SalGO News

October 2024 Issue 44

As we near the end of another year, we are thankful to all the amazing sponsors who continue to support us and the projects that make such a difference to people's lives in India. We are also grateful to the sponsors who were able to help with their child's education costs again this year. We realise it's a big ask with the current economic difficulties many of us are facing. Thanks too, to those of you who have helped with our fundraising efforts or have done some of your own and those who have provided one off donations to support particular projects. Two more new projects are described below, both of them much needed by the children or community. As always, any suggestions for additional fundraising ideas or help gratefully received!



School Transport

The 15 children at the Pat Smith Home for Girls and the Clifford Smith Home for Boys who attend High School up to 10th grade, have in the past had a three mile walk both to and from school and many have found this a struggle. Shalem has negotiated with a private school to allow them to use the spare spaces in their minibus. This however comes at a cost of R1000 per month, per child. While we fully understand the need, R15,000 (approx. £135 a month) is not something we feel we can presently contribute to. If anyone else feels that they can donate on a regular or irregular basis towards this, it would be much appreciated. Fortunately, the Elementary School and College are closer so these students can walk.

Land for Home for the Elderly



"God gave me more compassion to work for neglected elderly people…..
I hope and believe God will open the door for finances in future to take care of elderly people"

Pastor Gamaliel, director and founder of SalGOERCO, the charity we support in India, has long had a heart for supporting elderly people. He has now found a home for the elderly men in the area but not for the 16 elderly women in need of a place to call home.

However, he has now found a 9 cents plot of land (Approx. 364 square meters) that is suitable. The owner of this land, Namburi Vinathi and her husband Umameswarao are prepared to keep the price of the land, valued at 81 lakhs, to 70 lakhs, as they have witnessed & appreciate the work SalGOERCO are doing. In June, Gamaliel gave the owners 20 lakhs with an agreement that if the remainder of the money isn't paid by October 2026 they will return all the money. They require the next instalment of 5 lakhs (approx. £4,500) by the end of this month.

A team from Narasayapalem village, have been going to all the Salem churches to raise funds and two churches in Holland have also been fundraising to try and meet this first payment. Can anyone else donate to this cause to enable Gamaliel, who is going forward with so much faith, to reach the first hurdle in what seems an impossible endeavour?

The existing building on the site has a strong foundation and has two sections for sleeping and a kitchen/dinning area, both with veranda's for sitting out on and has been recently painted by a local man. Please help if you are able to, to make Gamaliel's dream come true and to revive the elderly ladies hopes of a permanent Home.



Treasurer still required!

Can you help oversee the finances of SalGO Assist?

Having introduced some of our local supporters to the person we thought was our new treasurer, we were very disappointed to learn that for changing family reasons, she was unable to take on the role. So the search continues! With our AGM fast approaching and Peter's imminent resignation from the role, finding a replacement is more urgent than ever, so if you think you know someone who might be able to help, please contact Denise via the website for more information.

Raise free funds for charity when you do your grocery shop!

We have mentioned **'Give as you Live'** before. Sign up and we receive free donations when you shop online at many, many stores for both groceries and goods. The good news is that this doesn't cost you a penny so please consider it when you are doing your Christmas shopping. It does make a big difference to us. **https://www.giveasyoulive.com/join/salgo**

Did you know you can also get preloaded grocery store cards ready for your next in-store supermarket shop at Sainsbury's, ASDA, Morrisons, Waitrose & Partners or Marks & Spencer. You'll raise free funds for us every time you top-up this way too! It's not just for groceries …. use them to buy gifts or to give as Christmas presents too. **https://instore.giveasyoulive.com/groceries**

Events

Please join us if you can….

Gratis Choir: All at Sixties and Seventies 3.15pm Sun. 24th November, St Mary's Church, Winnersh

ADVENT MARKET: 6.30 –9pm on Thursday 28th November, St Mary's Church Hall, Winnersh

St Nicholas Christmas Fayre: 11am-3pm Sat. 7 December, Hurst Village Hall





Akshaya Jessie

"All I want for Christmas….."

We still have three boys and two girls still longing for a sponsor to call their own.

Akshaya Jessie, who has not yet got a place in the Home, has a personal plea in her recent letter *"When I come to PS Home I feel little sad because I have no chance to stay here ….. I request if anybody to help me, I can take good food here….. I like this place and I can play games here"*

There is no doubt what Akshaya, Varshini and the boys want for Christmas! Could you be the one to make their wish come true?



Great Gifts to give at Christmas

Struggling to think of what to buy for the person who has everything? From classic goat gifts to supporting a student's education, the charity gifts on our website are the perfect choice for Christmas 2024. This Christmas, your gift could make a huge difference, transforming the lives of poor women and children in S.India. Every gift you buy supports SalGO Assist projects. We give you a customisable gift card to give to the recipient that'll tells them what you've paid for on their behalf, or we can send the card directly to them. Take a look and see:

http://www.salgoassist.org/index.php/purchase-a-gift.

Contact us via the website
Donations can be made via:
https://cafdonate.cafonline.org/10477