

Annual Report

FY 2015

BRIDGE OF LOVE TRUST

Registered UK Charity

Address: 735, Cranbrook Road, Ilford,
Essex IG2 6RJ

info@bridge-of-love.org
info@bridge-of-love.org

Contents

AIM & PURPOSE	3
Charity Framework	4
Charity Classification	5
Financial Summary	6
Summary of Achievements	7
Contact Information	12

Soup, Soap & Salvation

Reaching out to the oppressed in their struggles with our King's love and building a BRDIGE to the afflicted from the Church is our ultimate goal.

We reach out to ...

Widows & Orphans

Poor, Sick & Needy

Child labour victims

War/ Tsunami Victims

Persecuted

Christians

Slum-dwellers / Children of prostitutes

Dalits/Outcaste/

Untouchable

AIM & PURPOSE

Bridge of Love Trust (BOL) is a non-profit organisation and a registered UK Charity (Charity No: 1096302). Our chairman is Rev G I Ebenezer.

The Trust was started for the purpose of protecting and supporting those who are oppressed, especially widows and orphans. The trustees have been involved themselves in various issues to safeguard the interests of poor people who are often the victims of civil war and present developmental trends.

Activities

Bridge of Love confines itself to community development in the Northern and Eastern provinces of Sri Lanka and the tribal areas in Tamil Nadu, South India. Over the past thirteen and a half years we have been financially supporting registered local organisations and Churches who work among the oppressed, broken & abandoned, poor & needy, widows, orphans/ semi orphans, child labour victims and war victims in Sri Lanka and India.

We are providing regular monthly financial support to most of our projects. In addition to our regular financial support, whenever there is a specific need, we assess it and approach individuals & organisations for aid and financial help. We then channel these funds to different trustworthy organisations to meet their needs. We try our best to ensure that the organisations we support are genuine.

Over the thirteen and a half years, we have been financially supporting registered local organisations and churches in Sri Lanka and India that work among the broken & abandoned, poor & needy, widows, orphans, child labour victims, the underprivileged, young offenders, and the persecuted. We help people regardless of race or religion.

Charity Framework

Charity name: Bridge of Love Trust

Other names: BRIDGE OF LOVE (Working Name)

Address: 735 Cranbrook Road, Ilford, Essex IG2 6RJ

Governing document: DECLARATION OF TRUST DATED 02/02/03

Date of registration: 03 Mar 2003

Organisation type: STANDARD REGISTRATION

Charitable Objects: THE TRUSTEES SHALL HOLD THE TRUST FUND AND ITS INCOME UPON TRUST TO APPLY THEM FOR THE FOLLOWING OBJECTS ("THE OBJECTS") IN INDIA, SRI-LANKA, AFRICA, UK. ("THE AREA OF BENEFIT") TO ADVANCE THE EDUCATION OF CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE IN PARTICULAR THROUGH PROVIDING OR ASSISTING WITH THE PROVISION OF BOOKS, EQUIPMENT AND GRANTS, IN ACCORDANCE WITH CHRISTIAN PRINCIPLES. TO RELIEVE POVERTY, SICKNESS AND DISTRESS IN PARTICULAR AMONGST CHILDREN, WIDOWS AND PERSONS BEING PERSECUTED AS A RESULT OF THEIR CHRISTIAN BELIEFS, IN ACCORDANCE WITH CHRISTIAN PRINCIPLES.

Charity Classification

What

- GENERAL CHARITABLE PURPOSES
- EDUCATION/TRAINING
- THE ADVANCEMENT OF HEALTH OR SAVING OF LIVES
- DISABILITY
- THE PREVENTION OR RELIEF OF POVERTY
- OVERSEAS AID/FAMINE RELIEF
- ACCOMMODATION/HOUSING
- RELIGIOUS ACTIVITIES
- ARTS/CULTURE/HERITAGE/SCIENCE
- AMATEUR SPORT
- ECONOMIC/COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT/EMPLOYMENT
- OTHER CHARITABLE PURPOSES

Who

- CHILDREN/YOUNG PEOPLE
- ELDERLY/OLD PEOPLE
- PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES
- PEOPLE OF A PARTICULAR ETHNIC OR RACIAL ORIGIN
- OTHER CHARITIES OR VOLUNTARY BODIES

How

- MAKES GRANTS TO INDIVIDUALS
- MAKES GRANTS TO ORGANISATIONS
- PROVIDES SERVICES
- PROVIDES ADVOCACY/ADVICE/INFORMATION
- OTHER CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

Financial Summary

Over the past thirteen years we sent more than £500,000 for our projects. In 2015, we received more than £38,500 and sent over £45,750 for our projects.

RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DEC 2015		
RECEIPTS:		
Donations received from organisations and individuals <i>(including Standing Orders/ Other Gift Aids)</i>	£34,538.33	
HMRC CHARITIES Tax repayment	£4157.68	
HMRC CHARITIES Self-Assessment penalty reclaim	£100.15	
TOTAL RECEIPTS		£38,796.16
PAYMENTS:		
Christmas presents		£3,535.64
Educational / Extracurricular		£4,568.42
Housing		£2,074.21
Income Generating		£1,278.20
Sick & Needy		£100.69
Orphanage / Residential School		£13,578.11
Poor & Needy		£7,039.17
Relief		£2,223.75
Widows and Children		£11,587.29
HMRC CHARITIES Self-Assessment penalty		£100.00
TOTAL PAYMENTS		£46,085.48
EXCESS OF RECEIPTS OVER PAYMENTS		(£7,289.32)

Summary of Achievements

Orphans

In 2015, we sent more than £13,500 for the following orphanages.

- Canaan Children's Home, Badulla, Sri Lanka
- Canaan Children's Home, Kilinochchi, Sri Lanka
- Canaan Children's Home, Irupalai, Jaffna, Sri Lanka
- Elim Children's Home, Manipay, Jaffna, Sri Lanka
- Happy Home, Kotagala, Sri Lanka
- Anpusahotharar Illam, Mannar, Sri Lanka (ASI)

Mr Luke Mahendra, Treasurer of Bridge of Love (BOL), is the coordinator and main sponsor of the Canaan children's homes (listed above). Mr Ramesh is the BOL coordinator of Elim Children's Home. Mr Veeman Masillamany is the BOL coordinator of ASI and Mrs Jeeva Algendran is the BOL coordinator of Happy Home in Katagala.

Windows & children

In 2015, we sent more than £11,500 for the following projects.

- Widows and Children, Dehiwela, Sri Lanka
- Widows and Children, Pitakotte, Sri Lanka
- Widows and Children, Kilinochchi, Sri Lanka
- Widows and Children, Devipuram, Puthukudiyirruppu, Sri Lanka
- Widows and Children, Mannar, Sri Lanka

Rev Vasanthan Stephen is the BOL local coordinator and Mr Luke Mahendra, Treasurer of Bridge of Love (BOL), is the main sponsor of the following projects.

- Widows and Children, Kilinochchi, Sri Lanka
- Widows and Children, Devipuram, Puthukudiyirruppu, Sri Lanka
- Widows and Children, Mannar, Sri Lanka

Rev Kathireson is the BOL local coordinator of the following.

- Widows and Children, Dehiwela, Sri Lanka
- Widows and Children, Pitakotte, Sri Lanka

Educational Projects

- We run an Evening Study programme for the Slum children in Pittakodde, Colombo. We are renting a hall to conduct educational and religious activities for these people who live in a slum area where there is neither electricity nor educational care available. Bridge of Love donated more than £2,000 for this project in 2015. Sis Nalayini Sarvananthan and Mrs Jennifer Shiromi Amirtharaja of ETCF are the main sponsors of this project.
- Tuition for Untouchables: Dalit, also called Outcaste, is a self-designation for a group of people traditionally regarded as Untouchables. While the discrimination based on caste system (not the caste system itself) has been abolished under the Indian constitution, there is still discrimination and prejudice against Dalits. Jayakumar, a social worker, and his wife have been providing free evening tuition for the poor outcaste children in Trichy, South India for more than five years. We contributed more than £500 financial assistance towards the running of this excellent community service.
- Due to the closest local government school being situated 4 Km away, most kids in two remote villages in Puthukkuthiyirrupu had to walk to school and they only go to school 2 or 3 days a week. Some didn't go to school at all due to lack of transport. Transportation using a Three wheeler (3 to 4 trips in the morning and afternoon - each trip can take 8 to 10 kids) was initiated and organised by the Hope Centre and Bridge of Love to financially support this worthwhile project. Bridge of Love donated more than £1,900 for this project in 2015.
- We sent around £45 for to 3 semi/ orphans in Mulaitheevu in October 2015. Rev Suresh Paul is our local coordinator for this project.

In total, we sent more than £4,500 in 2015 for educational projects.

Income generating Projects

We sent more than £120 in 2015 for a war victim to set up a small shop in Batticaloa. Mr Jesutrasan, a Bridge of Love donor, donated more than £1,150 for a war affected family in Kilinochchi to construct a tube well for agriculture. Rev Vasanthan locally coordinated and oversaw the construction of this tube well.

Relief Projects

- On 26 Jul 2015, slum dwellers (22 Tamil Christian families / persecuted Christians - living in 17 huts) living in Beddagana were evicted from the place where they've been staying for over 30 years.

These people were living in dreadful conditions in this slum, where there was no electricity or proper sanitation facilities. In addition, they received continuous eviction threats from the extremists/ Land owners. Bridge of Love UK Charity was able to rent a hall in 2009, and these slum dwellers were able to continue their educational and religious activities with freedom in a far better environment. By the grace of God, Bridge of Love has been able to continue this support since 2010. In addition, we have been providing monthly financial support for the poor widows and their children who are among the affected for more than six years.

On the day of their eviction, some politicians promised these victims another piece of land to settle, assuring their safety. Trusting the politicians' guidance, the affected families started building their huts on the promised land only to be demolished again on 27 Jul 2015.

Rev Kathireson organized and coordinated more than £600 worth relief projects for these homeless people.

- Rev Vasanthan coordinated around £500 flood relief projects in Kilinochchi in November 2015 and Mr Pramoth coordinated more than £1,100 flood relief projects worth projects in Chennai.

In total, we sent more than £2,200 in 2015 for relief projects.

Poor, Sick & Needy and Other

- In 2015, Bridge of Love donated more than £1,750 for the poor & needy / war victims in Batticaloa. Rev Karunathi is the BOL local coordinator of this project.
- Sis Suseela Logendran, coordinated more than £200 worth projects for the poor & needy in Mannar during her visit to Sri Lanka in Feb 2015.
- We donated £100 towards medical expenses for the coordinator of the Trichy education project.
- Bridge of Love has been providing a small monthly financial support to 10 underprivileged pastors in Batticaloa for more than ten years. Mr & Mrs Watherstone of Transform Newham are the main sponsors of this project. Rev Karunanithi is our local project coordinator. We donated more than £1,400 for this project. Mr Luke Mahendra, Treasurer of Bridge of Love (BOL), is the coordinator and the sponsor of Cannan poor pastors. Luke donated more than £3,500 for this project.
- We also advanced £69 in Dec 2015 for building a hut for a war victim. We sent the balance of £94 for the completion of this hut in 2016. Dr J S Navaratnami donated £2000 towards the building fund for the Bedagama / Pitakotte slum homeless people in October 2015.

In total, we sent more than £9,200 in 2015 for these projects.

Christmas Gifts

We annually provide study material as Christmas presents for more than 800 - 1000 poor children. In December 2015, we sent more than £3,500 worth Christmas presents to more than 1000 children in Batticaloa, Valaichchennai, Puthukudiyirrupu, Pitakotte and Trichy. Rev Karunanithi, Bro Yoganathan, Rev Kathireson and Jayakumar coordinated these projects for Bridge of Love. Emmanuel Tamil Church Fellowship members donated generously for these projects.

Contact Information

BRIDGE OF LOVE TRUST

Address: 735, Cranbrook Road, Ilford, Essex IG2 6RJ

Tel: 02082625263

Web: info@bridge-of-love.org

Email: info@bridge-of-love.org

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above

Rev G I Ebenezer

Chairman, Bridge Of Love

Varnan Goodwin

Secretary, Bridge Of Love