

DONOR'S SPEAK

Mark Thomas

CHILD's Trust is a UK based charity that works predominantly in India but also has a project in Uganda. It is currently working with several partners in India and has had the privilege of working with KHW for the past 6 years.

We are primarily a funding agency and rely on local partners to undertake the work on the ground while we provide funding along with practical and spiritual involvement. Our aim is to provide funding for projects that assist underprivileged children with their education, nutrition, medical and spiritual welfare. We are a Christian charity and believe that we should be demonstrating the love of God by attempting to treat all children as equal regardless of their colour, creed or social standing.

In 2001 we set out to look for an additional partner in the Dehra Dun area and Prince David of TEAR Fund, who is also a Board member of KHW, introduced us to J.P. Singh of KHW. I remember well that first meeting in 2001, quickly followed by several further discussions the following year. We were very impressed by what we heard and saw and so the start of a long-term relationship was born.

In the early days we were involved in two projects, the work amongst the snake charmers (Sapera Nath) community in Rajpur and with what was then known as the Kandoli School (now known as the Dehra Dun Public School). Both of these projects demonstrated a clear passion for the best quality education while keeping the children within the sanctity of their own home and family. We recognise that it is not always possible to do this but these projects caught our imagination and the additional bonus of being able to provide a nutritious meal for all of the students at the Kandoli School meant that the children's nutritional needs were also being met.

We have always been impressed by KHW's willingness to encourage others to take risks and develop projects that some relief agencies would not take on. KHW with our support enabled another organisation (SASA) to make its first tentative steps in providing relief to underprivileged children in the Garhwal Mountains. SASA is now established in its own



right as an independent organisation, but it is unlikely that this would have happened without the direct involvement of KHW.

In 2003 we were encouraged by KHW to take the first tentative steps in providing medical support to children in remote areas. This was triggered by the surgery and rehabilitation of a young boy named Shankar Thapa (from the Kandoli area) whose leg had not developed properly as a result of polio. He is now able to walk well and with the vision and leadership of J.P. Singh and Ramesh Khanduri of Grahmin Samudaik Vikas Sewa Sansthan, Tilwara, Rudraprayag, the Samvedna project was born. There are now regular medical camps in remote areas of the Garhwal mountains with medical care and treatment being ably provided by Dr Rajnish Singh. CHILD's Trust currently provides the majority of the funding for this new and exciting project and we are proud to be involved.

In 2006 we saw the birth of a new project that J.P. Singh and I have been praying about over the past few years. We have named it the House of Hope and this is the first of hopefully many more to come.

It is still in its infancy but we at CHILD's Trust believe it will become a model that others will follow in years to come. We have been conscious for some time of the limitations of a traditional children's home. They are often large and impersonal with the children being given meagre rations of comfort, clothing, nutrition, medical and spiritual welfare. Whilst most founders of children's homes set out to provide excellent care and provision for the children they often quickly develop into large institutions with children often losing the benefit of a close knit intimate family environment. The House of Hope project is an attempt to rectify this with no more than 10 children being provided with the same food, education and medical provision as the children of those responsible for the project. The children are treated as if they belong to the house parents and in some cases they may take up formal adoption. It is a major financial commitment and will require great care and patience in its early stages. Without the professionalism and determination of KHW this project would not have started.

Without the help and support of KHW 's Director Mr. J.P. Singh and his excellent team, CHILD's Trust would not have been able to direct its activities in India so effectively. We are indebted to their sacrificial service and acknowledge that they are putting into practice the Biblical words of Paul when he said that faith, hope and love remain but the greatest of these is love.

Thank you on behalf of CHILD's Trust

Mark Thomas
Operational Director



Reinhard Berle

“..I remember a time when I walked through the slums of Rispana river near Rajpur and saw a little boy* in a small little plastic shack studying with an oil lamp with a big pile of thick books beside him. I asked him what he was studying. He told me he was solving some mathematical problem. When I asked what he wanted to become he replied - an engineer! I was surprised to see that KHW-India had raised his aspiration so high. It made me proud to see that it was exactly what we set out to do.....to encourage children to dream big and to provide them the space to fulfill their aspirations.”

[the little boy is Daya Ram presently in the second year of B.Tech. at the Dehradun Institute of Technology.]*

President
Kinderhilfswerk Stiftung Global Care



Ursula Hannich - Bais

".. every time it is a great joy for me to visit our sponsored children. It is exciting to talk to them and to see them growing and dealing with their environment. They talk mostly about their wishes and dreams and do not complain much about their fears and the bad things that may have happened. It is very special to see that they are satisfied most of the time and always think about their future. And this is exactly what we want to accomplish for our children – a better future! It is very important to us that the

children can visit a good school, get a good education and later are able to get a good job.

Personally for me my visits are always a big challenge. The poverty and poor situation of many children caused already a lot of tears. But it is a big reward when the big brown eyes of a child look at me with a warm smile.

This is why Adriaan and I travel to North-India and Nepal every year, to find more ways to help the children have a better and brighter future. When Adriaan and I are not working someday anymore we want to spend more time for the organization and give more support to the KHW."

Ursula Hannich - Bais and her husband Adriaan Bais are representatives of Kinderhulpwerk Nederland, a Dutch charity which partners with KHW-India.



Hans Juergen Pechmann

"I have closely observed the work of Kinderhilfswerk India for the past twenty five years. This Society's work continues to grow and is a very great blessing for the unfortunate and marginalized not only in its own environs, district and country but also in different countries of Asia in a very powerful and efficient way.

From my visits to India I know the Director and workers of Kinderhilfswerk India and have seen with my own eyes how they work. Every one has only the problems of the many disadvantaged in their hearts and minds and are always thinking how best to empower and positively influence the course of lives of the deprived. People who forget themselves and carry only the problems of others are special prepared with a gift from God who leads, cares and equips them with strength.

Children are at the heart of the work of Kinderhilfswerk seeing its work in India fills my eyes with tears of very deep gratitude to God for allowing me to be part of this work and helping myriads of girls and boys blossom to their full potential."

Hans Juergen Pechmann, fondly known as "Papa Pechmann", is the founding member of Kinderhilfswerk India and Germany. He now lives in retirement after 27 years of dedicated service during which time the work of Kinderhilfswerk spread over 15 countries across four continents. His life and work are an inspiration to Kinderhilfswerk world wide.