



Strathaven Friends of Health Help International

(SFHHI)

Review of 2020



Greetings to all our supporters. Spring is in the air and the days are getting longer. We hope that it will be a better year for all of us than 2020 and that things will soon be back to normal.

Despite all the restrictions to our activities which meant we were unable to undertake our usual fund raising activities, we have, with your support, had a successful year in our efforts to support Health Help International and were able to contribute one way or another over £15500 towards the Charity's work in Zambia and India. The Corona Virus is also affecting these two countries seriously but despite their own restrictions much of the work which HHI supports is continuing and the need for help is greater than ever.

The following is our annual report which will let you know what we were able to achieve in 2020 with your help. We look forward to your continuing support in 2021

Kath Russell's visit to India with HHI in January –

Kath spent twelve days in Kerala with Edmund Plummer and Jute Williams and despite the challenging conditions and the hazardous travelling from place to place she enjoyed the experience and particularly having the opportunity of seeing the women at work on the production of the leaf cards. During the visit she was able to dispense a total of £1300 for the various deserving people and projects she visited– the money having been contributed from monies raised by SFHHI and donated by generous Strathaven supporters.

Tuition Groups – Ian Gow continues to collect contributions from his loyal supporters in the Avondale Church who performed miracles in being able to contribute on a regular basis towards our support of the Tuition Groups organised by Philip Mathew. We provide

sufficient funding for the costs of £50.00 per month for three groups and despite the problems of the Pandemic these have been able to continue to function. Ian was able to send a total of £2168.00 to HHI in 2020.

If you would like to contribute to this very worthwhile project please contact Ian on 522118.

The Bus Fund and the RS50 –Thanks to the generosity of the RS50 Committee in designating monies raised from the ‘virtual’ RS50 in 2020 to the Bus Fund and Iain’s success in raising £6703 also for the fund in sponsorship of his efforts in completing the 50 miles route we are well on the way to having enough money to buy a new bus for the Special Need’s School in Nedumangad when the school is able to open again – hopefully in April.

Painted Leaf Cards – One of the activities which we were able to continue despite the restrictions and which was a real success thanks to the hard working efforts and enthusiasm of Kath Russell was the sale of the painted leaf cards. She masterminds the procurement of the cards and their sale both locally and through the ‘shop’ on the SFHHI website. 941 cards were sold in the year which raised a total of £1825. Please have a look at the website on www.sfhhi.org.uk to see the full range of cards now available and order some from it or contact Kath on 521059

The Tom Sutherland Biography and Iain’s climbing book Eye to the Hills – Sales of the climbing book continue at a modest pace and raised a total of £740 for the Bus Fund in 2020.

After nearly nine years in the writing Iain was finally able to publish his biography of Tom Sutherland –‘In the Shade of the Banyan Tree’ in August last year.

A total of 250 copies were produced and to date more than 160 of these have been sold or distributed including fifty sent to Australia. From the sales and from a number of very generous donations received from supporters after reading the book a total of £7422 has been raised for HHI. Copies are available from Iain (on 520204) or from the website 'shop'

The Ragbag Scheme – This continues despite the lock-down. Please continue to support it and leave your unwanted clothes, shoes etc in the container in the car park of the Trinity Church on Crawford Street.

Support for Food distribution in Kerala – In recent months we have been able to support HHI's efforts in providing food for people in desperate need as a result of the Pandemic in both India and Zambia. In addition to contributions from SFHHI funds a number of Strathaven supporters have given generous donations.

Tidings – We hope you will enjoy reading the enclosed latest issue of HHI's Tidings and appreciate all the excellent work the Charity is continuing to do despite diminishing financial resources. The needs in Zambia and India are greater than ever due to the Pandemic, Please if you can, consider sending a donation to HHI or, better still, making a regular monthly or annual donation (with if possible the added value of Gift Aid).

Thanks

from *Kath, Margery, Helen, Ian, Willie and Iain*, in the SFHHI Committee