SalGO News

March 2025 Issue 45

Introducing our new Treasurer Nicki

Nicki writes: I am excited to be joining the charity as a trustee and treasurer. I qualified as an accountant in 1988 and spent the majority of my career in US based hi-tech companies before taking early retirement in 2017. I'm looking forward to bringing the benefit of my experience in financial planning and management to the charity and hopefully help to boost the funds through new ideas and initiatives.

I recently visited northern India on an organised tour and hope to return at some stage to see more of the beautiful and magical country.



Our very grateful thanks go to Peter for all his hard work as treasurer over the last three years. Peter has unfortunately had to resign from the position due to deteriorating health, although we are pleased to say that for now, he is remaining on the committee.

Wedding Congratulations

John, a 25 year old ex- Clifford Smith Home resident, has recently married Geethanjali, a 21 year old Nurse. The wedding took place in Bapatla with nearly 300 relatives, friends and classmates attending, including the present residents of the Homes, who were very excited to be included. At the wedding, John said, "I lost my parents at my young age since then I grew up in CSO Home under the care of my foster mother, the reason why I have settled in such a good situation is that through this wedding ceremony I am expressing my gratitude to my foster mother Pat Smith, who has given me a new life." John joined the Home in 2012 and now works as an electrician.



Helping Hands

We have several fundraising events every year and would really appreciate additional pairs of hands to help with these, even if it's just to enable the usual team to have a break during the day. If you feel you could help for a couple of hours at any of the following events later in the year, please let us know. If you would be able to do some additional fundraising for us or know of any other events we could attend we would appreciate hearing from you.

Events 2025

17 May 2025 ***St Mary's Spring fair***
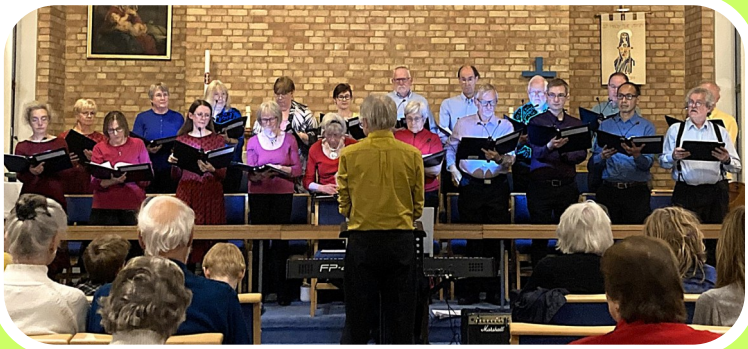
21 June ***Winnersh Fete***

16 August ***Twyford Fete***

30 August ***Hurst Horticultural Show***

Gratis Choir

We are very grateful to the Gratis choir who raised £437 in November for us. Their "All at Sixties and Seventies" concert at St. Mary's Church was amazing. Following tea and cakes, we had a fun afternoon of songs from the 1960s and 1970s, including a complete performance of 'Captain Noah and his Floating Zoo.' The money raised will pay for four more mosquito net window guards, bringing the total to 11. We only need one more to complete the Boy's Home windows, so if any one can spare £115, please let us know!!



Land for the Elderly



In the October edition last year we told you about the land and the building that Pastor Gamaliel is desperate to buy for the elderly ladies in the community. He met the first payment deadline of £4500 in November from local support in Bapatla and churches in Holland, but the next one is looming. Any support to get him past this next hurdle will be greatly appreciated.

Kotamma is one of the women who hopes to live in this new Home. She was raised in a Christian family and her husband worked making palm leaf roofs for the temporary houses made with mud walls. He passed away in 2001 with pneumonia. Their son, Ramesh married and has two boys. Ramesh did not sent his children to school because of financial problems and when they reached 12 years old they were sent to wash dishes in breakfast hotels. Although these grandchildren are now adults, they are not taking regular care of their grandmother as they are also living in poverty. The miserable conditions they find themselves in mean they often resort to alcohol and drug use! Kotamma is therefore very thankful for SalGOERCO's support.





New Television

The long awaited TV for the boy's Home has finally arrived, thanks to one of our supporters. The boys are delighted and write in their letters, "Thank you SalGO Assist for the new TV. We have been suffering a lot without a TV for a long time but now we are very happy to spend some time watching TV every Saturday and Sunday." Another boy writes, "The boys are very happy about the TV…. it is so beautiful compared with previous TV".

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