

Annual Report FY 2017

BRIDGE OF LOVE TRUST

Registered UK Charity 1096302

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

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

Contents

Aim & Purpose	3
Charity Framework	4
Charity Classification	5
Fundraising	6
Financial Summary	7
Summary of Achievements	8
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). Rev G I Ebenezer is the chairman of BOL.

The Trust was started for the purpose of protecting and supporting the oppressed in society, especially widows and orphans. The trustees are involved in disparate (different) welfare initiatives to safeguard the interests of poor people who are often the victims of civil war and other issues that impact humanity.

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 fourteen and a half years we have been financially supporting registered local organisations and Churches who work among the oppressed, vulnerable & abandoned, poor & needy, widows, orphans/ semi orphans, child labour victims, the underprivileged, young offenders, the persecuted and war victims in Sri Lanka and India.

We provide regular monthly financial support to the vast majority of our projects. In addition to our regular financial support, we identify and assess where there is a specific need, 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.

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

Fundraising

We raise money for our causes through Standing Orders, Gift Aid/ donations from our friends and family / Church members. We do not raise money from the public. Occasionally, friends raise money (from their friends and family members) for a specific Charity cause through 'Virgin Money Giving' website.

We do not use any "commercial participator" or professional fund-raiser" and we do not have any fundraising agreement with anyone. Therefore, the following does not apply to us in relations to 'Compliance with the Fundraising Regulator's voluntary regulation scheme'.

- The charity's approach to fundraising activity, and in particular whether a professional fundraiser or commercial participator was used.
- Details of any voluntary fundraising schemes or standards which the charity or anyone fundraising on its behalf has agreed to.
- Any failure to comply with a scheme or standard cited.
- Whether and how the charity monitored fundraising activities carried out on its behalf.
- How many complaints the charity or anyone acting on its behalf has received about fundraising for the charity.
- What the charity has done to protect vulnerable people and others from unreasonable intrusion on a person's privacy, unreasonably persistent approaches or undue pressure to give, in the course of or in connection with fundraising for the charity.

Table of Contents

Financial Summary

Over the past fourteen years we sent more than £550,000 for our projects. In 2017, we received more than £35,000 and sent over £34,000 for our projects.

RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DEC 2017		
RECEIPTS:		
Donations received from organisations and individuals <i>(including Standing Orders/ Other Gift Aids)</i>	£26,055	
HMRC CHARITIES Tax repayment	£9,690	
TOTAL RECEIPTS	£35,745	
PAYMENTS:		
Christmas presents	<i>Notes 1</i>	£4,132.89
Educational / Extracurricular	<i>Notes 2</i>	£3,045.00
Health & Safety	<i>Notes 3</i>	£314.94
Housing	<i>Notes 4</i>	£268.25
Income Generating	<i>Notes 5</i>	£405.01
Orphanage / Residential School	<i>Notes 6</i>	£6,598.84
Poor & Needy	<i>Notes 7</i>	£4,878.00
Relief	<i>Notes 8</i>	£618.10
Sick & Needy	<i>Notes 9</i>	£1,713.36
Water Supply	<i>Notes 10</i>	£780.36
Widows and Children	<i>Notes 11</i>	£11,343.03
Bank Charges		£15.00
TOTAL PAYMENTS		£34,113
EXCESS OF RECEIPTS OVER PAYMENTS		£1,632

Summary of Achievements

Orphans

In 2017, we sent more than £6,500 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
- 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 Veeman Masillamany is the BOL coordinator of ASI and Mrs Jeeva Algendran is the BOL coordinator of Happy Home in Kotagala.

Windows & children

In 2017, we sent more than £11,000 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
- Widows and Children, Mullaitheevu, 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 project.

- Widows and Children, Dehiwela, Sri Lanka

Table of Contents

- Widows and Children, Pitakotte, Sri Lanka

Rev Suresh Paul is the BOL local coordinator of the following project.

- Widows and Children, Mullaitheevu, Sri Lanka

Educational Projects

- We run an Evening Study programme for the Slum children in Pittakotte, Colombo. We are renting a hall to conduct educational and religious activities for these people who live in a slum area. We donated more than £1,225 for this project in 2017.
- Tuition for Untouchables: Dalit, also called Outcasts, 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 seven years. We contributed more than £475 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 Puthukkudiyirrupu, Sri Lanka 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 was initiated and organised by the Centre of Hope and Bridge of Love to financially support this worthwhile project.

We are grateful to Mrs. Evangeline Kamalini Sathyendran, a trustee of Bridge of Love, for her generous donation in October 2017, which was made in memory of her late husband Mr Sathyendran Sivasithambaram. Her generosity enabled us to hire a second three-wheeler to further improve the transport service to and from schools. She, along with her son Michael Dinesh Sathyendran, went all the way to this remote area in Puthukkudiyirrupu and started the second three-wheeler service during their visit to Sri Lanka in October 2017. They also provided dry ration packs to 115 widows in the area in memory of Mr Sathyendran.

Table of Contents

- We sent around £540 for semi orphans in Mulaitheevu in October 2017 for their education. Rev Suresh Paul is our local coordinator for this project.

In total, we sent more than £3,000 in 2017 for educational projects.

Income generating Projects

Miss Shanthi Ponnu coordinated £400 worth income generating projects in Vanni for Bridge of Love in 2017.

Relief Projects

- Miss Shanthi Ponnu coordinated £600 worth of poverty relief projects in Jaffna and Vanni for Bridge of Love in 2017.

Poor, Sick & Needy and Other

- In 2017, Bridge of Love donated more than £1,500 for the poor & needy / war victims in Batticaloa. Rev Karunanithi is the BOL local coordinator of this project.
- Bridge of Love has been providing a small monthly financial support to 10 underprivileged pastors in Batticaloa for more than eleven years. Mr & Mrs Watherstone of Transform Newham are the main sponsors of this project. Rev Karunanithi is our local project coordinator. In 2017, we donated more than £1,000 for this project.

Mr Luke Mahendra, Treasurer of Bridge of Love (BOL), is the coordinator and the sponsor of Cannan poor pastors. In 2017, Luke donated more than £2,250 for this project.

- We donated more than £1300 for 10 handicapped persons in Puthukkudiyirrupu/ Mullaitheevu area. Rev Suresh Paul is our local coordinator for this project.
- We donated more than £250 in Dec 2017 for building a hut for a widow and two children in Batticaloa.

In 2016, we built a hut for window and two children in the same area. Unfortunately, this widow died in 2017 and her children became orphans but they continue to live in this hut with their relative. We built a toilet for them in 2017 for around £310.

Table of Contents

- We contributed £1000 towards the construction of a well in Baticaloa area in 2016. In 2017, we sent another £750 for the installation of water tank and motor and completion of this project. Around 70 families are benefited from this project.

In total, we sent more than £6,500 in 2017 for these projects.

Christmas Gifts

We annually provide study material as Christmas presents for more than 800 - 1000 poor children. In December 2017, we sent more than £4,100 worth Christmas presents to more than 1000 children, 50 widows and 10 disabled in Batticaloa, Valaichchennai, Mullaitheevu, Puthukkudiyirrupu, Pitakotte and Trichy. Rev Karunanithi, Bro Yoganathan, Rev Suresh Paul, Rev Kathireson, and Jayakumar coordinated these projects for Bridge of Love.

Contact Information

BRIDGE OF LOVE TRUST

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

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Web: www.bridgeoflove.org

Email: info@bridge-of-love.org

The trustees hereby declare they approve the trustees' report given above

Rev G I Ebenezer

Chairman, Bridge Of Love

Varnan Goodwin

Secretary, Bridge Of Love