

# CHCT Newsletter

FOR SUPPORTERS OF THE CATRIONA HARGREAVES CHARITABLE TRUST

Issue number twenty-three

spring 2013

## SEEDS OF HOPE

### Brighter life for forgotten kids



**CHCT is giving its support to an inspiring new charity bringing education and health-care to slum children in Africa.**

The Mustard Seed project—because it just grows and grows—was founded by a caring British couple appalled by what they saw on a visit to Kenya. Rita Fowler, herself a qualified nurse and primary teacher, explained: “Education is free there but the cost of uniforms, shoes and books rules it out for much of the population.

“In Mombasa we saw a so-called informal school where two young untrained teachers were struggling without official support.

“We had never seen nothingness before and knew we could not walk away when we had skills to offer—my husband Geoff is a civil engi-

neer with wide experience in non-profit work.”

*Mustard Seed’s British trustees work through a foundation with five Kenyan members and in just four years have transformed the local community.*

Their new school Miche Bora is up and running with a full teaching staff, cooks providing meals, and evening classes in job skills for adults. Out of school they are

*School’s in . . . some of the pupils eager to learn running a sports club, rubbish clearance programme and provision of mosquito nets to families. Not to mention a new well bringing fresh water for everyone. But still that’s not enough for Rita.*

She said: “Recently a pupil’s mother died leaving four children. Simple antibiotics would have saved her, but she couldn’t afford medicine.”

So the next move is to set up a free clinic which CHCT trustees have agreed to fund with a £2,000 grant. It will provide healthcare and family planning as well as treating minor ailments of pupils, referring them to a doctor when necessary.

Like CHCT, Mustard Seed is a grass-roots charity with 97p in every pound it collects going to those who need it.

● MORE info on their website at [www.mustardseedproject.co.uk](http://www.mustardseedproject.co.uk)



*Miche Bora . . . every happy school needs a giant hula hoop, right?*

## ARE YOU ON EMAIL?

Supporters receiving the newsletter by email can get full colour, sharper pictures—and save the charity on postage

ADOBE PDF READER REQUIRED. TO REGISTER JUST EMAIL THE EDITOR AT [LONG.BARN2@BTINTERNET.COM](mailto:LONG.BARN2@BTINTERNET.COM)



# BLOOMIN' GREAT!

A TREAT for garden fans blossomed into nearly £500 for CHCT when world-renowned head gardener Fergus Garrett (left) gave a fascinating talk about his work.

Fergus is the inspiration behind the widely admired country-house gardens at Great Dixter in Northiam, Sussex.

He enthralled a packed room at the Bull Inn in nearby Benenden with his passion for plants and

planting schemes much of which had been inspired by his great friend and mentor at Dixter, the late Christopher Lloyd.

He gave his time free and the pub's owners, Mark and Lucy, also provided the room and delicious refreshments without charge.

Thanking Fergus, CHCT Trustee Graham Tippen, who also volunteers at Great Dixter summed up the talk in one word: "Wow!"

# Spitting image

## Quick checks beat TB

**SPEND a second and it might well save your life—surely the best offer anyone could get.**

It's now available, thanks to CHCT and its sister charity Target TB, to villagers in a remote area of Malawi where conventional clinics are out of reach,

With a £2,500 grant from our supporters' contributions, a dozen roadside sputum testing stations have been set up where local people can give a sample for TB testing without losing time off work.

Volunteers bike the samples for testing at the nearest hospital, where results come back in just three days to start treatment. Since one person with TB can infect 15 others in a year, thousands of potential victims are protected.

Malawi currently has one of the world's highest TB rates and the Bwanje Valley is one of its poorest regions, with 84per cent of families living below the poverty line.

*One of the first to benefit from the charity's programme was 14-year-old Nelia, pictured right with her mum .*

Their home in Komboni village is a long way down a dusty track, far from the main road. The nearest clinic is two hours' travel away—if you can afford to get there, which most people can't. Nelia had



*Saliva live-O . . . collection volunteers at the ready*

always been strong and full of energy, carrying water for her family and helping out in the maize field when she got home from school.

So, when she suddenly became too weak to even lift a bucket,

alarm bells rang and drugs, which proved useless, were bought from a local shop.

*Luckily their neighbour, Grace, had trained as one of Target TB's volunteer carers.*

Equipped with her new skills and some basic medical supplies, Grace was able to take a sample of Nelia's sputum straight away at a nearby collection point.

Nelia had to swallow strong antibiotics every day for eight months and got shunned by schoolfriends frightened off by her disease—but she's now fully recovered and doing well in class.



# A KNIGHT TO REMEMBER



**DINNER** guests at John and Mary Oakley's home (left) were served by a butler with a difference--CHCT's patron Sir Nick Fenn.

Dr Oakley, the charity's treasurer, had bid at an auction of promises to have a superb seven-course meal professionally cooked for them.

They then invited five couples to join them for the spread washed down by champagne, wine and port. The evening raised £330 for CHCT.

# Dr G's casebook

**Dr R GANAPATI** of the Bombay Leprosy Project has sent CHCT detailed reports of how the charity's support is improving life for India's impoverished leprosy patients.

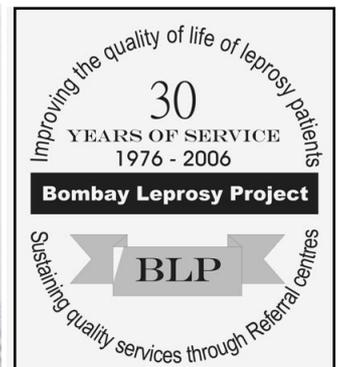
He describes the case of MN, a 22-year-old from Mahim-Dharavi in Mumbai which is said to be Asia's biggest slum. MN had been suffering for almost a year with a claw hand caused by leprosy, which went undetected despite his approaching a private skin specialist.

The dermatologist started him on treatment without informing the patient about the diagnosis of his disease or the ways and means to prevent further damage to the limb.

*It was only when MN came to BLP's referral centre, which receives funding from CHCT, that his condition was properly identified.*

He was immediately put on MDT and Prednisolone along with active physiotherapy. There was dramatic improvement in the claw hand but it is still a long way to go for the patient, who may not regain his normal hand function as completely as if proper treatment had begun earlier.

Dr Ganapati commented: "There never seems to be a dearth of patients to spend money and seek health service from the uninformed



*Lifeline...Dr Ganapati and some of his patients at the Bombay centre* physicians and specialists of the private sector.

"A large number of patients were referred to us for various reasons like diagnostic problems, not responding to conventional therapy, worsening of deformity or suspected relapses. In the centre,

bacteriological examination wherever necessary is done. Patients with complications like severe reactions or nerve damage are admitted into local hospitals with whom BLP has collaboration.

"We are grateful for the help of CHCT's generous supporters."

# 'Extinct' leprosy keeping us busy

## THE CATRIONA HARGREAVES CHARITABLE TRUST Registered number 1064838

If you wish to help the charity's work for remote and forgotten people in places where disease and poverty meet please send a cheque, payable to CHCT, to: Mill House, Claygate, Kent TN12 9PE  
Taxpayers can help us reclaim extra cash from the Treasury if they kindly fill in and enclose this form.

**I am a UK taxpayer and want the Catriona Hargreaves Charitable Trust to reclaim tax on all my donations.**

Signed.....

Date.....

Name.....

Address.....

.....

.....

Postcode.....

### STANDING ORDER FORM

To the Manager (Name of Bank).....

Branch Address.....

.....Postcode.....

Please pay Catriona Hargreaves Charitable Trust (CHCT)

£.....(amount in words).....

every month/ quarter/year (delete as applicable)

starting on (date).....until further notice

Name.....

Address.....

Postcode.....

A/c no..... Sort code.....

#### FOR BANK USE

TO: National Westminster Bank PLC, P.O. Box 4,  
3 High Street, Maidstone, Kent ME14 1YU

Monies from this standing order should be credited to:

The Catriona Hargreaves Charitable Trust (CHCT)

A/c no 46572406 Sort Code 60-60-08



THE Bombay Leprosy Project has had a busy year despite the World Health Organisation's boast of "wiping out" the disease.

Director Dr V.V.Pai points out that clinical problems continue to occur amongst a significant proportion of treated patients.

BLP relies heavily on the £5,000-a-year grant it receives from CHCT, largely raised by Elke Day's bric-a-brac sales in Yalding (see below).

■ *WE'VE said heartfelt thanks to the trustees' treasurer, Dr John Oakley, who stood down last year upon his retirement to Cornwall.*

John was a founder trustee of the charity when Cecil Hargreaves was our chairman, and from those very early days he became a respected voice in committee and as treasurer. He guided us all through the various regulations regarding charities and also the general opacity of the banking system.

The charity will miss his considered and practical view on all trustee deliberations and we wish John and Mary every happiness in their new life. We welcome Maureen Barrett who is taking his place as a trustee and treasurer.

*Cynthia Stanford*

## BRIC-A-BRAC

Good quality curios and household items on sale with all proceeds going to local charities

**Come in and have a browse or bring along those unwanted gifts**

**(no used clothing please.)**

OPEN 10am to 1pm ON FARMERS' MARKET DAY (THIRD SATURDAY EACH MONTH)

AT THE COACH HOUSE BARN IN  
YALDING HIGH STREET