

# CHILDREN NEWSLETTER

# August2016 Issue 56

Hello and welcome to Children of the Dump summer newsletter.

I hope you enjoy reading this edition and I want to highlight just a few items for special attention. You may remember my article of our visit to the family with two little girls and their terrible plight. Well I am so pleased that the younger sister has joined our Mango family where she is settling into the loving atmosphere and enjoying regular meals and a structured routine. We pray that she will continue to flourish and achieve her full potential in the years to come. Stories like Lyka



reinforce my passion about the work we do in Children of the Dump, the difference that can be made for one child at a time.

Have any of you been part of a CQC or Ofsted inspection? If so you will be able to empathise with our team in Manila who have been going through their relicensing inspections. It was a rigorous process and very stressful for all staff but we are delighted to report that services met the required standards the new licence has been issued. Congratulations and well done to Peter and all his team.

Here in the UK, we are cognisant of recent publicity about fundraising standards and behaviours. At Children of the Dump, we assure you that we have exacting standards, your data is secure and we don't purchase data from others. Our policies can be accessed on request. We try hard to show how much we value our donors and are developing a process to make sure that you receive appropriate and tailored information about our work and the difference your donation has made. If you have ideas that you would like us to include I would be delighted to hear them.

# CHAIRMAN KAY MACKAY

A persistent theme in all our communications has been the challenge of fluctuating exchange rates and recently that has been badly in the wrong direction. We are blessed however to have received some additional help in grants from the Barbara Ward Trust, the Souter Trust and Paradigm Norton, we are hugely grateful for their support. While exchange rates are out of our control, we do everything we can to minimise the negative impact but it's so frustrating that in July 2015 the cost for every 1,000 pesos we sent to our Projects in Manila was £14.10 and now in July 2016 the cost is £16.33, an increase of 15%. This is mainly due to the recent result in the EU referendum.

Looking ahead, I am really excited by some of our future events. As well as our ever popular quiz night, we have a special pre Christmas fun-night which is not to be missed. Book your diary now. I look forward to seeing many of you there.

Kay Mackay Chairman



"As one person I cannot change the world, But I can change the world of one person." Paul Shane Spear

## **MEET A TRUSTEE**

Hello I'm Colin,

In my work—a-day life I was a teacher of secondary school students. When I retired from full time teaching, I taught adults especially those with learning difficulties, I still volunteer twice a week for these learners.

Children of the Dump is one of the charities that High Cross Church in Camberley support. We have had many fundraising events including quiz



COLIN SHOVELLER

evenings and money donated from our own pantomimes, these and other events helped to raise my awareness of this wonderful charity. More recently I have volunteered to work in the office of Children of the Dump. The natural progression was to become a Trustee.

To see the photographs and videos of the children we support in Manila makes me realise just how fortunate we are living in the Western world. The life chances of the children sponsored can be greatly enhanced by the work that we do. If you are not already a sponsor but have considered that possibility, I would welcome the opportunity to chat with you regarding the wonderful work that is achieved by Children of the Dump.

Best regards, Colin.

# **ASCT NEW OPERATING NAME**



TRANSFORMING LIVES IN MANILA
THROUGH EDUCATION

Thank you everyone who contributed to our new name and logo.

We worked with our colleagues in Manila to create an impactful design that "says what we do", whilst our values and mission remain the same.

# A DAY IN THE LIFE OF A CASHEW TEACHER

#### **Contributed by: Razel F. Gimeno**

Each of us has our own way of living. God gives us talent and knowledge to help others fulfill their dreams. I am grateful that I have this opportunity to work and help achieve a child's dream as a teacher in Cashew. Despite of the hard knocked life these children experiences, I still see happiness and contentment in their lives. They have nothing but eagerness and hope for better future.



A saying goes "Education is the key to success" but how can these children be successful when their families cannot afford to educate them in a good and expensive school? CASHEW TREE HOUSE is a good start to build their dreams.

A day in a life of a Cashew Teacher is one-of-a-kind. Patience, love, understanding and learning to be happy even in small things, I guess that's what I've learned from my pupils. Every day when I go to school, they are all waiting and excited to greet me. When I see the smile on their faces, I can say that these children are eager to learn more and more.

I've encountered different kinds of behaviours inside the class and it is hard to attend to each one of them. I get used to seeing these children crying on the first week of classes. Most of them are afraid to part from their parents so I have to gain their trust and motivate them to be in school.

I'm happy to see the children learning new things, doing proper hygiene and showing respect to their classmates and elders. I am just like watching caterpillars become butterflies, ready to fly. Through Cashew, I learned to love teaching little children. They make me see the beauty in all things even those in the simplest of forms.

#### **NEWS FROM MANILA**

After a year of collecting donation items from local donors , ASCF finally had another successful Garage Sale earning a total of P 112,000.00 This is a great help going to our general fund. The helpers and the families of Payatas were also thankful for having great items and paying a little amount of money for them. It was not just a simple fundraising activity but it provides opportunity to the



poor family to have branded items at a lower price.



The Department of Social Welfare and Development Office Region IV-A Philippines awarded ASCF a renewed Registration and Licence to operate

Cashew took part during the 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter in the Nationwide Simultaneous Earthquake Drill with the teachers and students doing the "Duck, Cover and Hold" exercise after hearing a signal that indicates an earthquake.

Teachers discussed with students the safety precautions and other must-know



measures about earthquake. The national drill was conducted to intensify community preparedness and to heighten the level of preparedness of the students during disasters.

# CASHEW TREE SCHOOL UPDATE

From previous newsletters you may remember the dilemma we face as the ownership of the land upon which Cashew Tree school is built is contested through the courts. We know we are going to be evicted at some stage so the Trustees have agreed with our colleagues in Manila that we must make plans for a new school. We have been incredibly blessed to receive a dedicated donation to help us acquire a piece of land for New Cashew. The educational regulations are being strengthened which makes this an even more urgent necessity to ensure we can continue to deliver quality early years education for this needy community. The board agreed to progress to negotiations and due diligence on a favoured piece of land. Please pray for wisdom and courage to achieve the best deal possible.

#### CHILDREN WITHOUT SPONSORS

Shockingly, 15 million people in the developing world today survive by salvaging waste. Many of them are children.

Many children are forced to work on the Payatas dump site every day. These children are missing out on school so they can contribute to the family's income, but they don't earn much.

Dumpsite life also means that women and girls are **vulnerable to violence and sexual abuse**, **even rape** – but because people are so poor and on the fringes of society, there is nowhere for them to go for health-care or support.



This little girl and her family live in a small woodhouse at the foot of Payatas Dump. Her mother takes in washing, while her father works as a scavenger at the dumpsite. Their income makes it difficult to meet even basic needs.

## Can you help?

Give this girl or many like her an education and a chance in life.

**Please support Children of the Dump** 

## **SPONSORSHIP**

Raise Sponsorship by Group Funding,
Can you get 12 friends to help just once a
year?

# What is Group funding?

Group funding is a way of raising many small amounts of money from a larger number of people. Children of the Dump appreciate that not everyone can afford to sponsor a child on a monthly basis; therefore by creating a group funding circle of 12 people, who each give £10 just once a year, they can support a Cashew Tree child yearly. Cashew Tree School is a purpose built school providing high quality, accessible pre-school education for nearly 200 children aged 5-7. The school runs classes for the poorest children from the most disadvantaged families.

For further details please contact John in the office on 01276-707633 or by email at office@asct.org.uk

#### **FUNDRAISING**

Dear All,

I'm pleased to let you know that I completed the 103 golf hole challenge at Camberley Heath GC with our Club Captain Darren Noel and Club Professional Steve Speller in 14 hours, we walked over 49 miles.

Thank you to all our sponsors and friends for the support and kind donations for Children of the Dump Manila, together your generosity had raised over £2200 .... A huge thank you to you all.



# **John Busby**

#### **CAN YOU HELP?**

We would, of course, always support an individual's attempt to raise money for the charity. The event could be as simple as a coffee morning, a garage sale or an open garden. If you require any help to organise such an event do not hesitate to contact myself or Colin at the Camberley office 01276 - 707633



# For further details of upcoming events please visit the Children of the Dump website or the Children of the Dump Camberley Facebook page

There are a number of Children of the Dump events being held in the coming months, including a Sponsored Walk, two quiz nights, the first being at St Paul's church on the 12th Nov and one not to be missed a Carol & Comedy Night on the 10th December also at St Paul's church.

Details of these events can be found on our social media pages and the Children of the Dump website at www.childrenofthedump.org.uk

For details and to reserve your place at these events, please contact John in the Camberley Office 01276 707633.

**Patron: The Right Honourable Michael Gove MP for Surrey Heath** 

Patron: Nathan Dyer Premiership Footballer, Swansea City FC

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**Registered Charity Number: 272328**