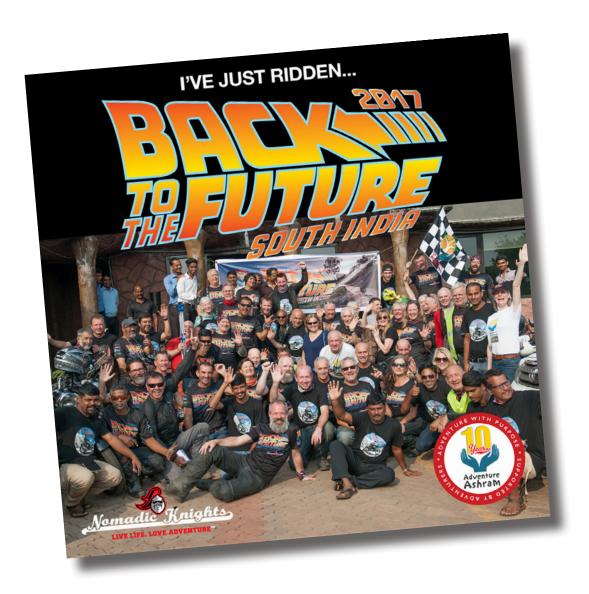


### Our 2017 Annual Review



Back To The Future riders raising funds for our small but mighty chartity

### Introduction



What an extraordinary year for Adventure Ashram as we celebrated 10 years of purposeful adventure. The entire year was dedicated to our celebrations and our adventurers, UK team, Board of Trustees, Charity leaders in India and the children and their communities made it unforgettable.

Adventure Ashram is the adventurers' charity. Through purposeful adventure we raise funds to support small, grassroots Indian charities improving health and education in the places we explore. During our adventures we ride motorbikes, drive cars and volunteer in the communities we have grown to love. #adventurewithpurpose

To give everyone an opportunity to take part in our celebrations, we launched the following initiatives:

- Celebrate with adventure
- An extra special UK Rally
- A crowdfunding campaign
- Adventurer's Tales book
- Back To The Future Motorcycle Rally in India

It would have been impossible to have had such a productive year of celebrations without the enthusiasm and commitment of all our supporters. Over the last decade we have raised over  $\mathfrak{L}1,000,000$  and this was the central message of our celebrations throughout the year. It was particularly poignant as the year drew to a close as 50 of our supporters and Trustees visited the programmes in India on the Back To The Future Rally and witnessed first-hand the amazing impact we have made.

This annual review gives details of the grants awarded, updates on our supported charities progress and sets out our plans for the coming year, 2018.

In 2017 we proudly awarded grants totalling £65,300. What a wonderful achievement. As an organisation, we understand the importance of measuring impact, so we count the number of children we believe to have directly benefitted from the

# £65,300 grants awarded in 2017

grants given. In 2017 650 children have seen their lives improve through access to health care, rehabilitation programmes and education. Such a great realisation of all our effort.

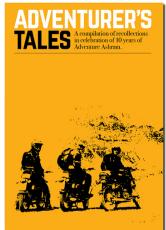
#### **Adventure Ashram Trustees:**

Colin Taylor- Chair lain Crockart Udesh Naidoo Craig Jarvis Sue Mason Dominic Pinkney Tony Smith Roy Clark

Aimee Faunt - Volunteer Administrator to Trustee Board











### Thank you, thank you, thank you

In 2017, you our committed adventurers, gave and raised a total of £133,490 to support Adventure Ashram and our charity partners in India. Thank you to each and every one of you.

Special thanks goes to:

**Our Volunteers** Launched in 2015 our Volunteer Programme continues to evolve and 2017 saw the launch of e-volunteering.

**E-Volunteering** Mary Edwards became our first e-volunteer as she lent her considerable careers advisory skills to the Manavi Employment Preparation Programme. Alongside this, a large number of our supporters responded to our request for their adventure stories to be included in Adventurer's Tales; a compilation of recollections of 10 years of Adventure Ashram.

**UK Volunteering** We want to take this opportunity to say thank you to CAPA, the Global Education Network who we have successfully partnered with over the last 4 years. Headed up by CEO John Christian and his team, they recruit the most talented and committed young people to their intern programme.

We couldn't function as effectively as we do without the support of CAPA and although to us they are priceless, from a monetary perspective if we value 1 intern hour at the rate of the London Living Wage their gift over the last 4 years would have totalled  $\mathfrak{L}32,000$ . We say a huge thank you to our 2017 Interns Hoa Nguyen, Shu Hui Ooi, Kyla Stewart and Sarah Spivey.

We were delighted to welcome our office volunteer Leila Sharma-English who supported us with general office administration.

**2017 UK Car and Bike Rally** Thank you to everyone who came along to this special, celebratory rally. It was wonderful to ride and drive through Suffolk and Norfolk and extra special to be able to stop for lunch at Ravenwood Hall Hotel owned by our Trustee and long- term supporter Craig Jarvis. As usual, our friend and supporter Richie Finney provided us with yet another stunning route and we

lain Crockart, Ollie Langston and Will Lucas completing their 1304 mile 2017 'Land's End To John O'Groats' adventure.









would like to say a big thank you to him for his on-going support. The Rally raised over £11,000 and the profits were divided between the long- term development of Adventure Ashram and Grace Charitable Trust.

Our fundraising focus during our celebratory year had a different goal to previous years. We wanted to ensure the long- term sustainability of our small but mighty charity. To support this, we ran a crowdfunding campaign, asked supporters to run their own fundraising adventurers and join us on BTTF. The funds raised from these events have been used to sustain us as we head into our new decade and much of the money has been transferred into our reserve account

A special thank you goes to artist Vincent Kamp who auctioned his painting of Tom Hardy with all the proceeds to be given to Odanadi Seva Trust. The £4,500 raised from this auction will be used for the day to day running of the boys' house.

We also thank the dedicated leaders and staff of the following Indian Charities.

Action for Social Health in Rural Areas – Dr. Arun Kolhatkar Grace Charitable Trust – Solomon Daniel

**Odanadi** – Stanly Kizhakeparambil Varghese and Parashuram Mynakanahalli Lingegowda

Together we have helped create better lives for children in South India.

### Accessible healthcare for women & children in Palani Hills, Tamil Nadu

Update from project lead Dr. Arun Kolhatkar, written by Adventure Ashram CEO Fritha Vincent

Charity **Project objective**  Action for Social Health in Rural Areas (ASHRA)

To run regular clinics with a Doctor, Health Worker and

a facility to purchase medicines in isolated communities through project REACH (Rural Education and

Comprehensive Health)

Project funding 2017 £3.000 **Funding to date** 

£19,000

**Project Commenced** January 2012

The REACH Project provides regular health checkups within the Kodaikanal community, working to improve both health care and health education at grass-roots level. Through the REACH Project visits are conducted to rural areas around Kodaikanal in the Palani Hills in Tamil Nadu. South India.

The REACH Project's established partnership with the Bethania Foundation continues. The Bethania Foundation runs 5 creches, which are day-care centres designed to enable mothers of pre-school children to go back to work, safe in the knowledge that their children are being well cared for. Working in 3 of these creches provides Dr Kolhatkar the opportunity to examine any children who are unwell, as well as to provide health check-ups for all the children attending the creches, seeing between 50 and 80 children every week. With these regular visits, the number of children who fall ill has reduced significantly, and the provision of dietary supplements has meant that most children increase their weight satisfactorily. FIMRC, the Foundation for International Medical Relief of Children, provides medicines and nutritional supplements for these creche children.

Dr Kolhatkar also visits a village clinic in conjunction with FIMRC in an area populated largely by daily wage earners and their families. He sees between 5 and 15 patients on each visit, many of whom benefit from regular follow-ups for chronic conditions, as well as others with acute illnesses. Dr Kolhatkar's professional fees for visiting this clinic are covered by FIMRC, who also subsidise the cost of drugs.



Dr. Kolhatkar examines a child from one of the villages of the lower Palani Hills

For more information www.bethaniakids.org www.fimrc.org

Dr Kolhatkar has also formed a new partnership with ACTIF (Action for Community Transformation India Foundation), an organisation that works to improve the provision of health care for tribal people in remote villages in the Palani Hills. The aim is to expand to conduct regular health camps which will be accessible to tribal villagers who cannot afford medical care.

#### The next 12 months

Adventure Ashram will continue to support Dr. Kolhatakar and ACTIF and we will make a special focus to share the details of this project with all our supporters to inspire individuals to make regular donations to Dr. Kolhatakar's project.



## Educating tribal children from Mudumalai Tiger Reserve

Update from project lead Solomon Daniel, written by Adventure Ashram CEO Fritha Vincent

**Charity** Grace Charitable Trust

**Project objective** To enable 300 children to attend school and continue to

graduation by providing safe access and covering the

cost of their education

Project funding 2017 £32,010 Funding to date £215,000 Project commenced June 2011

Grace Charitable Trust provides the framework for an education programme that enables children living in or on the outskirts of a protected tiger reserve in Tamil Nadu not only to attend school but to travel there and back safely on dedicated school buses. The charity continues to be headed up by Solomon Daniel as the lead Trustee.

All the children are provided with a school uniform, shoes, a school bag and other resources. A fleet of 3 buses travel to 10 villages to take the children to and from school each day. As the Managing Trustee, Solomon oversees this entire operation and is planning to focus his work on up-skilling his staff team that includes, tuition centre tutors, drivers and administrative staff.

We continue to support Solomon Daniel and the work of Grace Charitable Trust through our Child Sponsorship Programme as well as one off donations and other fundraising campaigns.

#### The next 12 months

It is now 6 years since the first school bus was funded by adventurer Stephano Buliani and Adventure Ashram. The bus now needs to be replaced due to the terraine it travels through each day and we have plans to run a crowdfunding campaign in the summer of 2018 to fund a new bus.

For more information GRG Memorial School www.grgmhss.com www.gracecharitabletrust.in



Children from our Child Sponsorship in a tuition centre.



Children ready to board the Adventure Ashram funded school bus.



Solomon takes the children for a fun and educational day out to nearby Ooty.



Children from our Child Sponsorship Programme at play.



Proudly displaying their schoolwork.

# Creation of a separate fund to assist charity partners in the event of an emergency.

Written by Adventure Ashram CEO Fritha Vincent

**Project objective**To respond to charity partners needs in the

event of an emergency

Project commencedJuly 2017Funding in 2017£5,000Funding to date£5,000

Through some robust conversations with our charity partners, we learnt they face a variety of potential disasters from spread of disease, financial losses caused by changes in policy, road traffic accidents and loss of life through violence. We were shocked to learn about past 2 staff members of Odanadi Seva Trust who had lost their lives in violent attacks while protecting women and children. There were no emergency funds to support their families in the aftermath.

The bottom line is that all the charities we support don't hold emergency funds and we feel it is our duty to be ready to support our partners when they need us. We will hold a fund of restricted income, to ensure we can do this. When an emergency hits, our partner charities will know to ask us for the funds they need. An urgent emergency trustee meeting will take place and a decision over the funds will be agreed. For larger emergencies, it may be decided that Adventure Ashram will set up an emergency fundraising campaign. Once the Emergency Fund is fully established a trustee will be appointed to over-see this area of our work.

#### The next 12 months.

We will continue to source further funding for the emergency fund.



# Rehabilitation of children affected by human trafficking

Update from project lead Stanly Kv, written by Adventure Ashram CEO Fritha Vincent

**Charity** Odanadi Seva Trust

**Project objective** To cover the running costs of the boys' house 'Odula'

in Odanadi in Mysore.

Project funding in 2017 £11,700 Funding to date £168,700 Project commenced January 2012

Adventure Ashram Adventurers continue their support of the boys' house by giving monthly donations for the running costs of the house, as well as making larger one off donations. The boys living in the house continue to work together to clean and maintain it and they are proud to call the big blue house their home. By being responsible for the day to day up-keep of the house the boys become empowered and learn how to look after themselves, skills that will serve them well throughout their lives. They were delighted to welcome 5 new geese who live in a duck house in a large duck pond in the grounds of the house. These geese were funded through our crowdfunding campaign.

We used the money raised during our 2016 extraordinary crowdfunding campaign to build a perimeter wall and living accommodation for the house mother. Once the perimeter wall was completed, Odanadi called on their artistic supporters who came along and painted the wall with wonderful, colourful murals and trees have been planted to line the drive from the main gate all the way up to the house. This, along with the geese, have made the boys feel that their house has been transformed into a home, which has long since been our goal.

We sourced funding to assist the boys and girls as they approached employment and/or further education after schooling. We created the Manavi Employment Preparation Programme, a series of workshops and one to one coaching to prepare the young people for this new phase in their lives. The initial indications are the programme was a success and a thorough review will be undertaken during 2018.

We were pleased to take part in Alec Reeds 'Big Give Christmas Challenge' for the

For more information www.odanadi.org

The boys with Stanly and Parashu outside the dining hall. →



BL: All assembled for the beginning of the workshops for the Manavi Employment Preparation Programme

first time. We were delighted to receive funds from a champion funder and this, coupled with the support from our adventurers, ensured the success of this new venture for Adventure Ashram. These funds will be used to stage a rescue of trafficked women and children in India during 2018.

#### The next 12 months

Adventure Ashram will continue its support for Odanadi Seva Trust and will work with the Directors to provide funds towards the day to day running costs. Adventure Ashram will continue to consider all funding proposals Odanadi approach us with.









## The Ted Jervis Fund for Excellence in Ideas and Adventure

To provide funds for young people for taking forward excellent ideas or adventure. Written by Adventure Ashram CEO Fritha Vincent

The fund was established in memory of Ted Jervis an avid supporter of Adventure Ashram along with his family. The fund allows young people from the projects we support to apply for a grant to help them take forward an idea they have or an adventure they would like to make happen. The first applications for grants were considered by the end of 2017 by the Jervis family and Adventure Ashram.

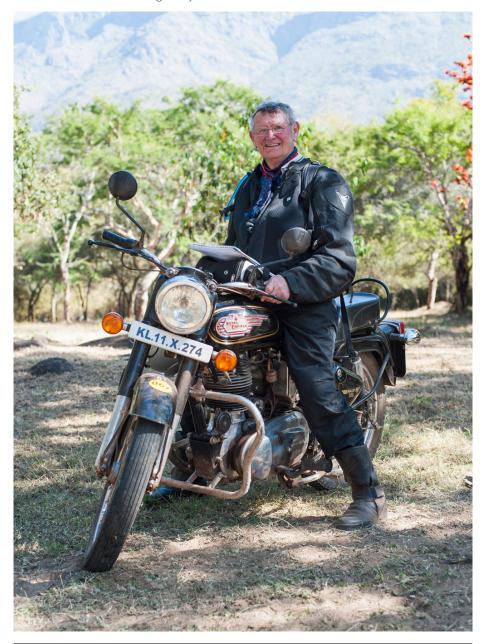
#### **Next 12 months**

We look forward to awarding more grants to young people and we will continue to fundraise for the fund. Fundraising for The Ted Jervis Fund For Excellence In Ideas and Adventure will become an integral part of our UK Rallies going forward.



THE TED JERVIS FUND FOR EXCELLENCE IN IDEAS AND ADVENTURE

For more information www.adventureashram.org/ted-jervis-fund



### **Business Supports Adventure Ashram**

Our Business Supports Adventure Ashram programme continues to grow and at the end of 2017 we had 20 organisations that provide us with valuable support and funding.

Our grateful thanks to out to all our wonderful Business Supporters.

#### **O Tyres and Exhausts Galore**



































Believe YOU can make a difference



# Contact details for further information, updates, donations or to get involved.

#### **Adventure Ashram**

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Registered Charity No.1122629





