



**Chair's basic Annual Report  
for the Year ending 30<sup>th</sup> September 2018  
to the Friends of the Poor in South India  
Annual General Meeting  
held at Christ Church, Blackfriars Road, London.  
Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> December 2018**

This Report is to the tenth Annual General Meeting following upon our registration as a Charity by the Charity Commission for England and Wales. Our Trust Deed was signed and submitted on 17<sup>th</sup> November 2008 and a letter from the Charity Commission dated 25<sup>th</sup> November 2008 confirmed our registration as a charity in England and Wales as of that date. We have been assigned the Charity number 1126907. We are therefore duty bound to keep the Commissioners updated on any change to our details on the Central Register and to comply with all other requirements of Charity Law. Our Trustees are currently Simon Bell, Christopher Brown, Philip Brown, Andrew Crighton, Laurie Green, Christian Jervis Read and John Wilde.

The Charity Report for the Friends of the Poor in South India states that the objects of our Charity are “1. the relief of financial hardship, either generally or individually, of neglected poor people living, in particular but not exclusively, in the State of Tamil Nadu, South India, and in such other parts of the world as the trustees may decide, primarily by providing or paying for items, services or facilities and by aiding small businesses and other activities to create sustainable incomes. 2. The advancement of the education of the public, in particular persons living in the State of Tamil Nadu South India and in such other parts of the world as the trustees may decide. 3. The relief of sickness, the protection and preservation of health, in particular but not exclusively of persons living in the State of Tamil Nadu, South India, and in such other parts of the world as the trustees may decide.”

All expenditure from our accounts has been in accordance with the aims of our Charity. All meetings have been carried out in accordance with the regulations and procedures agreed in our Trust Deed, as above.

Activities during the year ended 30<sup>th</sup> September 2018 have included the following. The Trustees have met on four occasions through the last twelve months with minutes of the proceedings being kept in the minute book. Once again we are grateful to the people of the parish of Christchurch Blackfriars for the free use of their premises for all our meetings. We are grateful to all our officers for their care and hard work. This year, the Revd Christopher Brown was re-elected Secretary and Bishop Laurie Green re-elected as Chair. Mr Philip Brown was re-elected Treasurer. The Trustees have received regular and full reports of our financial situation and transactions. We have applied for and received Gift Aid tax rebates where applicable.

We seek to keep all our donors fully informed of our activities by means of our website at [www.fpsi.org.uk](http://www.fpsi.org.uk) which is overseen by Andrew Crighton, and by continuing email and postal communication, including our occasional Newsletter, the Friends' News.

We expect strict ethical standards to be always maintained by our partner projects in India and note that they are now undertaking safeguarding training, using UK online training resources. We receive continuing reports from all our funded projects in India and are pleased to see that our donations issue in the transformation of many poor rural villages and groups.

This year has seen our sponsorship of the continuing development of the programmes continuing from former years. In May 2018 we proposed two additional major fund-raising programmes for the future – the first regarding the needs of poor Charcoal Burners, the second, provision of new office and training accommodation.

We have fully conformed to Government Data Protection regulations and have put in place a Privacy Policy and a Legitimate Interest Statement. Our Members Secretary alone holds personal data information – John Wilde being elected to this post this year.

Special Fundraising activities for this year included the production by our Chair of a music CD raising some £ 2,000 and further publicity is expected from our development of a Facebook page now being edited by John Wilde.

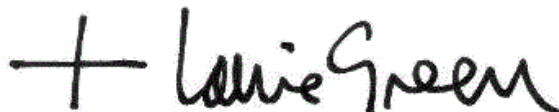
Our work continues to expand with emphasis on giving to projects and such educational and building projects which underpin this employment-creating process. For our ongoing work we rely increasingly on the regularity of generous donations often made by Standing Order.

We continue to remain true to the distinctiveness of the work of our charity as follows:

- We have good local access and knowledge of all the projects we fund
- We support scrutinized funding schemes.
- We personally visit and monitor the projects, ensuring transparency
- Trustees claim no expenses and no one is employed in the UK by our charity.
- We encourage self-help, by funding co-operative groups to build better futures - and all this in the poorest parts of our world

In this tenth year of our existence as a charity our total giving to date has surpassed £250,000. We therefore look forward to the year 2018-19 greatly encouraged and with much gratitude to all our donors.

Additional to this Report is the Secretary's Report and our Treasurer's Financial Statement for the year ended 30<sup>th</sup> September 2018.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Laurie Green". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Laurie Green ~ Chair. 30<sup>th</sup> November 2018

To the Trustees of the Friends of the poor in South India

Treasurer's Report for year ended 30.9.18

Attached are the financial statement and notes.

1. This year income was £31,402.56. We made grants totalling £34,374.87 to our partner NGO's in Tamil Nadu.
2. A substantial amount of our regular income comes in by way of individual standing orders (over £7,000 during this financial year). We also received £2,400 from a Church of England parish by standing order which was used to support a tailoring training scheme.
3. It is clear that our regular standing order donors, church groups and some institutions continue to form the bulk of our income. We did not receive any legacy income during this financial year.
4. We have now been in operation since November 2008. During this time we have made grants to our NGO's in Tamil Nadu in excess of £250,000.
5. Our expenses during the year were minimal (less than £400) and were made up of bank charges incurred in connection with transfer of funds to India and the costs of producing a musical CD which raised more than £1,400 for the charity. Trustees do not charge any fees to the charity and trustees pay their own expenses incurred in attending meetings in the UK or visiting projects in Tamil Nadu.

Philip Brown

Treasurer

12<sup>th</sup> December 2018.

Friends of the poor in South India

(Registered Charity No. 1126907)

Financial Statement Year Ended 30<sup>th</sup> September 2018

	2017	2018	Notes
Income	£	£	
Donations	93,217.71	31,402.56	1
Expenditure			
Grants	89,182.80	34,374.87	2
Bank Charges	150.50	172.00	3
Other Expenses	119.48	186.73	4
Total Expenditure	89,452.78	34,733.60	
Surplus/(Shortfall)	3,764.93	(3,331.04)	
Add Surplus Brought Forward	1,560.54	5,325.47	
Surplus Carried Forward	5,325.47	1,994.43	

Notes to 30.9.2018 financial statement

1. Donations were received from UK resident individuals, UK trusts and other UK groups. Funds were received by cheque, via BACS, via My Donate, via CAF and by standing order from individuals. Most funds were unrestricted.

The charity maintained four restricted funds:

Tailoring Project Natham (£2,400.00 received)

Plantation Fund (£1,648.75 received)

Jeep Fund (£1,375.00 received)

Charcoal Burners Fund (£1,630)

The total for donations includes £4,798.80 received from HMRC as Gift Aid

2. Grants were made to support community development activities of NGO's in Tamil Nadu, South India with whom the charity already has established relationships.
3. The charity maintains a business account with the Co-operative Bank. Charges are incurred in connection with the transfer of funds to Indian NGO's.
4. Expenses incurred in connection with the production of a musical CD which was successfully used to raise funds for the charity.

## **Independent Examiner's Report**

**Charity Name: Friends of the Poor in South India. Charity Number: 1126907**

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of 'Friends of the Poor in South India' Trust. I report on the accounts of the Trust for the year ended 30th September 2018 which are set out on pages 1 to 3.

### **Respective Responsibilities of trustees and examiner**

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) or under Regulation 10(1)(d) of the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (the 2006 Accounts Regulations) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- ~ examine the accounts under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 and section 44(1)(c) of the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 (the 2005 Act)
- ~ to follow the procedures laid down in the general directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act
- ~ to state whether particular matters have come to my attention

### **Basis of Independent examiner's report**

My examination was carried out in accordance with the general Directions given by the Charity Commission and is in accordance with Regulation 11 of the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair view' and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

### Independent examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

(1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:

- ~ to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act and section 44(1)(a) of the 2005 Act and Regulation 4 of the 2006 Accounts Regulations
- ~ to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Act and section 44(1)(b) of the 2005 Act and Regulation 9 of the 2006 Regulations.

have not been met: or

(2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed..... 

Name: ANDREW AYTON

Profession: CUSTOMER SERVICE ASSISTANT

Address: 4 STONECROFT  
COLCHESTER  
CO4 5UG

Date. 1/7/19