

Children United!

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[www.childrenunited.btck.co.uk](http://www.childrenunited.btck.co.uk)

Newsletter - June 2017

Lots to tell you! MOST exciting of all, is that Clarrie Jackson is now out in India. A few years ago, whilst still at school, Clarrie raised some money which went to help the girls at Munnar. Earlier this year, Clarrie decided that she wanted to go out to visit the project and Leicester University kindly paid for her flight! To raise some more money, she (with a lot of help from family and friends) organised a musical soiree. It was a fabulous evening and financially, a HUGE success, raising well over £2000.00! Clarrie has now been at Munnar for over a week, and is obviously having the most fantastic time. To follow her and share the experience, visit:-

[www.mytravelstoindiablog.wordpress.com](http://www.mytravelstoindiablog.wordpress.com)

OffToMunnar

[www.mytravelstoindiablog.wordpress.com](http://www.mytravelstoindiablog.wordpress.com)

My travels to India

Even without all of Clarrie's money in yet, we have already raised nearly £5500 this year. A lot of this comes from extremely kind people who give us a monthly standing order donation and we have had two new such people join us recently. Just £5.00 a month will pay for nearly 2000 school dinners in a year! (Yes, really!) Every penny goes to the children and you can choose how / where you would like your money spent.

We are very fortunate to be supported by various ladies' groups, and recent donations from Corby Inner Wheel and Raunds Women's Institute, will go to help the children at Thayagam Women's Refuge.

Various schools continue to enthusiastically help 'their' projects in India - some now for many, many years. I've recently been to three new schools. Firstly, to talk about dirty water to Year 1 at St James School and the children collected an amazing £98.19 in pennies for the orphanage at Kodai Kanal. Years 3 & 4 at Pattishall School collected £66.33 in pennies, even before I had visited them to talk about People in Christianity! Their money will go to feed the toddlers at Batlagundu crèche.

The children at Boughton School are very excited! - they are starting a brand new project! All we know at the moment, is that it is a new Children's Boarding in Batlagundu. The building is under construction and the first intake of 50 children are temporarily living in my friend Jeya's office! I will update the website with more information as I get it.

I'm looking forward to my annual "India Day" visit to Weston Favell School later this month. This involves the lady teachers just loving dressing up in saris and the children having the most fabulous day, despite getting a little wet trying to drink like the children do in India. They will also be making a penny trail, with all the proceeds going to Paravai Orphanage to pay for the children's food, education and clothing - including pants! (Pants = click on link below)

<http://www.childrenunited.btck.co.uk/Currentprojects/ParavaiOrphanageRefuge>

VERY EXCITING NEWS!!!! I'm going out to India again in October / November. It will be 25 years since my first visit, so a bit of a celebration as well. I will be creating a new website (address to follow shortly!) to cover the trip and will update it whilst out there, so you can follow us and see the latest photos etc. from 'your' project. You can see the website from when Mrs Johnson from St. Loys School went to visit their project at Thangachimadam at:-

[www.whatwehadtoeattoday.btck.co.uk](http://www.whatwehadtoeattoday.btck.co.uk)

I will be taking artwork from the schools we work with - how exciting is it to see a poster you drew, on the wall at 'your' project out in India? Plus see the actual children you are feeding, or the games / sports equipment / books / school uniforms etc you have paid for?

Interestingly, I've just been updating our website and was amazed to see that our 'Facts about India' page has been visited 93,716 times! If only we could charge just 1p to visit our website, what a huge increase in our income that would be!

Finally, if you happened to have heard Clarrie and I recently on Radio Northampton, don't worry! Despite being introduced as "CEO of Children United!" (I very very nearly laughed out loud!) I can confirm that I am not, repeat not, sitting in a plush office, driving an expensive company car or indeed, drawing a Chief Executive Officer's salary!

Best wishes, Julie.