

Child Aid Lanka Annual Report 2011 – 2012



About Child Aid Lanka

Child Aid Lanka is a UK-based unincorporated voluntary association and a registered charity, charity number 1115204.

Child Aid Lanka was first established in 1998 as an independent, apolitical, multi-ethnic association to raise funds to help the underprivileged children of Sri Lanka. It became a registered Charity in May 2006.

The Charity's objects are:

to relieve financial hardship, sickness and poor health, and to advance the education, of underprivileged children in Sri Lanka.

Child Aid Lanka is governed by a board of Trustees, elected by the members at the AGM, or appointed by the Trustees themselves. All Trustees hold office until the end of the AGM following their election / appointment.

Trustees

Elected at the AGM, 29 October 2011:

- Leslie Middleton-Weaver, Chair (resigned 10/10/2012)
- Naomi Aruliah, Secretary (appointed Chair on 13/10/2012)
- Harold Alakeson, Treasurer (resigned 30/03/2012)
- Ian Blake
- Mano Dharmarajah
- Anton Karunaratne (resigned 09/05/2012)
- Sarva Kumararajah
- Shanthi Parameswaren
- Trevor Perera
- Dr Sugi Somanathan

Appointed, 10 December 2011:

- Helen Perera

There are currently 8 Trustees, and the posts of Secretary and Treasurer have become vacant – they will be filled at the 2012 AGM.

In addition to the commitment of its Trustees, Child Aid Lanka relies upon the efforts of a large number of volunteer supporters – Child Aid Lanka's members, a wider network of Friends and supporters and a small team of voluntary advisors.

Child Aid Lanka currently has 37 members:

- 21 life members – one new life member joined this year and two annual members were given honorary life membership for their service to Child Aid Lanka.
- 16 annual members – 18 paid this year, two of whom have transferred to life membership.

Child Aid Lanka maintains a network of Friends, who are kept kept informed by email about the Charity's activities, at no charge. There are UK Friends, Overseas Friends and Young Friends. Child Aid Lanka currently has 87 registered Friends in the UK and 35 overseas.

Child Aid Lanka has four Young Ambassadors, whose focus will be to develop the Young Friends network.

Membership rules

To be a member of Child Aid Lanka you must:

- support the aims and objects of the Charity;
- be resident in the UK and be over 18;
- pay the membership fee:
 - annual £10.00 (unwaged £5.00)
 - life £100.00 (unwaged £50.00).

Annual membership runs from 1 December to 30 November:

- fees received before 1 September will be effective up to the following 30 November;
- fees received on or after 1 September will be effective from the following 1 December.

All Child Aid Lanka's fundraising activities are carried out by volunteers – it has no paid staff – so that as much as possible of the money raised can be spent on its projects in Sri Lanka (see pages 3 and 5).

Child Aid Lanka's partners in Sri Lanka

Informatics Institute of Technology (IIT)
57 Ramakrishna Road, Colombo 06, Sri Lanka.
www.iit.ac.lk
Representative in Jaffna – Vasanthi Solomon.

Kaveri kala manram (kkm)
Malayalapuram, Vanni (NP), Sri Lanka.
www.thevanni.com
UK representative – Dr Preman Jayaratnam.

What Child Aid Lanka does

Child Aid Lanka organises activities in the UK and seeks donations from individuals and organisations in the UK and across the world, to raise funds that it invests in initiatives to help underprivileged children in Sri Lanka.

Over the years, Child Aid Lanka has supported a range of projects that have helped a great many children in Sri Lanka. They have included child care centres and a trust for the Prevention of Child Abuse, medical facilities, vocational training schemes, tsunami relief, and providing solar power to a boys home. Child Aid Lanka has provided financial support and donated items

including books, computer equipment and medical supplies.

Child Aid Lanka delivers these projects through carefully selected partners and community-based charitable organisations in Sri Lanka. Using personal contacts and working with organisations that understand local conditions, Child Aid Lanka can ensure that money and effort is directed effectively to those in need.

Child Aid Lanka's current priority projects are providing clean water and funding computer education.

Providing clean water

Child Aid Lanka is setting out on a programme to work with local community organisations in Sri Lanka to construct wells to give families a secure supply of clean water.

Child Aid Lanka is funding the construction of wells in and around Malayalapuram village in the Vanni, about 100 km south east of Jaffna, where families are now trying to resettle, having been displaced by years of fighting in the area. The construction work is managed by Kaveri kala manram, a community development organisation based in the Vanni, and employs local villagers, providing families with a secure supply of water for drinking, sanitation and irrigation.

In 2012 Child Aid Lanka has funded the completion of 7 wells – six in Malayapuram and one in the nearby village of Melivanum.

Funding computer education

Child Aid Lanka is working with Sri Lankan schools and colleges to provide computer education to students from poor families.

Child Aid Lanka is funding students aged between 11 and 18 from local free government schools, whose families cannot afford to pay for education, to take a year-long supplementary computer course. The course is provided by the Informatics Institute of Technology (IIT), a respected and well equipped college in Jaffna, and will prepare them for further more advanced study and give them the chance of accessing a secure career.

Currently, Child Aid Lanka and IIT can provide a year-long supplementary computer course for £36.00 per student. In 2012 Child Aid Lanka is funding 40 students, who should complete their course in March 2013.



Summary of activity in 2011–12

Governance: This year, the Trustees have given priority improving Child Aid Lanka's governance and organisation, to make it a more soundly-run and viable charity, give Trustees a better understanding of their role, and to improve record keeping.

Members and Friends: To address difficulties in retaining and growing its base of members, supporters and volunteers, the Trustees agreed:

- To focus on building a broad 'constituency' of supporters – to be called 'Friends'.
- New rules for membership (the full rules are available to members on request).

See page 2 for further information.

Child Aid Lanka started using Mailchimp to send out its newsletters.

Image and logo: The Trustees decided to review Child Aid Lanka's image, and to move away from the old logo.

- A new format website has been developed.
- A range of promotional and display materials were produced.
- New corporate colours of blue and red were adopted.
- Various options for a logo were considered, but no agreement could be reached on a suitable graphic, so a text-only logo of the words 'Child Aid Lanka' was adopted.

Priority Projects:

- Following the discussion at last year's AGM, the Trustees agreed to focus their efforts onto a priority project – funding the construction of wells. See page 3.
- The Trustees subsequently agreed to have a second priority project – funding computer education. See page 3.
- In addition, Child Aid Lanka has provided small amounts of funding to two projects to provide vocational training to girls and young women in sewing.

CAL SL Consortium: following a review of its effectiveness, the Trustees decided to dissolve the CAL SL Consortium, that had been its 'branch' in Sri Lanka. The bank account in Sri Lanka is now managed directly from the UK by the Trustees. Options are being explored for the best ways to gather information and monitor Child Aid Lanka's activity in Sri Lanka.

Visits to Sri Lanka:

- Between January and March 2012 Naomi Aruliah, Trustee, visited Sri Lanka. She met with representatives of various organisations proposing projects that Child Aid Lanka could fund, and visited the Vanni in Northern Sri Lanka where the wells were proposed to be dug and the college on Jaffna that was proposing to provide computer education.
- In March Philip Robinson, an advisor to the Trustees, visited Malayalapuram and saw the wells that had been funded by Child Aid Lanka.

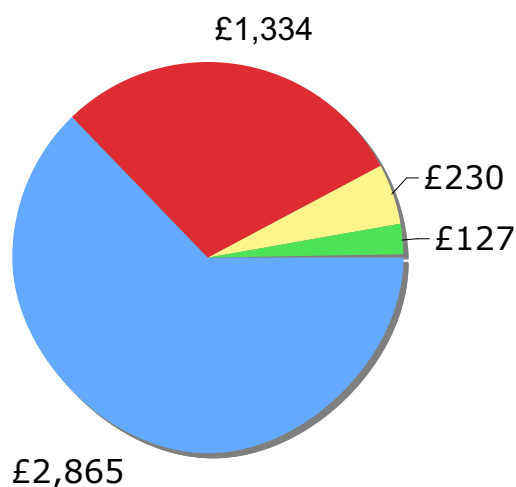
Activities and events in the UK:

- Staged Diwali celebration, 12 November 2011 at Greenshaw High School, with Karnatic dancing and Sri Lankan food; in partnership with Sutton Tamil School; raised £354 net.
- Staged Tamil New Year celebration, 12 April 2012 at Greenshaw High School, with Karnatic dancing and Sri Lankan food; raised £448; in partnership with Sutton Tamil School.
- Took stall at the Environmental Fair Carshalton, 27 August 2012; selling tea and cakes, and with raffle, face painting, guess the weight of the cake and throw-the-sponge; in partnership with Sutton for Peace and Justice; raised £459.00 net.
- Attended Make A Difference Day at Kings College School, 5 October 2012; gave presentation about Child Aid Lanka to students, with video link to IIT college in Jaffna collected £72.96 in donations.
- Currently planning a Christmas Disco for Young Friends of Child Aid Lanka on 15 December 2012, at St Paul's Church, Cheam.



Income and expenditure 2011–12

Income £4556



- Donations (1)
- Fundraising events
- Membership fees
- Bank (2)

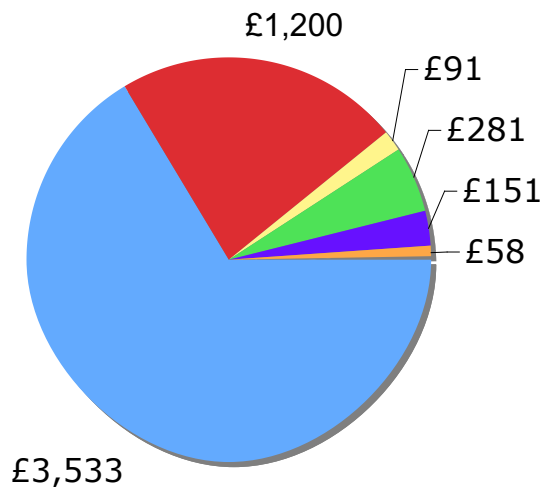
(1) Includes donations received in Sri Lanka
 (2) Bank interest & transfer from closed account

Total balances

(cash and bank in UK & Sri Lanka)

- brought forward at 29.10.2011	£8,329
- in hand at 01.11.2012	£7,612

Expenditure £5314



- Project funding: wells (3)
- Project funding: computer education (3)
- Project funding: sewing machine
- Volunteer's expenses
- Promotional materials
- Bank charges (4)

(3) Approx value at exchange rate Rs200 = £1.00
 (4) Includes bank charges in Sri Lanka

(Income and expenditure 29.10.2011 – 01.11.2012, subject to audit.)

Future developments

The current Trustees have suggested the following areas of priority for the development of Child Aid Lanka in 2012–13 (subject to decisions of the new board of Trustees):

- To ensure Child Aid Lanka's governance is sound; adopt a set of Procedures to regulate their meetings and decision-making, including a Code of Conduct and a Declaration of Interests policy and form, and Policies and Procedures on: reserves, complaints, a fundraising charter, volunteer support, data protection, privacy and child protection; and to ensure that its constitution and Procedures are adhered to and records are kept up to date.
- To continue to expand its 'constituency' of Friends and supporters including the Young

Friends; and seek more volunteers to get involved and take on specific tasks to support the organisation.

- To consider establishing an Advisory Committee.
- To review the logo and corporate image.
- To carry out a review of the pilot wells projects, consider options, and develop a strategy for taking the wells project forward.
- To carry out a review of the computer education project and agree how to take the project forward.
- To explore new strategies for raising the funds necessary to support its priority projects.

Child Aid Lanka –

How to help and find out more

You can help Child Aid Lanka to help the underprivileged children in Sri Lanka:

Become a **Friend of Child Aid Lanka** – there is no charge and you will be sent you information and updates by email.

Go to the website or send an email to info@childaidlanka.org.uk with the word 'Friend' in the subject line.

If you are under 18 you can become a Young Friend – send an email as above and include consent from your parent or guardian.

You can join Child Aid Lanka as a **Member** (UK residents 18 and over):

- Annual Member – £10.00 (£5.00 unwaged)
- Life Member – £100.00 (unwaged £50.00)

Please complete a membership/donation form that can be found on the '**support us**' page on the website.

Make a donation to help fund Child Aid Lanka's activities or a specific project. Please complete a donation form that can be found on the '**support us**' page on our website.

There are a great many ways you can help Child Aid Lanka as a **volunteer** – you do not need to be a member – send an email to info@childaidlanka.org.uk or see the website

To find out more about Child Aid Lanka, and to keep up to date with its projects and activities, go to the website: www.childaidlanka.org.uk

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Child Aid Lanka

Registered charity number 1115204

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info@childaidlanka.org.uk

www.childaidlanka.org.uk

