



The Joe Homan Charity ... bringing Joy and Hope to Children

Welcome and thank you for choosing to become a sponsor

This information pack is design to help you get the most from your sponsorship and to answer the questions we are frequently asked, but if we haven't answered your question please contact our Peterborough office where staff will be pleased to help.

What Happens Next

Sponsorship isn't just about money - for each child it can be a very special feeling to know that someone cares about them and their well-being, even though they may be a long way away.

We will now forward your details to our administration office in South India, which is responsible for allocating children to sponsors. They will be in touch with you shortly with details of your sponsored child, including an initial child profile and photograph.



Boys Town South India

Receiving Information from India

Our India office uses a dedicated ID to send sponsorship information to you by email. Please note this is for the despatch of information to sponsors only and does not receive any incoming mail. Please ensure your own email is able to recognise and accept this address:

jhcsponsorship@gmail.com

If you do not have an email address, information will be sent to you by normal post.

Your Child's Name



Every child has a given name preceded by an initial, which represents his father's name, for example *K.Muthupandi*. This is how his name will appear on reports. However if you were speaking or writing to him, he would simply be addressed as "*Muthupandi*".

The initial shows that while K.Muthupandi and K.Shanmurugan might well be brothers, K.Muthupandi and R.Muthupandi are not.

If there is anything you don't understand, please don't hesitate to contact us
The Joe Homan Charity (Reg. No 1006060)
P O Box 54, Peterborough, PE4 6JP, England
Tel: 01733 253416 Email: jhct@btinternet.com Web: www.joehoman.org.uk



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What can I expect as a sponsor?

The school year in Tamil Nadu begins on the first Monday in June, and admissions to the projects fall in line with that. Volunteers will initially meet the newcomers and write their personal profiles.



The children will usually send greetings to their sponsors in late summer, once they have settled down at school. During the year further greetings will be sent in late November (Diwali) and for Pongal (January harvest).

At the end of each school year (April/May) you will receive a report describing the events of the last twelve months in the project where the child is being cared for, together with a recent photograph.

The exact timing of any communication will depend on project work being undertaken and the translation resources available.

Understanding Information from India

Most of the reports you receive, including Child Profiles and Annual Reports, will be written by English-speaking volunteers. However the greetings cards and/or letters you may receive are written by the children, often with help from project staff.

The English used in India differs in some respects from the UK and misunderstandings can occur. All the children we support attend schools where they are taught in their native language. They learn English as a second language from the age of 10 years. Some do very well, but others only reach a rudimentary level of achievement. For this reason letters from children, although personalised and individual, will often have been translated into English by project staff and volunteers. All our own staff speak English, however while project staff often speak some English, few can write English. All communications will come via the Charity's India office.

UK Newsletter

Your name will be included on our UK mailing list to receive the Charity's Newsletter, **Nandri**, twice a year.

Nandri means 'Thank you' in Tamil Nadu, South India

Nandri will be sent to you by post, unless you indicate a preference to receive it electronically.

The latest issue of **Nandri** can be viewed at our website www.joehoman.org.uk at any time.



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Can I Communicate with my Sponsored Child?

Letters, postcards, greetings cards, photographs of you and your family are highly prized and appreciated by the children. It shows that there is someone who cares about them and for them. Please be aware that we cannot guarantee an acknowledgement or reply.

✉ To write to your child :-

Child's Name / Name of Boys or Girls Town

c/o The Joe Homan Charity India
PO Box No. 36
624001 Dindigul
Tamil Nadu
SOUTH INDIA

or there is an email link via our website www.joehoman.org.uk

All mail received will be checked by our Indian staff to ensure that each letter is forwarded to the correct child. Please note we do not reveal sponsors addresses to the children or their families under any circumstances.

Can I send a gift?

There is no obligation to send gifts however should you wish to send a little treat, a small donation sent via our Peterborough office is preferable. This allows us to purchase something to benefit all children in a project, such as a new game or even a special cake and a few sweets.

Any individual gift should only be sent direct to our India office for a special occasion (such as a birthday) and be modest in value.



Can I meet my sponsored child?



If you would like to meet your sponsored child during a visit to India, this can be arranged, provided sufficient notice is given. Remember children are in school during the week, and visits must be by prior arrangement with project management. Please contact the Peterborough office for further information.

"What it is to give these children hope and happiness - this village had both in abundance."

Anne and Philip Brazier

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About the Boys Towns, Girls Towns, and Children's Villages

The first of Joe Homan's Boys Towns was founded in 1964. Today, JHC working with different NGO's supports 6 Boys Towns, 3 Girls Towns and 3 Children's Villages, between them assisting 850 children each year. Each one is a community of about 70 Youngsters, all of whom come from poor families who cannot afford to educate them.



The majority of the boys in each Boys Town attend the local Government Higher Secondary School. They normally join at about 12 (Grade 6) and stay until Grade 10 (at age 16 - the equivalent of GCSE).

Vocational Guidance is given to all youngsters - those who are academically able will be encouraged to continue into higher education, while others will be guided towards accredited training most suited to their individual skills.

In the Girls Towns more emphasis is placed on higher education, so that the girls can apply for positions as secretaries, teachers and nurses. By law certain jobs have quotas for women, including 50% of all government jobs, and we help them get to the necessary academic level for application.



The Children's Villages are mixed projects for boys and girls under the age of 12 in need of care. Each one has 12 bungalows, all of which are run by foster mothers. Like the Boys Towns and the Girls Town, each Children's Village has about 70 children.

Links with their families: We encourage strong links to be maintained if at all possible. The children go home for the normal school holidays, and for family and village festivals. Twice a year, parents' weekends are held with sports, entertainment, exhibitions or work and discussions. At the end of schooling children rejoin their families and we aim to make this as smooth a transition as possible.

The Boys and Girls Towns are happy places with a strong community spirit. There is regular opportunity to join in leisure activities as well as having the chance of an education to benefit them in later years.

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HAVE YOU THOUGHT ABOUT LEAVING A LEGACY?

Imagine how you can give a child hope for the future and a real chance of happiness by leaving a gift in your Will



We are a small charity, but are able to make a huge difference through the generosity of those who support our work. Legacies represent future funding that helps The Joe Homan Charity to develop its work with its local Partners overseas.

Our Trustees are totally committed to helping more children escape from poverty, and to give them a future full of hope and opportunity. A bequest will help safeguard the future of need children, and enhance our charitable work as we find new and exciting projects.

A Will can safeguard the security of your loved ones, and making a Will is the only way to be certain that your wishes will be followed. Leaving a legacy to The Joe Homan Charity will safeguard the future of our work, and ensure that care and opportunity is provided for future generations. It is a chance to make a lasting contribution to the good causes you have supported in your lifetime. We hope you will consider for a moment how you can leave a Legacy for the Future.



Young children dream of going to school and leaving poverty behind by having a good job and a secure future. Many families hope this for them too.

A gift in your Will can make sure this happens

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Enclosed with this information Pack

Collection Box

Start collecting your small change today - it's surprising how quickly the pennies add up.



Lapel Badge

Please accept the enclosed lapel badge which we hope you will wear to help promote awareness of The Joe Homan Charity

It shows an Acacia Leaf, which has properties that can be likened to the ethos of our charity.

Acacias

- survive in poor soil - *just like most of our children*
- provide fuel, shade, and soil improvement - *just like our charity*
- grow best in groups - *just like our supporters*
- come back when branches are cut off - *just as we raise more funds to support new projects*



Fridge Magnet

This useful fridge magnet is in two parts; the outer section is perfect as a frame for the latest photo of your sponsored child, while the inner section pops out and can be used as a separate magnet



Car Sticker

Display your car sticker and help raise awareness.

Smiles brighten up everyone's day !

The Joe Homan Charity Miles of Smiles

Bringing Hope and Opportunity

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And Finally. . . Please Pass It On



The best way to help The Joe Homan Charity is to tell others about the children and how we help them. Your own enthusiasm can be powerful and extremely infectious.



Show people the cards, letters, and photographs, you receive from your sponsored child in India or Thailand, and share your joy in their progress.



Once you have finished reading our newsletter, *Nandri*, pass it on to your friend or neighbour.

Please let us know if you need any extra copies.



Invite your friends or fellow club members to help you with a fundraising event.

Make sure they know what their efforts will achieve for the youngsters.

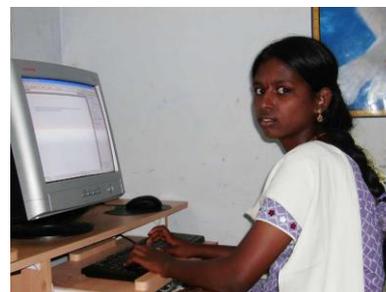


Introduce the Charity to your Family, Friends, Colleagues, Church, Club, or School, and ask if they would like a talk about the Charity's work.



Always include a link to our website when mailing your contacts.

www.joehoman.org.uk



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