

Dear Friends,

Christmas will soon be upon us and, in what is now becoming a tradition, the Mango Tree House children will be performing their pantomime on 4th December. They have all been working hard – learning their lines; the songs and dance routines to make Puss in Boots as special and spectacular as previous years productions. This was started as an important component of the local fundraising efforts but the impact is much deeper. We have seen children's confidence grow enormously and the experience is never forgotten, Imagine, if you can, growing up on the rubbish dump or living on the streets, never knowing how or when you will eat again and compare that to being the honored guest at a 5 star Makati hotel where you are part of this amazing performance. Our Facebook page has coverage of rehearsals and we wish everyone involved a brilliant night.



Here in the UK, we are excitedly anticipating the **Carols and Comedy** night on 10th December at St Pauls, Camberley featuring Paul Kerensa. If you haven't got your tickets yet – they are available from the office or here: www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/comedy-carols-featuring-paul-kerensa-tickets-28765755148#tickets

Get into the Christmas spirit and help to raise some desperately needed funds for Children of the Dump.

Details of our '**Alternative Christmas**' are covered on page 6, we are focusing this year on core items and supplies that the children will always need. Please consider giving a little extra to help us meet these needs and to be able to send some special cheer at Christmas. These are in addition to the '**child gifts**' that so many of you generously provide for your sponsor child. We ask please that you take account of the cost of living difference and limit the value to a maximum of £10, which is ample to allow the child to have a great spending spree at the shops or supply their family with food over Christmas. Any funds received over

CHAIRMAN KAY MACKAY

the £10, will be put to great use in helping other children who have not received gifts. I do hope you understand our desire to treat all our children at Christmas and ensure that everyone has something to enjoy.

Christmas is a time for family and joy, celebrating the birth of Jesus and His light in the world. In times of what feels like insurmountable challenge, we turn to the Almighty God and He will give us strength and do the impossible. *Philippians 4:13* “*We can do all things through Christ who strengthens us*” is a verse I turn to again and again – now more than ever as we face such massive financial challenges to cover the costs of His work in Manila. The fall in the value of the pound continues to hit us and we estimate we will need an additional £20,000 just to send the same amount of pesos during the next year.

Our Trustees, ably supported by John and Alison are doing everything they possibly can to raise more income and reduce our operating costs both here and in Manila. We continue to have faith that the Lord will show us a solution and allow us to continue the full range of services to the children that are so dear to us.

I ask that you please help us by:

- telling your friends about us and the work we do,
- getting a group of friends to group-fund a child
- hold a local fundraising event for us

On behalf of all the Trustees, John, Alison and most importantly, the children and staff in Manila, we send you our very best wishes for Christmas and the New Year

Kay Mackay
Chairman

**Somehow, not only for Christmas,
but all the long year through,
The joy that you give to others,
Is the joy that comes back to you.**

-John Greenleaf Whittier

MEET A TRUSTEE

Hi

I have supported Children of the Dump for over ten years and became a Trustee in October of this year. I was attracted to the charity by the way in which it respects the children and encourages them to have high aspirations. I first visited Manila for the opening ceremony of Mango. I was struck by the loving Christian family that was Mango, by the mix of professionalism and caring that I found in all the staff and by the enthusiasm of the Cashew children despite their impoverished circumstances. In subsequent visits it has been a joy to see the children grow and develop into young people well equipped for a successful life. Through visits to the families of Grapevine students I could see the great impact that our support makes to their lives.

I am recently retired having worked in healthcare management so now have more time to support the charity. With my wife Kay we sponsor a child at Mango and look forward to the letters and school reports we receive. We now live in East London and are busy trying to recruit new supporters in the neighbourhood.



Fred Little

VOLUNTEER/S NEEDED

Children of the Dump are looking for a volunteer(s) to assist with the Social Media of the charity and contribute to the successful delivery of our goals. In return you will have an opportunity to learn how a small charity operates and be supported to develop new knowledge and skills. Most importantly, you will be helping to transform lives for hundreds of disadvantaged children in Manila.

The role can be performed remotely by

- Maintaining and updating the charity website, Facebook page and Twitter to create vibrant, engaging and current content.
- Creating a plan for regular new content and posts.
- Liaising with Philippine colleagues to create content
- Liaising with manager / Trustees to create content

If you feel that you could help and would like to discuss the role further, please contact John in the office on 01276 707633

FROM STUDENT TO TEACHER

A Case Study

Ariane was among the first intake of graduates of Cashew in 1999. She had 11 siblings, but due to poverty, one of them died at a young age and her parents were forced to send her other siblings for adoption in a family back in their province. Ariane and her remaining 6 siblings were Cashew scholars; spending their formative years in the school and Ariane was successful in getting support from the Grapevine scheme when she finished at Cashew.



When Ariane was little, her father worked as a labourer but eventually lost his job. He switched jobs to be a fisherman and take on scavenging work in the dumpsite. Arianne's mother, as well as working on the dumpsite, took every opportunity to support her family by volunteering in various charity organisations, attending Bible studies, feeding and livelihood programs in the hopes of getting food and financial support. Her efforts paid off as her family's daily needs and her children's education was supported through the help of the Cashew and Grapevine schemes.

Ariane graduated as one of the outstanding pupils in her class at Cashew. Ariane says that Cashew gave her inspiration; it was here where she learned how to read and write. This gave her an edge among her classmates when she enrolled in an elementary school. She was able to attend school because of the financial assistance from Grapevine. She knew the family did not have much money so she never asked her parents for money for food or snacks in school— an attitude she started in Cashew and she continued until university.

Ariane was motivated to work hard and achieve her dreams for herself and her family. Ariane was accepted as a college scholar in the University of Rizal System where she graduated in 2015, with a Bachelor of Science degree in Secondary Education major in English.

Ariane is now teaching as an elementary teacher at Foothills Christian School, a private school in Quezon City and is able to help her parents and siblings financially.

NEWS FROM MANILA

Staff and Children of Mango Tree House went to Quezon City Memorial Circle and enjoyed the wide and colorful open grounds, with painted and tiled pathways, fake grass floor matting, and fairly new, big and beautiful playground systems scattered all over the park! There were other kids and families sitting on the grounds, strolling, and some students were even doing their homework in a quiet nook.



Senior Students of Mango Tree House attended the Youth Revival participated by different Christian churches. Over the past weekends Pastor Vincent Ariar have been tackling the aspect of Giving Life to God and truly expecting of the Lord to do some amazing things in their life. The strength that the youth has must be the perfect time to serve the Lord and Glorify His name.

Whatever burdens that our youth has surrender it to the Lord and trust His word and promises

This month is a celebration for all of those who shape the minds of future generations. In celebration with the Teacher's Month, Cashew parents paid the teachers a little bit of extra gratitude for shaping the lives of their children by giving them beauty treats like pedicure, manicure and body massage. Parent officers became the substitute teachers for a day and they were grateful for the passion and patience of all the teachers at Cashew because their experience made them realize how it is challenging to teach their children every day. Students also gave their teachers flowers as their way of appreciating them.



CHRISTMAS APPEAL

We are running an 'Alternative Gifts for Christmas' scheme this year

To take part simply fill in the form and return with a cheque (made payable to Children of the Dump) to the Charity office at the address below. In return you will receive a gift certificate which you can either keep yourself or pass on as a present to someone else. Every penny donated via the scheme will be sent out to the Philippines and used to buy the must have items.

Gift	Donation
Clothing	£
School supplies	£
Bedding	£
Food	£
Total	£

Name:

Tele no.

Address:

Post Code

Give even more to Children of the Dump at no extra cost to you.

Tick here. *

☐

***Through Gift Aid any donation you give will be worth 25% more.**

**Children of the Dump, Community Link, Ian Goodchild Centre, Knoll
Road, Camberley, Surrey GU15 3HH.
01276 707633**

GROUP FUNDING



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 £15 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

Children of the Dump Charity Golf Pro Am

I'm pleased to let you know that the Children of the Dump inaugural Charity Golf Pro Am held at Southwood golf club was well supported by different teams from Surrey and Hampshire Counties. We raised in excess of £3000 on the day.

The next Pro Am will be held at Southwood Golf Club on Friday the 30th of July 2017.

CAN YOU HELP FUNDRAISE?

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

IMPORTANT NEWS

Dear Supporter

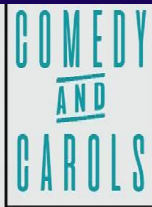
We post out over 600 hundred newsletters four times a year at a significant cost to the charity because we are really keen to make sure our supporters are involved and well informed about the work being done. However, many of the newsletters are going to people who have not been in touch with us or donated for at least two years and we fear our newsletters may be going unread and we are wasting precious resources.

If you fall into this group, we are asking that you contact us to confirm that you do still wish to receive the newsletters, either by email or by post.

I do hope you understand that every penny counts for us and we want to make sure every one is spent wisely.

If you would still like to receive the Children of the Dump News letter by post or preferably by email, please let the office know by either emailing or phoning John at office@asct.org.uk or 01276 707633.

FUTURE EVENTS



Hosted by Paul Kerensa
Writer for BBC's Minutes - Not Going Out - Pardon My Thought
and...or That last series of Top Gear

Hosted by Paul Kerensa and featuring two other stand up comedians from the the circuit

A fun evening (family friendly 12A) to get you in the Christmas spirit

Date and Time Sat 10 December 2016 19:00 – 22:30

Cost - £10 per ticket through the Children of the Dump office

Patron: The Right Honourable Michael Gove MP for Surrey Heath

Patron: Nathan Dyer Premiership Footballer, Swansea City FC

**Community Link, Ian Goodchild Centre, Knoll Road
Camberley, Surrey, GU15 3SY**

Tel: 01276-707633

Website: www.childrenofthedump.org.uk

E-mail: office@asct.org.uk

Registered Charity Number: 272328