent at any time and should we not hear from you, we will be sending a reminder email with our updated privacy policy for your information.



**Arobanam Sponsorship Scheme
STANDING ORDER MANDATE**

To the Manager

Name of Bank: _____

Address: _____

City & Postcode _____

Please pay: CAF Bank Ltd. 25 Kings Hill Ave, West Malling, Kent ME19 4JQ

For the credit of: Arobanam Children Fund Charity Reg No: 1082803

A/C No: 00029004, Sort Code. 40-52-40

The sum of: (in words) _____

Pounds (£15/per child): _____

On the _____ (day), _____ (month), _____ (year)

And thereafter every month until further notice and debit my account accordingly.

Name of account-holder to be debited: _____

Account Number: _____

Sort Code: _____

Signed: _____ Date: _____

Your Address _____

I would like tax to be reclaimed on my donation under the Gift Aid Scheme. I am a UK tax payer and pay an amount of income tax and/or capital gains tax at least equal to the tax that can be reclaimed on my donation. Please tick.

YES _____ NO _____



For future communication please provide your email address. This is the only way you will receive our Newsletter. We assure you that we will never pass your email address onto third parties.

Tel Number: _____

Email: _____

Please call +44 (0)20 8764 4948 if you have any queries. When completed, please return to Mr V Ramakrishnan (Chairman), Arobanam Children Fund, 21 Yew Tree Bottom Road, Epsom, Surrey, KT17 3NE. We will then send this form onto your bank. Please allow at least 2 weeks between the date you fill this form and the date of your first payment. Thank you.

The information you provide on this form is subject to the provisions of the Data Protection Act 1998