

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



Arobanam Children Fund Newsletter – August 2021

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

NEWS IN BRIEF:

HOME GARDEN INITIATIVE

The home garden initiative has been a success. In April, ACF provided vegetable plants, seeds, and garden accessories to 80 families in the Mankulam area as a pilot scheme. This encouraged families to engage themselves with organic gardening, yielding and provided vegetables during the lockdown which resulted from the second wave of Covid in Sri Lanka. With this success, we will extend this initiative to other areas and to our homes in phases.

TROMSO MARATHON

Our first fundraising event outside UK has been a huge success. Our ACF friends from Norway – Velmurugu Puvanendran, Erik Burgerhout, Kugan Velayutham – ran the Tromso, Norway's Midnight Marathon on Saturday 19th June. Together with your support the runners raised over £3,500. A fantastic effort – thank you to the runners and all those who have supported.

COVID RELIEF

We have been continuing with the COVID relief ration packs and with the help of our partners have distributed almost 600 ration packs to date. As lock-down starts to ease in Sri Lanka this appeal will no longer be active. We thank you for your generous contributions that have fed many families in these extraordinary times.

SPECIAL MEALS

Our Special Meals initiative has been hugely popular over the last year. If you want to arrange a special meal for our children, or assist with other initiatives, then do get in touch.

SUPPORTING SCHOOL CHILDREN

School starter packs are still being delivered to children supported through the Mankulam Foster Care centre every year. The school starter packs consist of a school bag; exercise books, mathematics box, writing aids, drawing book and colour chalk, and snacks.

With COVID still disrupting schools and attendance is still low due to many reasons, so we have decided to provide the Destitute Welfare Fund with a brand-new laptop to enable as many children as possible who do not have access to a computer to follow school on-line lessons from the DWF premises.



**ACF are always in need of more sponsors to assist more children in need
TO SPONSOR A CHILD PLEASE CLICK HERE: [Sponsor a child](#) OR contact a member of the team**

For further information, please contact one of our committee members at:
Arobanam Children Fund, 29 Helmsdale Road, London, SW16 5UT, E-mail: arobanamchildrenfund@gmail.com
Together We Can Make A Difference

Destitue Welfare Fund Workshops

In May we held our first workshop with Annai Illam in Mannar. A primary school teacher based in Paris, Raje, led the workshop and funded all the materials required for the workshop. The children interacted well, the activities were very varied and were well received by the children. Based on the success and positive feedback of this workshop, we have since held three more at the same home. Famous musicians from Sri Lanka entertained the children and children from Europe conducted quiz sessions in English.

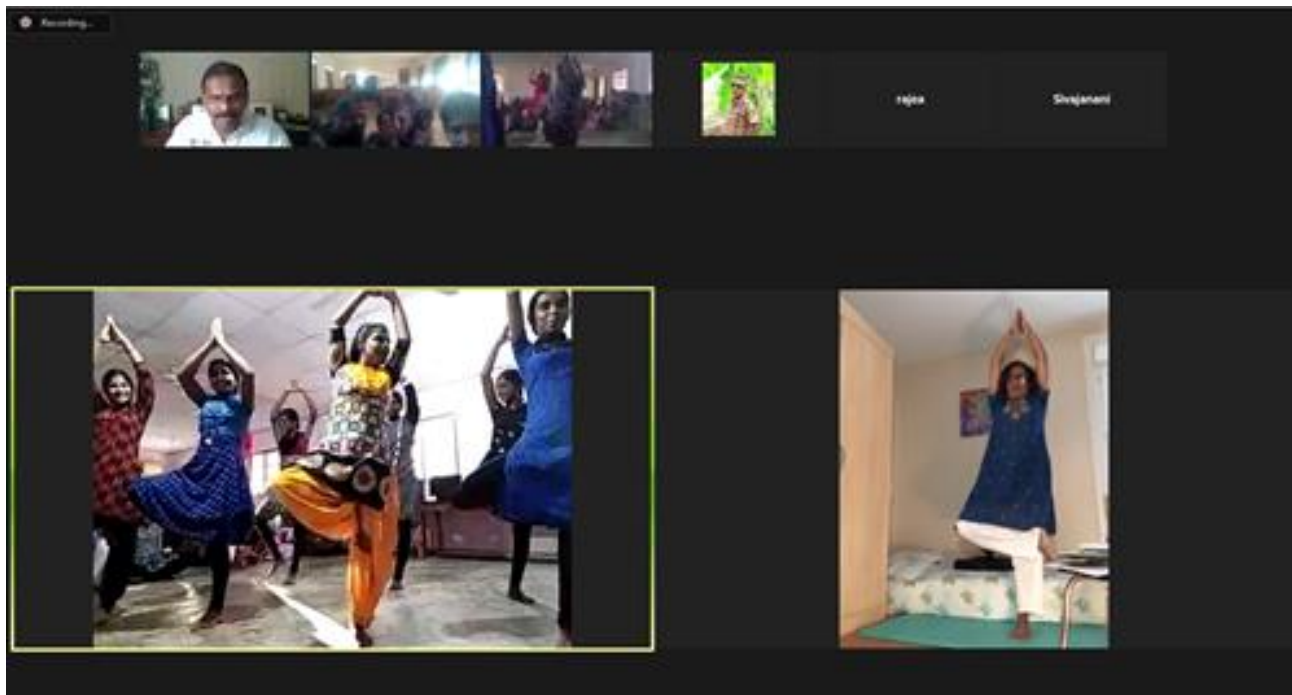
In May and June some of the children from the Annai Illam took part in a Variety Performance; and some children from Bharathy Illam joined. It was an enjoyable experience for all and we are pleased that this event was able to go ahead as planned. We thank the sponsors and supporters who made this into a success.



These workshops have provided us with the opportunity to have direct contact with the children and have been very rewarding for us to see first-hand. Moving forward, we feel that these workshops are extremely valuable and worth the investment and so we will be looking for funding to run the sessions. Funding will cover any technology, snacks, and other materials required to run the workshop.

Bharathy Illam Workshops

In July we conducted similar workshops with Bharathy Illam in Mullaitivu. Bharathy Illam has 109 resident children. In order to effectively engage with all children, two more workshops will be held on Saturday 14 August 2021.



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ACF PARTNER CONFERENCE - 26TH APRIL 2021

On April 26th 2021, ACF held its first partner conference. The purpose of this conference was to promote two-way understanding between the ACF committee and its partner organisations.

With the view of engaging all participants the conference was conducted in Tamil.

The organisations and special speakers present at this event were:

ACF committee members – UK & Sri Lanka

Arobanam Boys Home – Kilinochchi, Sri Lanka

Association to Empower the Special Needs Children (ASSETS) – Kilinochchi, Sri Lanka

Bharathy Illam – Mullaitivu, Sri Lanka

Child Development Initiative – Vavuniya, Sri Lanka

Destitute Welfare Fund – Mannar, Sri Lanka

Good Shepherd Convent – Mankulam, Sri Lanka

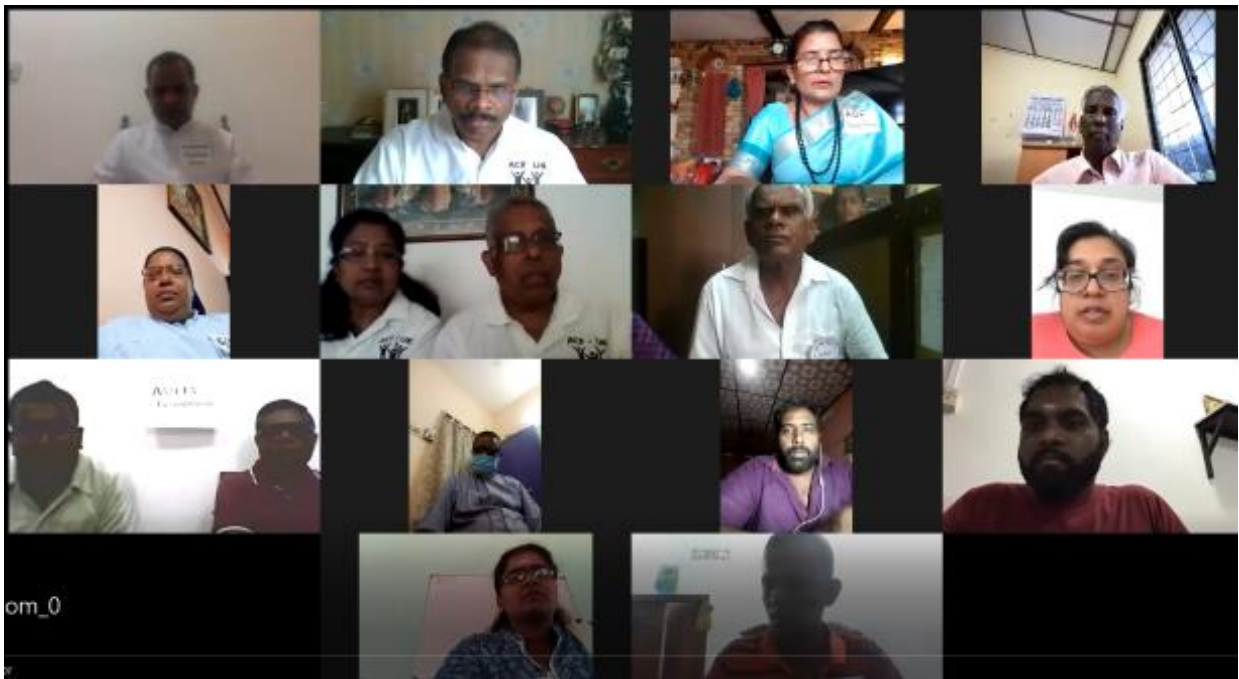
Sivapoomi Trust – Kilinochchi, Sri Lanka

Society for People's Action for Change & Education (SPACE) – Tamil Nadu, India

Vinothan – Lawyer in Sri Lanka (a student who was nurtured through the ACF Sponsorship Scheme, and the first to receive university assistance through ACF)

The conference proved to be very valuable to all present, in that, project leaders were able to put faces to their counterparts for the first time, and this encouraged friendly and less formal participation from everyone. Among themselves, the project managers were able to learn about the experiences and varied capabilities that were sustaining the progress of each other's respective organisations and, in turn, led to several requests for support from one another. It is especially heartening to discover that, with just this first conference, new bonds of support are being made.

It is ACF's intention to hold similar conferences of this format, in the future, to encourage more new bonds and further develop existing ones. There is a need to grow mutual understanding of the needs of all the children and these needs are liable to change with the changing political climate in Sri Lanka.



தலைவர்

ஆரோபனம் சிறுவர் நிதியம் லண்டன்

05.08.2021

அன்புடையீர்!

அன்பளிப்பு செய்யப்பட்ட மடிக்கணனி பாவனை தொடர்பான முன்னேற்ற அறிக்கை



கொரோனா வைரஸ் பரவல் காரணமாக பாடசாலைகள் மூடப்பட்ட நிலையில் தொலைத்தொடர்பு வலையமைப்பின் உதவியுடன் கல்வி நடவடிக்கைகள் இடம்பெறும் சூழ்நிலையில் மிகுந்த சிரமத்தின் மத்தியில் பணியாளர்களது சொந்த பாவணையிலிருந்து கைதொலைப்பேசியூடாக zoom வகுப்புகளில் பங்குபற்றுவதற்கு முயற்சிகளை மேற்கொண்டிருந்தோம். எனினும் ஒரே நேர அட்டவணையில் பலதரங்களில் உள்ள மாணவர்களுக்கு பல வகுப்புக்கள் நடைபெறும் நேரத்தில் சில வகுப்புக்களை தவறவிட வேண்டியநிலை காணப்பட்டது.

அதைவிட சிறியளவிலான காட்சிகளால் தெளிவின்மை, கூர்ந்துபார்க்க வேண்டிய தேவை, பிள்ளைகள் அவதானிக்க முடியாத சிரமம் போன்றவை கைத்தொலைப்பேசி மூலம் தொலைக்கல்வி வகுப்புக்களில் காணப்பட்டன. இவற்றைக் கருத்தில் கொண்டு மடிக்கணனி மூலம் விரிவான, தெளிவான காட்சிகளுடன் கூடிய பயனைப்பெற முடியுமாயினால் எமது இல்லப் பிள்ளைகளுக்கு மடிக்கணனி கோரி விண்ணப்பித்த போது தேவையின் தாக்கத்தினை உணர்ந்த தாங்கள் எமக்கு ஒரு புதிய மடிக்கணனியை 79,000 ரூபா பெறுமதிக்கு பெற்றுத் தந்தீர்கள் தற்போது அது முழுப்பாவணையில் உள்ளது. பாடசாலைகள் இயங்க ஆரம்பித்தாலும் இதன்தேவை இருந்துக்கொண்டே இருக்கும்.

ஏனெனில் zoom கலந்துரையாடல்கள், இரவுநேர பிரேத்திய வகுப்புக்கள், ICT பாடம் கற்கும் மாணவர்களுக்கான தேவை, எமது நிறுவன தேவைகள் என்பனவற்றிற்கும் மடிக்கணனி அத்தியவசியமாக தேவைப்பட்டுக்கொண்டே இருப்பதோ ஒரு வாரத்திற்கு அனைத்து பிள்ளைகளும் பயன் பெறுகின்றார்கள் என்பதை மிக மகிழ்வுடன் அறியத்தருகின்றோம்.

இவ்வண்ணம்

சு. பிருந்தாவனநாதன் முகாமையாளர்

அன்னை இல்லம்

உப்புக்குளம்

மன்னார்.