



## DEC '22 UPDATE

**TRUSTEES LIZ AND JAMES HAVE JUST RETURNED FROM VISITING BRIGHTER FUTURE, AND ARE DELIGHTED TO SHARE AN UPDATE ON THE WORK THAT YOU MAKE POSSIBLE. LIZ WRITES.....**

Due to Covid this was the first time that we have been able to visit India for three years. It was such a joy to re-connect with the small Brighter Future team, spend time with the children, and see the amazing work that supports so many vulnerable individuals and families.

I'm delighted to share some of the highlights with you, as this amazing work would not have been possible without your wonderful support

Thanks to you, many of the children (now young people!) are training as nurses and engineers. Some are at college, some training in other vocational skills.

They will all be independent, able to stand on their own two feet and look after families of their own. How wonderful is that?! This is all thanks to your love and compassion.

We spent time with the children at both the Rainbow Children's Home and Shanti Nivas Children's Village. Many of you support one or more of these precious children. Thank you so much! Because of you they are thriving. They are working hard at school and are being encouraged to nurture their individual talents.

They now have so many opportunities. You have given these children a hope and a future.

## LET'S DANCE!

All of the children love music and dancing. We had a great time watching them perform beautiful dances - both the boys and the girls!

There was great hilarity as James and I were pulled up to join in. Our efforts caused much delight but I don't think that either of us will be auditioning for a Bollywood musical soon!

## OFF TO THE ZOO

During our visit, the children had their special annual day out visiting a zoo near the coast. They were so excited to see the animals including a white Bengal tiger, elephants, and some truly huge snakes!

They also feasted on a sumptuous picnic, thanks to the kind donation of a church in England, and swam in the Bay of Bengal. It was lovely to see the children just enjoying being children. Their screams of delight as they approached the sea on the bus could be heard for miles around!



## SPONSORING A CHILD REALLY MAKES A DIFFERENCE

For James and me, the biggest pleasure was seeing our sponsor children. How they have grown in three years! With great pride they introduced us to their friends and showed us around their homes. Like any person visiting a friend after a long absence we took great joy in taking simple gifts for the children. A particular success was a colouring book. The children spent many hours contentedly and carefully colouring.

I also noticed that their book bags were beginning to wear out. The children seem to carry a huge number of books to and from school. In the past new back packs have been purchased for each child from a local company. However, they are no longer able to do this. I resolved to send the cost of a new bag (just £3) to my children for their pending birthdays, as well as more colouring books.



## CHRISTMAS IS COMING!

Preparations and shopping for Christmas have begun and new clothes are being made, so that children and adults have a thoroughly special time. We joined some of the house mothers as they shopped for bangles, earrings and necklaces for the girls. Some impressive bargaining went on during the shopping trip!



## CARING FOR PATIENTS WITH LEPROSY

We also saw the help that you are so kindly providing for people affected by leprosy.

These dear people have been rejected by their families and communities, and live in leprosy colonies. Many are now elderly and very disabled. Your compassion means that they are treated with love and kindness by the team.

### FOOD PARCELS

Over the summer months, so many of you responded to the appeal for food parcels so that the elderly didn't have to beg in the stifling heat. Every £7 you gave provided food and dignity. You undoubtedly saved lives. Thank you so much!

We helped to distribute food and also fit special footwear to people with feet numbed by leprosy. These protective sandals are made to measure and stop further injury, which often leads to ulceration.

The gratitude in each person's eyes was so humbling.



### PROTECTING HANDS AND FEET

We were also able to see the community come together to practise self-care. Leprosy has stolen the feeling in their hands and feet, which means that every day tasks like cooking and walking are dangerous.

They check one another's feet for cuts and blisters. This is important because all too often a small wound becomes infected and then ulcerates. It takes months to heal a foot ulcer, and sometimes amputation is the only way to stop infection becoming fatal.

Brighter Future teaches people to soak their feet and rub in oil. This keeps skin supple and less likely to tear.

**COULD YOU PROVIDE A FOOD PARCEL FOR JUST £7 A MONTH?**

**THIS CHRISTMAS, YOU COULD GIVE SOMEONE WITH LEPROSY A PAIR OF PROTECTIVE SANDALS FOR JUST £10!**



## **HOSPICE**

The hospice, which is on the Shanti Nivas Children's Village campus was full and busy. Patients suffering with symptoms linked to HIV or leprosy were being nursed with love. What a dedicated and loving team work there! It was special to see how the nurses cared for their patients like family members.



## **ALL BECAUSE OF YOU!**

It was such a privilege and blessing to spend time with the Brighter Future family in India once again. You can be confident that everyone who benefits from the projects you so generously support, are all being loved and cared for in an exceptional way.

Thank you for being such a valued part of the Brighter Future Family. You truly are a blessing to so many. Your prayers, love and generosity enable this wonderful work.

With every best wish

Liz Pettersen  
Chair of Trustees

**WOULD YOU LIKE TO GIVE A GIFT THAT WILL BE REMEMBERED THIS CHRISTMAS? SOMETHING THAT WILL BE TREASURED? SOMETHING THAT WILL MAKE A REAL DIFFERENCE?**

£7 provides a food parcel

£10 will give someone affected by leprosy protective sandals

£24 cures one person of leprosy

£25 per month gives a child food, education and care at one of our homes

£1,080 will give 180 children a special day out at a park and the seaside.

You can either send a cheque to the address below, or make a bank transfer:

Brighter Future International  
Metrobank  
Sort Code: 23 05 80  
Account number: 3908 9378

**WHATEVER YOU ARE ABLE TO GIVE WILL GO DIRECTLY TO THOSE WHO NEED IT MOST. THANK YOU SO MUCH!**

**WE LOVE KEEPING YOU UPDATED ABOUT THE DIFFERENCE YOU ARE MAKING! HOWEVER IF FOR ANY REASON YOU WOULD PREFER NOT TO HEAR FROM BRIGHTER FUTURE, PLEASE DO LET US KNOW.**

**FOR LATEST NEWS PLEASE VISIT OUR WEBSITE!**

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