

Asian Aid USA

NEWSLETTER | SPRING 2009

ASI Member since 2002



Help a Child - TODAY!

There are many exciting things happening at Asian Aid USA as you will see from the articles inside ... the service of Bernard Chapman and his family is fantastic and has really been appreciated in India ... Helen's day at the beach ... the treasured moments of a blind child with his Talking Bible ... and Asian Aid USA's support of four ministers who are doing great evangelism work.

Asian Aid USA's new Board has made a major commitment to growth in order to be able to support more children. Personally, I am very excited to be the new CEO of Asian Aid USA and seek your feedback on how we can work with our supporters to grow our support of the needy. Please feel free to contact me at anytime with feedback ... Jim Rennie, *CEO Asian Aid USA*

The Chapman Family Return to India

We arrived in India on January 4th and were well cared for at Elim Home. My children now look upon Elim as their second home. We checked 150 students at Elim, including Home residents and day students at the school. Wherever we went we felt welcome and were well cared for and fed! Apart from several Indian colds, we remained well! Elim seems a happy place.

We then travelled by a slow 'express' train on to Bobbili and the Blind School. The principal there seems very switched on to the needs of the children. Not all of the children were back from holidays but we were able to check most of them over the course of our stay there. While staying at Bobbili we travelled with Varma to Baljipeta, his village clinic (Gollipalli), Sunrise Home and the Leper colony. Travelling and working with Varma is always a privilege and a pleasure. He is a very busy man and we felt bad about him giving up his precious time to take us to the various schools etc.

On Friday afternoon he took us out to a small village on the edge of a large dam. He was distributing blankets for Asian Aid. It was a very poor fishing village and the people were very grateful and welcoming. Their water situation is appalling and I have talked with Varma and their village leader about installing proper wells and a pump on each well. That alone would improve their health alot and would not cost much in Australian terms. It was a pleasant relaxing afternoon in the middle of our busy schedule.

After the weekend we travelled on to Jeypore in Orissa. It is perhaps the place I enjoyed the most. Nilmani, the school nurse, was a delight to work with. She could speak and understand good English, knew all about the children at the school, and was very keen to learn. And learn she did. It was a pleasure working with her. She was also very good at following the treatments recommended for the children. We checked 583 children there. The children were lovely and we got to know two of our sponsored children.

We then went back to Bobbili. We were blessed with another unplanned rest day - which we really needed. We took the opportunity to climb the nearby hill with some of the partially sighted students - 25 of them. They seemed to really enjoy that.

We then travelled to Rajanagaram. The facilities for the children need improving and we were glad to see the steps that are being taken. We checked 149 students, and I then spent some time with some of the staff. That was always required, and this gave my family opportunity to talk and play with the children; while I continued to work I might add!!

The next day we travelled to Ibrahimpattam. We checked 717 students there, as well as quite a few staff. It was very busy. The deans at this school are lovely and helped immensely in our work. The male 'nurse' was very

good at carrying out treatments, having trained for two years in pharmacy.

I pointed out to the staff several things that needed attention and was delighted that the principal had taken action to improve them before we left. My girls had a great time playing and talking with the students. We met another two of our sponsored children and there were tears on leaving them.



Nurse Neelmani is a wonderful help as Dr Chapman and his family assess the health of the children at Jeypore School.

In all we checked the health of 2087 children. We estimate that at least 75% of these were Asian Aid sponsored children. When we checked the children, Julia and the girls would first do many of the basic assessments (height, weight, eye tests, skin, teeth etc) and interview the children asking if they had any particular health problem. All of this information would be recorded and then the children would come to me. I would look at the information on the form and then check their ears, heart, lungs, abdomen and anything else appropriate for each child.

Some of them would go back to Brenna

for checking of their BP, Sugar, urine or Malaria Quick Check Test.

The system worked pretty well. Our record was 210 children checked in one day.

At the end of my ramblings regarding our trip to India I have a few thoughts & suggestions. Asian Aid is a wonderful organization - I have never had reason to criticize you guys and everyone in India sings your praises!

- Tell all your donors their money is very well and very carefully spent - on children in India. This changes their lives in a huge way - for God.
- Tell the sponsors that 'their children' appreciate them very, very much and pray for them often.
- Encourage the schools and homes to develop a medical record for each child.
- Some steps to improve knowledge of basic first aid would be fantastic.

Visitors to the schools and Homes should spend some time talking with the children. They like that and you will find out something about their care. Don't let Asian Aid lose its "personal touch".

If I were to go to India again, and my family will insist on it, I would perhaps take a more educational approach with the nurses/staff to enable them to better care for the children.

Yours sincerely

Dr Bernard Chapman and Family

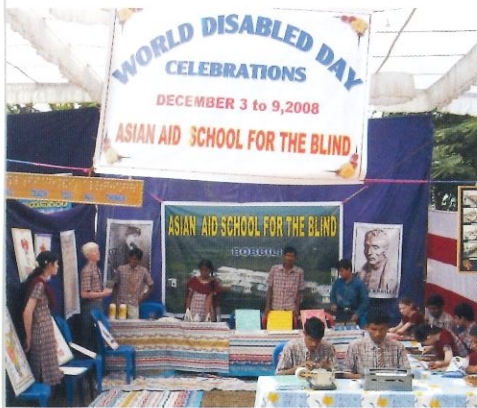
Blind Students listen to their Talking Bibles

We want to thank those of you who donated to our request last year for donations for Talking Bibles for the blind children. The big children now all have their own Bible and for them it is something to be really treasured. Thank you so much for those who sacrificed to give this special treasure to our blind students.

Srinu Gollapalli excitedly listens to his new Bible. >



World Disabled Day celebrated at Bobbili



The Bobbili Blind School was on display when the students participated in World Disabled Day in January. The event was actually scheduled over a number of days where there were sporting events with other disabled school children, a school open day and a booth set up in the nearby city of Vizianagaram. Many dignitaries visiting the booth were impressed with the quality of the teaching materials and also the children's English language skills. The students were appreciated by all who met them and the events were widely publicised in the newspapers across the city and surrounding areas.

To the beach for the first time

I think the nicest experience I have had for a while was a trip to the beach. When I was in India last, we hired two mini buses and took 75 children to the seashore – hardly any of this group had ever seen the sea before so they were amazed and excited. The children were from the Sunshine Orphanage and from the Siddi African/Indian community who are studying in the James Memorial School in South India.

They were all dressed in their best clothes but it did not take them long to all be in the water – they splashed and had the grandest time. It was such fun just watching and listening to their laughter. We finished the day with a stop at a small factory where they make halva sweets, that also was a special treat for them.

It doesn't take much to give happiness to children who have nothing.

Boys stare in awe and wonder at their first ever view of the ocean.



Asian Aid USA Board, left to right: Mr. Roger Keaton, Mr. Peter Truscott, Mr. Dittu Abraham, Mr. Jim Rennie, Mr. Gareth Rees, Mrs. Naomi Davis, Mr. Gale Wehling, Mr. Carl Ginger, Mrs. Sharon Heise and Mr. John Truscott.

New Asian Aid USA Board meets.

The new Asian Aid board met in Lincoln Nebraska on March 5th – 8th. Members woke up Sabbath morning to a snow fall, this created excitement from the Australian board members who live in areas that do not get snow.

Asian Aid USA is now fully functioning under the international structure. Asian Aid International is the overall lead organization with both Asian Aid Australia and Asian Aid USA having separate boards for each country. A new Chairman, Mr. John Truscott, was elected. John is an accountant and resides in Sacramento. New board members at their first meeting included Mr. Roger Keaton (GC Auditor from Atlanta), Mr. Jim Rennie (Business Consultant Knoxville) Mr. Gale Wheeling (Farmer Washington KS) and John Truscott (Accountant Sacramento)

Out going Chairman Gareth Rees remains on the USA Board and as a representative on the International Board. The board passed a special motion to thank Gareth for his service as Chairman.

The board spent time to developing strategic plans and is committed to growth of Asian Aid USA.

New Asian Aid USA CEO

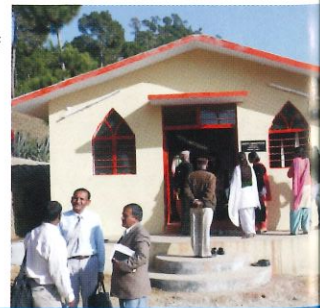


The Asian Aid Board at its March meeting also appointed Mr. Jim Rennie as CEO Asian Aid USA. Jim has wide management experience in business and marketing.

Jim is from New Zealand but now lives in Knoxville, TN where he operates a business and marketing consultancy. Jim will be responsible for all operations of Asian Aid USA and give focus to strategic planning and marketing.

Karsog Community Centre dedicated

In November 2008, Mr. Gareth Rees of Asian Aid USA, had the privilege of visiting this new community center with a health screening group. Gareth reported that it was very pleasing to attend the dedication on behalf of Asian Aid who funded the building. The local Pastor who manages the Center is also an Asian Aid graduate from Spicer college.



Urgent motorbike for Pastor

Asian Aid CEO Jim Rennie reports that Asian Aid USA recently responded to an urgent call for a motorbike for a pastor in South India. A Honda Splendor motorcycle has been purchased. Pastor P. Yanadi Reddy is taking care of three churches with over 290 members and supervising 40 other churches.

There is no public transport and no roads in some areas. Asian Aid USA was able to respond quickly so that he has this important transportation. If you would like to help with this ministry, send us gifts or donations marked for 'Motorbikes for Pastors project'.

Five daughters and no mother to care for them

Mr Raman Naidu is a poor labourer in the Baljipeta area in India. He earns approximately \$2 a day when he gets work, and there are many days when he cannot. In 2003 his wife gave birth to twin girls, Renuka and Jeevana. What a joy to their hearts were this precious pair. Then less than two years later, his wife delivered triplet girls, Rupavathi, Ravathi and Rohini. Mrs Naidu had difficulties after the delivery and as there was no money for hospital care she died from complications of the birth.

In India it is a huge burden to have so many daughters as custom demand that the parents

supply a dowry for the daughters to get married. Many parents struggle under enormous financial burden to meet this demand. Mr Naidu loves his daughters so much that he has decided not to marry again, for often in India a step mother would mistreat their step children. Somehow, all alone he has struggled and his five beautiful daughters are a real credit to him. The twins are now 6 years old and the triplets are 4. Sponsorship of these girls and others similar is needed so please contact us if you would like to be a sponsor.

The twins – Renuka and Jeevana – are proud of their dad >



Nookalavada village elder expresses gratitude to Asian Aid



Bernard Chapman helps distribute blankets.

Pappa Rao, village elder from the Nookalavada was delighted that Dr Chapman and his family took time to visit with the people in his village and to share with them. "We understood the message delivered by Dr B J Chapman about the better making use of water and keeping our surroundings neat and clean (sanitation). We pledge to implement the message and improve our living conditions and teach the same to our future generations. The message is inspiring and easy to understand." he said.

This fishing village is located close to the shore of the river so that the villagers can keep a close eye on their fishing equipment. The houses are made of thatch material and during the rainy season

many of the huts get very wet. The families living there find it difficult to keep dry and many of them get sick from the cold and also from mosquito borne diseases. While they were visiting Nookalavada, the Chapman family assisted in the distribution of blankets to the villagers.

"During the night due to cold wind, we find it difficult to sleep. We generally get up at the early hours around 4 am to go hunting for fish and come back only by mid day. Getting up at the early hours is very difficult in any season, but especially when it is cold. We were really finding it difficult, but now that these blankets have come to our rescue we can get up and do our work. All that have received them express their happiness." says Papa Rao.

Asian Aid USA gives special support to four ministers in Bellary region, South Central India

Asian Aid USA has committed to support four Adventist ministers in South Central India. These men desperately needed support so they could continue the work they are doing in difficult circumstances. Asian Aid USA ask you to pray for these Pastors and if you would like to support them please send your donation marked 'Pastors' Wages'.



Gundappa. M is married to Anita and has three children .He is caring for three villages. In June and July 2008, he conducted a series of Evangelistic meetings at chikkotnekal, He visited every home of a Hindu, Muslim, and Methodist Christian believers and encouraged them to attend the evening meetings. Finally 22 people were baptized.

In September and October 2008 in another village he conducted Bible studies and Evangelistic meetings. God opened the door and 48 people were baptized. Members gather in a house and worship every Sabbath.



Mr. Vijay Kumar aged 52 is married and his wife is a house mother with four children. He is taking care of Kerebudnur and apparel village churches. He conducted series of Evangelistic meeting in Kerebudnur. It is a Hindu village and his work visiting homes and giving Bible studies led to an evangelistic meeting where 38 people were baptized.



Mr. Jayasheelan. M is working and caring for Gangavathi and Hosalli village churches.

They currently worship under a tree. The union has sent funds towards the purchase of the church

land and they plan to build a church. They request your prayers.



Mr. Naveen Kumar is caring for Bailmarchad and BM camp village churches. He conducted evangelistic meeting in Bailmarchad, which is Hindu dominated village. They were very strong idle worshippers. They accepted Jesus as their Savior and 32 people

were baptized. Now they all gather every Sabbath in a member's house.

Helen Eager and visitors in car accident in Australia

On Monday March 23rd in the evening Helen Eager and colleagues from Bangladesh (Sajol Halder and his wife Shipra) were involved in a motor vehicle accident. All are now doing well and we can praise God for His protection.

It would seem that Helen had not long picked up Sajol and Shipra from the Port Macquarie airport and was heading home along the Oxley Highway when a car swerved into her lane, causing a head on accident. The team were transported to Port Macquarie Base Hospital. The driver of the other car sustained facial lacerations, soft tissue injuries and whiplash. Sajol and Shipra both sustained soft tissue injuries from the impact. They were discharged the next night and have now returned to Bangladesh.

After a few days in intensive care, she was transferred to the general ward and is expected to be home by time this newsletter reaches you. Thank you all who have prayed with us for Helens recovery, we praise God for his healing.

Messages can be sent via the Asian Aid USA office PO Box 141, Auburn, NE 68305, or email through contact@asianaid.org.au

Please keep Helen in your prayers.

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED



Help a Child - TODAY!

My Gift to Asian Aid USA

Please use my Gift for:

- | | |
|--|----|
| <input type="radio"/> Unrestricted (use where needed most) | \$ |
| <input type="radio"/> Project Development (develop new projects and improve existing ones) | \$ |
| <input type="radio"/> Administrative Expenses (covers office expenses) | \$ |
| <input type="radio"/> Health Program (Health project in Nepal) | \$ |
| <input type="radio"/> Hungry Money (\$4.00 per month for each person on the program) | \$ |
| <input type="radio"/> Un-sponsored Child (help a child without making a commitment) | \$ |
| <input type="radio"/> Continued support of child(ren) whom you already sponsor | \$ |
| <input type="radio"/> Other (use my Gift for a project that's not on this list) | \$ |

New Child Sponsorship:

A representative from our office will send information to you about your child(ren)

- | | | | | | |
|---------------|--|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------|------------------------------|----|
| \$40 monthly: | <input type="radio"/> Deaf Student | <input type="radio"/> Blind Student | <input type="radio"/> College | <input type="radio"/> Orphan | \$ |
| \$40 monthly: | <input type="radio"/> Boarding plus Student | | | | \$ |
| \$30 monthly: | <input type="radio"/> Boarding Student | | | | \$ |
| \$25 monthly: | <input type="radio"/> Day Student plus (includes mid-day meal) | | | | \$ |
| \$20 monthly: | <input type="radio"/> Day Student | | | | \$ |
| Total | | | | | \$ |

Donor Information:

- My payment is: monthly quarterly a one-time donation
- Payment type: cash check credit card
- Name on card: Mr Mrs Ms Miss _____
- Card number _____ Exp. Date: _____
- Card type: Visa Amex MasterCard
- Your name: _____
- Address: _____
- City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____
- Telephone: _____ Email: _____

Asian Aid USA

is a part of Asian Aid International. We are a Christian, charitable agency that is committed to making a difference in the lives of children and people who live in poverty. By linking people in donor nations with needy children in India, Nepal and Bangladesh, we give the opportunity of receiving a Christian education to those who would otherwise grow up illiterate. We are providing educational and vocational training opportunities to those in need by working with governments, Adventist Churches and other partners.

Asian Aid USA is a member of ASI (Adventist-Layman's Services & Industries) and is an accredited supporting ministry to the Seventh-day Adventist Church. We are dedicated to sharing God's love by addressing the causes of poverty and through empowering the poor regardless of religion, ethnicity, political beliefs or gender.

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