

The new school year in Manila started on 29th August, with over 200 little ones attending Cashew Tree early years school, many for the first time. It is due to donations from people like you that have made it possible to expand the places available and offer this brilliant free educational opportunity to twice as many students. During our Trustee visit earlier this year, it was a joy to



experience their daily opening ceremony with 4-6 year olds taking turns to lead the proceedings where they declared their allegiance, sang a regional song and did some exercises. A great start for every day.

The school operates over two sites, one adjacent to Mango Tree House and the other in the heart of Sitio Pintor dumpsite. We serve the communities of Payatas, Kasiglahan and San Isidro. The new mini van is used to transport children four times a day as sessions run morning and afternoon to keep class sizes manageable.



Unfortunately, the Philippine weather caused chaos again when just a couple of days into the new term they were hit by a massive typhoon with monsoon rains meaning all classes had to be cancelled. Thankfully, everyone was safe and no homes were lost and everything got back to the normal blistering heat after a few days. Every year, we are inspected by the

KAY MACKAY CHAIRPERSON



Philippine Department of Education to ensure we meet their standards and can be granted a license to operate. I guess similar to the UK, the rules do keep changing! This year, our hexagonal tables for groups of students which had just been newly decorated were deemed to be unsuitable and the requirement is to have a single desk for each child. New desks have duly been acquired and the license awarded.

Each child will stay at Cashew for two years and then move into the public school system as really well prepared students. Most of them still need sponsors for their time at Cashew so if you can possibly help by donating just £4 a week which also

guarantees them a nutritious meal five days a week then please go on our website www.childrenofthedump.org.uk or ring or email John on 01276 942030, office@childrenofthedump.org.uk.

The new school year is also an important time for all our other students. 25 Mango Tree House residents and the 125 Grapevine students all attend local schools or universities. Sponsors are also needed for these students where the relationship with the child continues until they complete their education so if you want to really get to know your sponsor child and see their development over time then this may be the right fit for you.

Having visited many times over the years and spent hours with the children both in class, at Mango or in their own homes, I know just how dedicated and hard working these children are in achieving their potential through education.

I am sure all of you will want to join me to wish every single one of our students, a fantastic year at school and all the very best for their studies.



KAY MACKAY CHAIRPERSON

Trustees Needed

Do you have what it takes to make a difference?

A passion for improving the lives of children.

Enthusiasm, commitment and integrity

An understanding of Filipino culture or a willingness to learn.



As a Trustee you will work with your colleagues to develop strategy with associated fundraising plans in partnership with the scavenger community and ASCF whilst contributing to robust governance of the charity and funds.

We presently have 10 trustees of which two long serving trustees are retiring this year.

You will help the Board in setting a clear, ambitious direction for the charity's future, determining priorities, setting annual plans and delivering them. The Trustees have overall responsibility for ensuring the charity is well-run and meets legal requirements, charitable objectives, and those of good governance. You will use your personal skills, motivation and experience to help the Board of Trustees in reaching structured and sound decisions.

Trustees are expected to attend 4 board meetings a year of which three are online in evenings for about 3 hours and one is in Surrey on a Saturday in October for a half day.

Trustees can also participate in sub groups and activities according to their availability and interests.

This is such a rewarding thing to do and we would love to hear from you if you want to find out more. Please contact Kay Mackay at

kay@childrenofthedump.org.uk

Kay Mackay - Chair Children of the Dump

MEANINGFUL GIFT & XMAS CARDS

You can't REALLY be thinking about Christmas yet, can you?

Well yes, some of us like to plan as early and with a bit of thought you can help out Children of the Dump without spending extra!



£10

Enough paper, pens,
and materials for a
child for a whole
school term.

Card A



£20

Buys a vital fresh,
healthy, and tasty lunch
for a whole class of
young students.

Card B



£30

Will pay for a trained
teacher, who teaches
100 children every
week, for a week.

Card C

Children of the Dump is again offering 3 high quality Meaningful Gift Cards which allow you to celebrate Christmas with someone and do good at the same time. We post you a card that you can personalise and give/ send showing that you made a contribution to help Children of the Dump.

Different cards mean that you might sponsor lunch for a class of children or cover the cost of a child's school materials. Our favourite card helps cover the salary of a school teacher; their skills benefit all the eager pupils they teach. Last year, supporters raised over £800 in this way.

Order these cards online <https://bit.ly/meaningfulcard23>, by post. (see the order form on Page 5) or phone John on 01276 942030

If you prefer traditional cards through the post then our partners at Makingadifference.com can still organise charity cards for you, perhaps using your own photo as a picture. Again, you choose how much to donate to help the children in Manila. <https://bit.ly/cotdcards>

MEANINGFUL GIFT & XMAS CARDS

GIVE A MEANINGFUL GIFT FOR CHRISTMAS

Send one of 3 special cards. Write your greetings inside and send. You and the person receiving know that you are helping to transform a child's life. Surely a better gift than another scented candle!!

This year you can easily pay online with a credit card through PayPal at <https://bit.ly/MeaningfulGiftCards>, but we also need you to *email these details to us at office@childrenofthedump.org.uk so we can match up the orders. *The name of the person who paid, which card design, how many you want and the address you would like us to post your cards to.

If you would prefer you can post a cheque with this order form to us, but it will take a little bit longer to process. Cheque made payable to Children of the Dump and post to -

CotD Meaningful Gift Cards

High Cross Church

Knoll Road

Camberley

Surry

GU15 3SY

Please get your order to us **NO LATER THAN Monday December 11th**



Gift A

£30 could pay for a trained teacher, who every week, for a week, teaches 100 children



Gift B

£20 could buy a vital fresh, healthy, and tasty lunch for a whole class of young students



Gift C

£10 Enough paper, pens, and materials for a child for a whole school term.

✂ Cut Here

Suggested Amount/card	Number required	£/ Amount Brought
Gift A £30	_____	_____
Gift B £20	_____	_____
Gift C £10	_____	_____

I would like to donate, but I do not want a card ☐

Please tick the box if you are a UK taxpayer and we can claim gift aid ☐

Address for us to send the cards to - (Please print)

Name

Address

Post Code..... Tel No

Get Quizzical



Quizmaster Mark will be back in action with a winter season of Thursday online quizzes. These are online fun quizzes on Zoom suitable for everyone and nowadays there is a special final round which mixes things up so you never know who will win. Teams of up to (about 5) are welcome but if you don't have a team we can easily find you some new friends. We suggest a minimum £4 per person donation for players .

Quizzes start at 7.30pm and take no longer than 90 minutes with chatrooms left open if you want to talk to friends

Thursday October 26th **and THE BIG ONE**—Thursday November 30th during The Big Give when donations get doubled at no extra cost to you.

Big Give Week

Children of the Dump are hopeful that we will be selected again as a charity for The Christmas Big Give when donations made are doubled through match funding. It is the most efficient time of the year to give to Children of the Dump. We won't know if we are successful until October- either way we will definitely be in touch with you.



**CHRISTMAS BIG GIVE;
MIDDAY TUESDAY NOVEMBER 28th to MIDDAY TUESDAY DECEMBER 5th**

COTD EVENTS

Posting Dates For The Philippines

More and more communications with Manila are digital and lots of sponsors now send video greetings to their children. You can do this at anytime by emailing videos to office@childrenofthedump.org.uk



If you prefer to post a Christmas card we will bulk send these. Please post cards or letters to arrive at Highcross no later than **DECEMBER 1ST** so that they get to Manila before school finishes for Christmas.

Don't seal any letters or cards and please don't send gifts as these are expensive to post and create problems at customs.

If you want to send a gift we suggest sending £10 as a separate payment or cheque to Children of the Dump in the UK (address on page 12) but please make sure we know the child's name and the money gets sent and converted into pesos and the child gets to choose and buy something locally that they really want.



GETTING TO AND FROM SCHOOL. A NEW VAN FOR CASHEW



Shortly before the end of term the trusty old minibus that had driven countless young children to and from Cashew School finally made its last journey and conked out. In the short term ASCF Director Peter was able to help out with his own car but this was no real solution. Luckily the expiry of the old bus wasn't a total surprise and we were able to deploy some reserves

to purchase a new bus immediately in time for the new school year while fundraising continues both in the UK and in Manila to replenish those reserves.

The bus is vital especially for the very young students who live in the rubbish dump areas who are too young to make their own way to school, especially those that live further away such as Payatas. Public transport costs are beyond the means of our families and walking on the busy road among the garbage lorries is too dangerous. Parents also volunteer to chaperone children on the bus so its a great way of involving parents in the work of the school. So free transport to and from school is a fundamental need to ensure that the children can get to school to start their education.



Every day the bus makes at least four return trips through heavy traffic and bumpy roads and tracks bringing the 4-6 year olds to Cashew Tree School and home again. In between, these trips the bus is used to bring supplies from the market and on Saturdays it makes numerous journeys to collect Grapevine students for Saturday school at Mango. Driver Richard is a busy man.

PHOTO GALLERY OF CASHEW STUDENTS 1ST DAY



It's a long way down at this age



See you later Mum



Busy making a 1st day hat



A great 1st day at school

WILL YOU SPONSOR A CASHEW STUDENT FOR A YEAR



Jonnalyn's mother is a rape victim, the trauma her mother sustained from her adolescence has left her mute. She was treated for this trauma, but because of financial strains she could not continue the treatment. Jonnalyn has 2 biological siblings and two half siblings.

The family are renting a small room made of scrap materials including, plywood, tarpaulins, and old galvanized iron. The small space serves as their kitchen and living space during the day and converts to a sleeping area at night.

Their monthly rent payment is 1,200 pesos, £17.20. The home has an outdated television and a ceiling fan. They use charcoal wood to cook their food. Jonnalyn father works as a garbage collector for the Quezon City

government and her mother works as a house helper in a home nearby. The meagre income is just enough most days to cover their daily expenses.

Jonnalyn is a shy, but an active child. Jonnalyn has not had any schooling yet and will need extra help to catch up. She is not able to identify alphabet letters or numbers. Despite her challenging upbringing she is excited to finally be able to attend school.

What to expect when you sponsor a child

When you decide to sponsor a child you can be sure that you will be making a huge difference to their life. Furthermore, by helping to raise them out of poverty through education, you will be having a potential effect on future generations to come.

To sponsor Jonnalyn or a child like her, please contact John at the Charity office on 01276 942030 or email office@childrenofthedump.org.uk



THANK YOU JOHN WENGER

This Autumn marks the retirement of John Wenger as our esteemed Trustee and Treasurer. John first became involved with Children of the Dump (ASCT) about 20 years ago and took over as Treasurer a few years later. His steadfast eye on our finances has proved invaluable to Trustees, providing consistent clear information about the state of our budgets whether that be positive news or unfortunately sometimes gloomy. As any good treasurer should, John was also a wise voice of challenge within our board discussions, reminding us that income was needed match our expenditure.

John has been involved with many charities and his knowledge of the sector was a great asset to our team, full of insight and experience for the benefit of the organisation.

Part of John's role as a Trustee involved visiting the projects in Manila and that experience had a lasting impact on him. He has recounted sitting in Cashew Tree School among 30 little people watching Catherine Acosta teach the class.

He was so impressed by the work that he was a strong advocate for the school and its continued development. I hope the confirmation of its expansion this academic year will fill him with pleasure.

We wish John the best possible retirement and together with Judith, many happy years to enjoy their beautiful garden and exciting travels. On behalf of the children: Thank you Uncle John for everything you have done, we are very grateful.



WILL YOU SPONSOR A STUDENT



Name: Monalyn Itang
Date of Birth: October 15th 2017
Age: 6 years old
Project: Grapevine

School attended; Asian Student Christian Foundation Inc

SUMMARY OF SCHOOL ACHIEVEMENTS & EXPERIENCE:

Monalyn is committed to attending her class every day and participating in all class activities .

Monalyn's parents have been together for 13 years, her mother is forced to work away in Quezon City as a domestic helper due to there being no work in Kasiglahan and she only gets home to see her daughter every 3 months. She earns £138 a month which is sent home to support the family.

Dad is a pedicab driver earning £1.40p a day, and is supporting Monalyn's grandmother who also lives with the them.

The family home is a corrugated sheet shed with no reliable utilities.

Monalyn's dream would be to become a teacher someday.

At 80p a day you could help Monalyn achieve this dream.

For further details on sponsoring Monalyn please contact John at office@childrenofthedump.org.uk or call the CotD office on 01276-942030.

CONTACT US AT CHILDREN OF THE DUMP

High Cross Church, Knoll Road, Camberley, Surrey, GU15 3SY

Tel: 01276-942030

Website: www.childrenofthedump.org.uk

E-mail: office@childrenofthedump.org.uk

Facebook: [childrenofthedumpmanila](https://www.facebook.com/childrenofthedumpmanila)

Registered Charity CIO No 1198301

Buy a charity greeting card/e-card at <https://bit.ly/manilacards>