

St.Vincent de Paul Society

THIS IS WHAT WE DO (Overseas) **Southwark Central Council Twinnage 2005/6**

In the 12-month period 1 April 2005 to 31 March 2006 a total of £53,000 has been contributed to Twinnage from within Southwark. It is the International Policy of the SVP that Developed Countries Twin with Specific underdeveloped Countries.

The distribution of our Indian Twinned Conferences is as follows:

Kerala	69	Orissa	6
Andhra Pradesh	33	Bihar	1
Tamil Nadu	28	Jharkhand	3
West Bengal	3	Total	143

In England & Wales a total of 1625 Conferences are Twinned

Projects: 14 new projects were received in 2005/6:

GOAT BANKS	3	HOUSE BUILDING	1
COW BANKS	3	SELF HELP see below	3
TAILORING CENTRES	4	TOTAL	14.

SELF HELP IS INTEREST FREE LOANS TO START SMALL BUSINESS PROJECTS.

Tsunami Disaster:

Within 24 hours of the disaster local Indian Conference members had accommodated over 1,000 children who had been separated from their families. The Indian SVP carefully considered that the best way forward was to establish a future for the victims and that this should be achieved by financing and therefore ensuring the education of orphans. During my visit to India at the time and as the member of the National Twinnage Committee responsible for Student Sponsorship I was presented with a request to raise the necessary funds in England & Wales. The emphasis has therefore been on providing support through sponsorship for education and needs to these members who have engaged in this work. I am happy to report that nationally we raised over £500K paid/committed over the five year period that sponsorship was requested for and are currently meeting the needs of some 2,960 orphans.

A total of 594 sponsorships were obtained from within the Southwark CC area. A total of £30K has so far been paid towards this Appeal. The value of the sponsorships over the 5 years is £96K plus a potential tax refund of £19K from those gift-aided.

Of particular interest is the fact that £88K (92%) of the income has come from non-SVP accounts, i.e. outside the Society and individuals. This has been a new venture on behalf of Twinnage and clearly suggests that there is funding to be obtained from outside sources with a little effort. Certainly the integrity of the SVP in the eyes of the general Catholic population is a very positive factor.

Sudan: Just over £2K was contributed to the work of SVP Twinnage in Sudan. The lives of many Sudanese children literally depend on our fundraising and you will hear more (much more!) of our Appeal in the near future. There are Conferences available for Twinning from Sudan.

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