



**Chair's basic Annual Report
for the Year ending 30th September 2018
to the Friends of the Poor in South India
Annual General Meeting
held at Christ Church, Blackfriars Road, London.
Wednesday 12th 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 17th November 2008 and a letter from the Charity Commission dated 25th 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 Sate 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 30th 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 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.

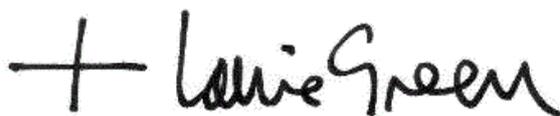
Our work continues to expand with emphasis on micro credit projects and such educational and building projects which underpin this employment-creating process. For our ongoing work we rely increasingly on the regularity of generous donations often made by Standing Order.

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 micro-credit 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 30th September 2018.

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

Laurie Green ~ Chair. 30th November 2018