

HHI Newsletter Article

HHI India Update

All parts of India are suffering severely from the effects of the Covid Pandemic and many of the activities which HHI supports are currently suspended.

Recent news from Kerala in South India, was headed NATURAL CALAMITIES IN KERALA. Gales had destroyed many homes in that part of India and Pastor Wilson whom HHI supports had many urgent requests for help. He has visited the damaged homes to prioritize their help but the requests for help outstripped the funds he had available. A request for emergency help, complete with snaps of the devastation was received by the HHI committee in Wales. They will provide Pastor Wilson with funds to provide as much help as possible. Can you imagine during the current pandemic if wind and rain destroyed your home?

Avendale and Drumclog Church support three tuition groups in Kerala. At the end of 2020 the cost of funding each group was estimated to be £50.00 per month. As you might appreciate this year there have been extra unforeseen costs for our tuition groups. Social distancing, the costs of face coverings and hand cleansing sanitizer, isolation and peripatetic teaching have all affected our operation.

Like our own country schools have been closed for a time and our tutor's duties have changed resulting in them having to visit individual students in their homes. Schools have opened up again this month and tuition groups are now meeting. Many thanks to all our local supporters who through their committed and continual financial support allow these tuition groups to thrive and children from destitute communities achieve an education which will allow them and their families to prosper.

HHI Zambia Update

The Pandemic does not seem to be having such a serious effect on Zambia as in India and there are a number of admirable projects and activities still continuing which are being supported by HHI. These are being organised by the excellent committee of HHZ (Health Help Zambia).

Money provided by HHI is allowing HHZ to carry out a monthly programme of feeding up to 100 handicapped children in the area around Monze who are short of food as a result of the Covid crisis. Medical and educational aid is being provided in a number of ways including the payment of the annual fees to allow 20 children to attend school - which they otherwise would not be able to do. New wheelchairs and other mobility aids are being provided and as a result of the poor state of the roads in Zambia the frequent necessary repairs to the wheelchairs are being carried out by Robbie, a member of the HHZ staff, himself an amputee.

One of the great success stories of the past year or so has been the way in which HHI has helped to transform the Nanga School for handicapped girls and boys. There are 35 students resident in this remote school. We have helped provide new toilets and dining room including new tables and chairs for the latter, made by Robbie, and recently a new water tower and footpaths and ramps to allow easier access for the more disabled of residents. Plans are nearing fruition for the provision of a solar lighting scheme for the dining room which also acts as recreation room.





The next major project is the provision of accommodation to house the head teacher and his staff. At the moment they sleep on the floor in cardboard boxes in cupboards. Our SFHHI committee is looking ways in which we can help HHI provide the funds required for the two new buildings.