

# HELPLANKA

UK REGISTERED CHARITY NO. 1110306

[www.helplanka.co.uk](http://www.helplanka.co.uk)

## ANNUAL REPORT, FINDINGS, OBSERVATIONS AND SUMMARY OF ACTIVITIES 2005 – 2006

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# HELP US HELP THEM HELPLANKA

After The Tsunami devastated the coastline of Sri Lanka in December 2004 a group of 7 people based in the UK with Sri Lankan links decided to set up a charity to keep the rebuilding of Sri Lanka at the top of the agenda.

Help Lanka is not a disaster relief charity- it is a structured, long term autonomous charity managed by a dedicated group of people with links back in Sri Lanka on the ground. Helplanka is dedicated in providing long term assistance to children in Sri Lanka across the island through education and financing education related projects. At the beginning of 2005 Helplanka provided food, clothing, medicine, counselling and much needed educational assistance and training.



Over 10,000 children have now been helped by Helplanka since its inception. Helplanka has worked with established experienced partners in Sri Lanka and the UK including : The National Child Protection Authority, The UK Sri Lanka Trauma Group, Sewalanka, Adopt Sri Lanka, Jigsaw International, SHILPA, Sri Lanka Red Cross, Schools Relief Initiative, Sri Lankan Airlines, International Childcare Trust, National Christian Council of Sri Lanka, British High Commission Colombo, Healing Hands, Wye Valley Tsunami Fund, MD Gunasenas, Teardrop Relief, IDM, Foundation of Goodness, SERVE, New Theatre Works, through whom we have been able to provide professional , structured assistance and have been able to ensure that the most needy and deserving children are reached and practically helped.

# ACHIEVEMENTS IN 2005

1. Registration of Helplanka as a charity in the UK no 1110306
2. Donations of 25,000 pounds distributed and applied
3. 3 Trustee visits to Sri Lanka in 2005
4. Emergency relief aid dispatched to Sri Lanka
5. Website for the charity designed & created
6. Trustees appointed to Helplanka and Directors and Patrons
7. Shipments of computers
8. Shoe box appeal launched and delivered
9. School Twinning programme launched and implemented
10. 3 Fundraising events held in the UK
11. Involvement of the Sri Lanka High Commission in the UK, UK MPs and UK SL Press
12. Establishment of key Partners in SL and UK
13. Establishment of contacts in East Coast of SL
14. Meetings with British Council and British High Commission in SL set up
15. Education programmes to Zoo organized
16. 100 Orphans sponsored in Hambantota
17. Projects set up in Hambantota District
18. Financial support for St Mary's Convent Matara set up and implemented
19. Rugby coaching programme implemented in Panadura
20. Sponsorship by Claro Training , Adopt Sri Lanka, Crown Agents set up
21. Partnership arrangements set up with IDM to provide IT training
22. Sponsored a series of bereavement counseling workshops in Sri Lanka with UK children meeting SL children via Jigsaw
23. Helplanka Directors and advisory Committee set up
24. Joint projects with charity partners implemented

## SO WHO ARE WE?

**UK PATRONS:** Mr. Tom Brake MP  
Mr. Paul Burstow MP

**SRI LANKA PATRONS:** Mr. Bathiya Jayakody  
Mr. Santhush Weeraman

**TRUSTEES:** Mr. Sam Goonetillake - Chief Executive  
Mr. Sanjaya Kodituwakku – Treasurer  
Ms Dinesha Mendis  
Mr. Ravi Ravindra  
Mr. Keith Hall  
Mr. Roshantha Perera

**DIRECTORS/ NON EXECUTIVE TRUSTEES:**

Mr. Sunimal Goonetillake  
Ms Marcela Miheliokva  
Mrs. Sherrine Dassanayake  
Mr. Dilantha Goonetillake  
Ms Sarah Thomas  
Ms Kate Moore  
Ms Veronica Mc Kenna  
Mr. Presantha Dassanayake  
Mr. Shehan Goonetillake

**SRI LANKA COORDINATORS:**

Moratuwa: Mrs. Susima Peiris  
Panadura: Mrs. Karuna Perera  
Galle: Mr. Nalinda De Silva  
Matara/ Hambantota: Mr. Lahiru De Silva  
Batticaloa: Mr. C Pathmanathan

## **HELPLANKA ADVISORY COMMITTEE :**

Child Psychology and Trauma Counselling

Dr Anula Nikapota, Mr. Kuhan Satkunanayagam, Dr Shamil Wanigaratne, Dr Harriet Calvert, Dr Kanthi Karalliede, Dr Shanthi Paraeswaran, Dr Sounthy Perinpanayagam, Dr T Rasamuthiah, Dr S Srikumar, Dr Athula Sumathipala, Dr Rachel Tribe, Ms Dilanthi Weerasinghe, Professor William Yule, Dr Keerthi Galappatti.

### **IT and Training**

Sanjaya Siriwardena -IT Educational Consultant

### **SOCIAL WORK & CHILD CARE SPECIALISTS UK**

Christina Moore - Child Support Specialist  
Nigel Larcombe-Williams - Child Abuse Prevention Specialist  
Anne Moore - Adoption & Foster Care Specialist

*"If beings knew... the fruit of sharing gifts, they would not enjoy their use without sharing them..." Buddhism. Itivuttaka 18*

## ■ OUR OBJECTIVES

Help Lanka's objective is to assist children affected by the tsunami by meeting the longer term needs of all those who may suffer financial, educational and social hardship regardless of race, religion or creed.

We aim to provide practical, culturally fitting, long term assistance to enable children to Help them to Help Themselves to have a better future.

We are different in that we are only children focused and provide feedback by project to all donors.

We help ALL communities within Sri Lanka and are not affiliated to any political or religious organizations.

**" I am only one  
But still I am one  
I cannot do everything, but still I can do something,  
And just because I cannot do everything, I will not refuse to do the something I can do..... "**

**Helen Keller**

# HELPLANKA FACT SHEET

UK Charity set up in January 2005

- Specific objective to help children in Sri Lanka affected by the Tsunami
- Long term charity to assist in education, food and shelter for children
- Helplanka has helped projects in Moratuwa, Panadura, Kalutara, Bentota, Galle, Rathgama, Hikkaduwa, Matara, Hambantota, Tissamaharama, Kirinda, Kalmunai, Bentota and Batticaloa
- Helplanka has a network of partners in Sri Lanka and the UK
- Helplanka administers a successful school twinning project with 25 schools in the UK and in Sri Lanka
- To date Helplanka has helped over 10000 children in Sri Lanka
- Successful projects to date include aid shipments, medical assistance and funding , computers for schools, volunteer programmes, counseling and rebuilding schools
- Helplanka have launched a counselling and trauma programme with UK Sri Lanka Trauma Group and Jigsaw4U
- Helplanka is committed to helping ALL communities in Sri Lanka
- Helplanka's advisory committee is composed of experienced social workers, childcare specialists and psychologists
- Helplanka have an interfaith Committee composed of Buddhists, Christians, Hindus and Muslims

- ❖ Helplanka have funded and launched a mobile Library for children
- ❖ Helplanka has funded IT scholarships
- ❖ Helplanka has provided a fishing boat
- ❖ Helplanka has provided a three wheel Taxi
- ❖ Helplanka has funded and run educational trips
- ❖ Helplanka has built a Pre School in Hambantota
- ❖ Helplanka has provided Computers, toys, books, sports equipment, musical instruments to an number of schools and orphanages in Sri Lanka
- ❖ Helplanka has provided training and counseling for its coordinators and volunteers/ carers
- ❖ Helplanka has built 11 houses for homeless people in Ahangama

*“Only those rich men are truly wealthy  
Who relieve the need of their neighbours. “ Tamil Quatrains 170*

# Projects

We aim to position Help Lanka as the leading agency for child development across Sri Lanka, primarily those whose lives have been affected by the Tsunami. We also aim to start to help communities and children inland from Tsunami areas and also rural areas affected by widespread poverty and this has been achieved in 2007.

Helplanka has been successful in keeping its overhead low and although has 6 coordinators locally in Sri Lanka the charity has only had to pay salaries for 2 coordinators and expenses for the remainder. Helplanka has also decided to not waste funding in office space in Sri Lanka and all the Trustees are non salaried offering their time, skills and experience free of charge.

The difficulty for Helplanka has been the lack of regular consistent funding to enable us to plan project implementation and provide permanent infrastructure and training to reach more children. From its inception Helplanka benefited from donations from friends, companies and schools mainly as a one off donation. The utilization of gift aid has enabled the charity to fund administration costs and pay salaries and overheads such as telephone and travel.

Helplanka does NOT own or run any projects itself apart from the Helplanka Mobile Library. The charity works with other NGOS and organizations in Sri Lanka and has identified the following geographical regions within the country where aid/ assistance / help has been forthcoming:

1. **Moratuwa** – De Soysa Vidyalaya , Janajaya, Uyana , Egoda Uyana, Podujaya , Saddamordaya , SERVE Centre, Mother Theresa Orphanage, St James Centre.
2. **Panadura** – St Anthony's Boys School St Anthony's Girls School
3. **Kalutara** – Sugatha Vidyalaya
4. **Bentota** – Aluthgama Vidyalaya New project : Rainbow Centre Bentota
5. **Beruwela** – new school Karandhagoda Vidyalaya
6. **Hikkaduwa** – Barnasooriya Boys Home, Joys Home Kahawa
7. **Dodanduwa** – New school : Sri Dammasara Piyarathna MV

8. **Rathgama** - Devapthiraja College, Sirisumana School. Ranapanadeniya School. Madawila School, Nirasha School, Rathgama Library. Three wheeler bought for local driver. Local house in Hegoda for volunteers set up and funded
9. **Galle** – Anula Devi School , Kalahe Gemunu School, Sambodhi Home for Special Needs Children,
10. **Ahangama** – 11 houses built for 11 families – 4 local schools to be helped
11. **Matara** – St Mary's Convent School, Healing hands Projects including Tea Estate worker children school in Deniyaya, Fishing boat donated to local Fisherman new project Rohana Deaf School
12. **Tangalle** - Nirmala Montessoori School. New project Deaf School
13. **Hambantota** – new pre school built Harriet House, Sarvodaya Pre school, Suriyawewa Vidyalaya, Girlys Pre school , 100 orphans sponsored
14. **Tissamaharama** – Andaragasyaya Vidyalaya, Osuwinna, Weerahela, Nadigamwila, Lakmalee Pre School
15. **Kirinda** – Al Hilal Pre school
16. **Batticaloa** – 4 schools assisted through Ramakrishna Mission & St Cecilia's Orphanage

### **HELPLANKA COMPLETED ACTIVITIES TO DATE:**

3000 shoeboxes of educational aid sent to school children in Moratuwa, Panadura, Hambantota, Tissamaharama and Matara enabling them to get back to school – January 2005 and January 2006

- 250 food rations distributed to rural children in Hambantota February 2005
- 1 Ton of Rice from the UK distributed to rural poor in Hambantota March 2005
- Medicines, Food, Milk powder and feeding bottles to 100 orphans distributed in Moratuwa February 2005
- Clothing, blankets, sheets, water purification tablets, tinned foods, packet foods and dried foods donated by people of Sutton Surrey

distributed island wide January 2005

- Letters, cards, pictures and toys distributed to 1500 children in Sri Lanka January 2005
- 500 pencils and pens distributed to children in Emergency Refugee Camps in Moratuwa and Batticaloa May 2005
- Sponsorship and supply of English Teacher for 1 year at school in Batticaloa May 2005
- Field Visit by Trustee from Helplanka Moratuwa February 2005
- Field visits and inspections by Help Lanka Coordinators and Interfaith Advisors January 2005, February 2005, March 2005 May 2005
- Field Visit by Helplanka Chief Executive May 2005

- 6 volunteers from the UK worked for 2 weeks at Helplanka project in Moratuwa July 2005
- Helplanka provided and distributed new desks, chairs and blackboards for preschool in Hambantota May 2005
- Sponsorship of 2 after school centres in Moratuwa May 2005
- Distribution of feeding bottles and baby requisites to orphans in Galle March 2005
- Provided funding for netball kits and equipment to a school in Matara May 2005
- Provided and distributed urgent food hampers to 100 rural children in Panadura March 2005
- Provided and arranged distribution of vacuum flasks, torches, feeding bottles, toothbrushes , toothpaste & soap for 100 children in Emergency Camp in Batticaloa
- Provided funding to provide food and accommodation for 40 orphans in Matara March 2005
- Field Visit and workshop by Bereavement counsellors in Moratuwa August 2005
- Sponsorship of Tangalle School trip for 100 September 2005
- Aid and medical supplies sent to Medical Mission in Colombo for distribution January 2005
- 10 boxes of toys and specialist equipment distributed to projects in Moratuwa and Galle February 2005
- First Aid Boxes and medicines given to all projects Sept 2005
- Tools, hardware, buckets, wheelbarrows and essential items distributed to Panadura schools Sept 2005
- Sinhala English Dictionaries distributed to Kalutara School Sept 2005
- Food and essential provisions distributed to Orphanage run by Sisters of Charity Moratuwa Sept 2005

- Framed posters given to 3 projects Sept 2005
- Cakes sweets and small toys distributed to projects
- A musical concert provided to Sarvodaya Montesoori pre school children Hambantota Sept 2205
- Funding given and plans approved by Adopt Sri Lanka to build a Montessori school in Hambantota which Helplanka will furnish and supply.
- 100 Tsunami affected children given bank accounts and registered with the NCPA Sept 2005
- Helplanka's second Field Visit sponsored by Claro Training Sept 2005
- Further cash donation for Social work projects given Sept 2005
- Third container of books, toys and 1000 shoe boxes sent for Xmas 2005
- 10 computers and printers sent to Sri Lanka November 2005
- 21 schools on Helplanka Schools Twinning Programme
- Presentations to 6 schools about Helplanka
- Tsunami Art Exhibition to raise money in Sutton December 2005
- Sri Lankan Market to raise funds in Sutton December 2005
- Interfaith Memorial Service with 500 attendees held in Moratuwa Dec 26th 2005
- House Of Commons Reception for 75 people November 15th 2005
- 3 additional Trustees appointed to Helplanka
- Paul Burstow MP additional Patron November 2005
- Sports teacher sent to Sri Lanka as a volunteer Jan 2006
- 3rd Field visit to Sri Lanka Dec – Jan 2006
- Rugby Coaching and distribution of sports equipment to Panadura

January 2006

- Donation and help given to Vision Lanka Weligama
- All Doctors and psychologists from UK Sri Lanka Trauma Group join Helplanka on advisory Committee December 2005
- Distribution of further educational equipment to all projects January 2006
- Donations to 3 new schools in Sri Lanka January 2006 to pay for security guard, new playgrounds, toilets, library books, new sports equipment, stationery and staff training
- 4th Field visit to Sri Lanka March 2006
- Purchase & distribution of swings, slides and playground equipment to schools in Tissamaharama March 2006
- Harriet House Pre School Nursery built for 70 children in Siribopura Hambantota – March 2006
- Books, stationery, furniture and blackboard purchased for Nirosha School Rathgama – March 2006
- Books, stationery and toys purchased for Kirinda School March 2006
- Books and Stationery purchased and distributed for Osuwinna School Tissamaharama March 2006
- New Fishing boat engine and nets purchased and delivered to a fisherman in Matara March 2006
- 2 Large boxes of stationery shipped from UK School to Twin school in Tissamaharama March 2006
- Donation to SHILPA from sales of Calendars March 2006
- Roof repairs for Children's Centre in Moratuwa undertaken and sponsored March 2006
- Donations and project plans for Moratuwa schools twinning programme March 2006
- Helplanka Coordinators and partners attend Trauma Counselling

Workshops organised by Partner Charity UKSLTG April/May/ June 2006

- Funding for building 10 Houses for Tsunami Families in Moratuwa/ Kalutara area March 2006
- Volunteer Programme organised and researched for July 2006
- Teardrop Relief Playbus to support Helplanka's projects on South Coast July 2006

**- 5th Field visit to Sri Lanka by Helplanka Chief Executive July 2006**

- 28 6th Form students from Richard Huish College teach English and Sports to 3 schools in Rathgama near Galle

- Helplanka visits and supports Barnsooriya Boys Home Hikkaduwa providing play therapy and equipment

- Anula Devi School Galle twinned with Farlington School Horsham and Internet and computers are provided

- Harriet House Hambantota opened and equipment and furniture supplied by Helplanka July 2006

- School principal meetings and project plans underway in Tissamaharama and Moratuwa with donation funding given for educational assistance for 12 schools

- Helplanka organises Conference for NGOs and charities in Galle attended by Southern Provincial Governor

- Photocopier machines, sports equipment and books donated by Richard Huish College and Helplanka to Rathgama Schools

- Helplanka organises 12 IT Scholarships for Tsunami affected children through IDM.

- School bags and books and toys donated to schools in Tissamaharama and Kirinda area

- Coordinator and Teaching Staff training and motivation day sponsored by Helplanka

- Repairs and washroom built at Rathgama School
- Shipment of toys and books for Galle Schools sponsored by Farlington School and distributed by Helplanka
- First aid boxes and medicines donated to 5 schools
- 2 6th form volunteers from Faringdon teach English for 6 weeks in Hikkaduwa area
- Helplanka sponsors field environment day for Tangalle school, Teachers and parents to Uda Walawe National Park
- Helplanka arranges meeting and support from Rt Hon Susil Premajayantha Education Minister Sri Lanka
- 6 computers and printers shipped to Sri Lanka donated by St Cuthbert's School Egham Surrey
- Educational books, Curriculum aids, Teaching equipment donated and researched by UK schools sent to Sri Lanka and used by Volunteers
- Name signs and playground equipment purchased and distributed
- Rachel Green spent 3 weeks teaching English and Dance to children in Moratuwa including handicapped children and orphans Sept 2006
- New furniture provided to 3 schools
- Emergency assistance to children's day centre in Kahawe Hikkaduwa by Helplanka volunteers
- Computers and training provided to coordinators
- Abigail Anderson to research Helplanka's projects and assess effectiveness over 10 months commencing Oct 2006

**6th Field visit to Sri Lanka December 2006**

- Educational trip for 40 children to Dehiwela Zoo from Rathgama sponsored
- Books videos and toys donated to Barnasooriya Boys Home

## Hikkaduwa

- New School twinning project set up with Ranapadeniya Vidyalaya Rathgama and Melbourn Primary School Royston donation given, computers and printers and books.
- Teaching sessions at new Twin schools
- Pens, pencils, books and clothes and shoes given to school children in Rathgama
- VCR machine donated to Barnasooriya Boys Home Hikkaduwa
- Volunteer placement for 1 month arranged for January 2007
- New facilities for volunteers including new bathroom and bedroom completed
- New classroom facilities at Nirosha School completed
- Donation for books and equipment for Kirinda Pre School Kirinda
- Drama Workshops arranged in Galle and Hambantota for Feb / March 2007
- Training session for Helplanka Coordinators arranged Dec 2006 and attended.
- Donations for 4 Moratuwa schools and project plans completed
- Induction and training for volunteers completed
- Donations for feeding 20 children from a Tsunami camp in Egoda Uyana for 1 year agreed and paid
- Visits to Non Tsunami areas and projects agreed
- Foundation for building 10 houses funding agreed and project to commence March 2007
- Musical concert to raise money for mobile library agreed and funds available
- 1000 books donated by Sutton Library to be shipped for the

## Helplanka Mobile library

- 2 OHP projectors supplied and distributed to schools in Galle
- IT scholarships commence Kalutara, Ambalantota, Galle, Matara
- Support for training for Matara based social workers
- Pen friend schemes and curriculum projects commence South coast schools
  
- First aid boxes and notice boards and medicines provided for 3 schools March 2007
- Donations from UK twin schools given March 2007
- Repairs and building at 6 schools in Moratuwa March 2007
- Project plans approved for Batticaloa area schools March 2007
- Partnership with MD Gunasenas and Sri Lankan Airlines agreed for mobile library March 2007
- School trip organised and sponsored to Galle Feb 2007
- Staff training implemented and field trip organised March 2007
- 11 houses to be constructed in Ahangama foundations laid March 2007
- Sponsorship of printing of brochure for Devapthiraja College Rathgama Fund raising carnival March 2007
- Purchase and refit of vehicle for Mobile Library April – June 2007
- 4000 books and toys, equipment and musical instruments sent to Sri Lanka for mobile library May 2007
  
- 18 Volunteers from Richard Huish College visited and assisted Helplanka projects in Sri Lanka July 2007 donations of sports equipment and computers given and English and sports coaching
- New photocopiers supplied to 2 schools

- Books supplied to Batticaloa schools
- Book voucher deal signed with MD Gunasena to provide books at all Helplanka schools.
- Staff training and appraisals to take place in July 2007
- Trustees Sam Goonetillake and Keith Hall field visit and audit took place in July 2007
- 11 Houses in Ahangama handed over on July 22 2007 and provisions for 12 families given
- Computers distributed to selected schools July 2007
- Musical instruments distributed to 4 schools
- Interfaith ceremony held in Galle to launch Theresa Library July 2007
- 3 new Trustees for Helplanka appointed in the UK May 2007
- Project proposals for 6 new schools underway
- Helplanka fundraising event Lankan Lounge 30 June 2007
- New partnership with the Dove Group for on line donations set up June 2007
- Art of Peace Exhibition Nov 2007
- Christmas programme for orphanages and schools December 2007
- 2 volunteers to visit Helplanka projects in December 2007

## **EXAMPLES OF HELPLANKA'S WORK/ PROJECTS:**

### **1) SCHOOL TWINNING PROGRAMME:**

#### **HELPLANKA SCHOOL TWINNING PROJECT**

- A scheme whereby a school in the UK can twin with a corresponding school in Sri Lanka affected by the Tsunami
- Scheme to be administered and initiated by Helplanka
- Specific project by project fundraising to be mutually agreed
- A long term commitment by both schools with Helplanka acting as a conduit of communication

#### **BENEFITS OF SCHOOL TWINNING TO UK SCHOOL**

- UK school can create a long term relationship and bond with a school in Sri Lanka
- UK school can benefit from learning at a personal level about a different culture
- Helplanka can assist in launching a pen pals scheme for children to communicate with one another
- Helplanka can provide feedback as to how donations are being spent and plan activities with the schools
- All administration and communication to set up and run the scheme will be borne by Helplanka
- The schools twinning project can become part of the schools curriculum and a base for class projects with support from Helplanka
- Helplanka can provide insights into what items are required and ensure that aid and money is distributed fairly and honestly
- There is no compulsion to raise a minimum amount
- Helplanka are flexible and will help provide a fundraising plan and any sponsorship support materials if required
- School twinning certificate and photographs of chosen school to be provided by Helplanka

#### **BENEFITS TO SRI LANKAN SCHOOL**

- A source of sponsorship to fund educational projects
- Builds a long term connection and relationship with another culture
- Pen friend scheme at a personal level for children
- An opportunity to provide feedback about life in Sri Lanka

- To help build morale in the devastated schools
- To help advance moral and spiritual awareness of pupils
- Certificate of participation

### **ONLY ONE FORM TO FILL IN TO JOIN THIS SCHEME!**

#### **Schools already joined up with TWINNING PROJECT**

1. St Philomena's RC High School for Girls Carshalton Surrey Twinned with St Mary's Convent School Matara Sri Lanka
2. St Mary's RC Infants School Carshalton Surrey Twinned with St Mary's' Montessori School Matara Sri Lanka
3. Homefield Preparatory School for Boys Sutton Surrey twinned with St Anthony's School Panadura
4. St Mary's' RC Junior School twinned with St Mary's Elementary School Matara Sri Lanka
5. Nonsuch Primary School North Cheam Surrey twinning with Egoda Uyana School Moratuwa
6. Admirals School Thetford Norfolk Twin with Nadigamwila School Hambantota
7. South Hiendley Infants and Juniors Barnsley South Yorks twinning with Alutgama School Bentota
8. Maltby Comprehensive School Rotherham Yorkshire twinning with Sugatha Vidyalaya Kalutara
9. Prescott Language College Prescott Merseyside Twinning with Namadagaswewa School Sooriyawewa Hambantota
10. Oaklands School Loughton Essex twinning with Kirinda Primary School Kirinda Tissamaharama
11. Lewis Girls Comprehensive School Caerphilly Wales Twinned with St Anthony's Girls School Panadura
12. Bunessan Primary School Isle of Mull twinning with Osuwinna Primary School Tissamaharama
13. Saint James Independent school twinning with St Anthony's Boys

School Panadura

14. Barry Comprehensive School Barry Wales Twinning with De Soysa Vidyalaya Moratuwa

15. East Rainton Primary School Sunderland twinning with Andaragasyaya Primary School Tissamaharama

16. St Cuthbert's RC Primary School Egham twinning with Kalahe Gemunu School Galle

17. Eveline Day School Tooting Bec London twinning with Nirmala Montessori School Tangalle

18. Abbeywood School London SE2 twinning with Janajaya Vidyalaya Moratuwa

19. Lodge School Purley Surrey twinning with Saddarmodaya Vidyalaya Moratuwa

20. Normanhurst School Chingford Essex twinning with Podujaya Vidyalaya Moratuwa

21. Richard Huish College Taunton twinning with Devapathiraja College Rathgama

22. Grove Infants School Malvern Twinning with Siri Sumana Primary School Rathgama

23. Overhills County Primary School twinning with Siri Sumana School Rathgama

24. Robin Hood School Sutton twinning with Uyana Junior school Moratuwa

25. Oak Lodge Deaf School Wandsworth London twinned with Rohana School Matara

26. Forest School London twinned with Karandhagoda School Beruwela

27. Melbourn Primary School Royston twinning with Sri Dharmadara Vidyalaya Ranapanadeniya Rathgama

28. Farlington School Horsham twinned with Anula Devi School Galle

## 29 Aberdour School Fife Scotland twinning with Weerahela School Tissamaharama

The school twinning programme has been publicized via the Times Educational Supplement, BBC Newsround, Sutton Guardian, and Newslanka in the UK.

The curriculum projects include projects such as:

1. What's outside your window – comparison of UK children's views and Sri Lankan children's' and use of art/ photographs and stories to support. ( suitable for children from age 6 – 12)
2. This is Galle / Tissa etc: Study of local town / village where twin school in SL is located to include town hall. railway station, school location, local industry and day in the life of...
3. Art projects – we have covered Faith hope and charity, Peace exhibitions held in London.
4. E mail pals a scheme – set up in 3 schools
5. Pen friends / letter exchange and Christmas presents/ cards / shoe boxes exchanged
6. Learning about Sri Lanka/ Tsunami – presentations held at UK schools
7. Drama workshops held in 2007 at 4 Helplanka projects in Sri Lanka run by New Theatre Works UK with contributions from 6 UK schools who also learnt about Sri Lankan drama/ dance traditions

### **OBSERVATIONS SCHOOL TWINNING:**

1. Interest has waned significantly especially after the bout of generosity immediately after the Tsunami.
2. UK schools change their nominated charity annually.
3. International charities are highly aggressive especially in marketing to schools and we have difficulty in competing.
4. Schools in the UK are getting too busy to support twinning initiatives
5. It is getting to be highly time consuming and costly to support visits, administration, presentations and initiatives with limited income.
6. Not all 30 UK schools are continuing their support for Helplanka.

7. Feedback re the SL schools has not been 100% favourable with only 6 schools regularly writing to their UK counterparts and NOT participating fully.
8. Volunteer placements have been very popular and successful and adds value to UK and SL children.
9. Helplanka needs financial support and expertise to link with UK and SL curriculum to provide resources, training and long term educational support in order to make a difference.
10. There is considerable bureaucracy and changes in regulations and communication problems vis-à-vis school twinning in Sri Lanka
11. Adopt Sri Lanka also launched TWINS which has had an impact on Helplanka but we have managed to avoid duplication but we do not have the financial resources to offer children the same level of support.
12. Recent mailings and marketing has had a limited effect in recruiting more UK schools. At the moment we have 8 Sri Lankan schools waiting for twins.

#### **RECOMMENDATIONS SCHOOL TWINNING:**

1. Obtain permanent funding in the UK to run the scheme to include: marketing, travel funding training in SL and providing educational support.
2. Obtain support from SL Education Minister and UK Education Secretary.
3. Look at PR campaign in UK Education media testimonials, blogs web links
4. Create a schools blog/ portal on Helplanka website with info, projects etc.
5. Develop Education advisory committee to assist with policy/ educational materials.
6. Develop links with schools in SL outside of Tsunami affected area in 2008
7. Use of Helplanka Mobile Library as main resource.
8. Improve Helplanka Volunteer scheme and involve students as a direct added value to School Twinning.

## **OBSERVATIONS HELPLANKA VOLUNTEER SCHEME:**

1. Helplanka received a large response from young people wanting to volunteer but NOT all are selected.
2. First batch of 6 Hong Kong and British students worked for 2 weeks in Moratuwa at SERVE in February 2005
3. Since 2005 Helplanka has arranged 52 volunteers to visit & work at our projects
4. Volunteer placements can last from a few days to 1 year
5. Pre agreed objectives and a teaching plan is agreed and volunteers have to ensure that they follow this.
6. Any groups of Young adults as part of a school placement will have to be accompanied by teachers from their school for the duration of the placement.
7. Volunteers need to fund the placement themselves including air fare, accommodation, subsistence and expenses.
8. Volunteers are encouraged to raise funds for their twin school / chosen project/ sponsorship of mobile Library.
9. Helplanka has arranged for all UK nationals to be registered with the British High Commission in Colombo.
10. Helplanka does not take responsibility for any loss of goods/ injury/ illness/ accidents or the safety of volunteers and separate insurance cover is advised.
11. It is very important to stress the importance of strict dress codes and patterns of behaviour as Sri Lanka is a conservative country.
12. Lone female volunteers are not encouraged.
13. All volunteers have enjoyed their placement and would return to Sri Lanka.
14. Each itinerary and programme is different and tailor made to suit the skills and needs of the children/ volunteers and quite a lot of planning is therefore involved.
15. Most volunteers keep journals/ blogs or have produced films which have been used to promote the scheme.
16. There has been limited support from the British Council for UK volunteers.
17. The Sri Lankan Government has made it very difficult to work as a volunteer and the red tape and bureaucracy is a huge negative factor.
18. Escalating costs and problems with internal security has had a negative impact on the scheme.
19. Coordinators need training, support and instruction regarding the scheme and help to administer/ coordinate the programme locally.

20. The scheme runs far better when a Helplanka trustee is in Sri Lanka to provide orientation/ support etc.
21. There has been a problem with language and also expectations as the level of English fluency in rural areas is poor and resources minimal.
22. The costs of administration of the scheme are increasing although Helplanka does NOT charge any placement fees and all support is provided voluntarily

### **RECOMMENDATIONS FOR VOLUNTEER SCHEME:**

1. Reorganise placements via Helplanka directly including bookings/ air travel and collect monies/ donations via gift aid to fund admin and a Trustee to accompany volunteers if more than 6 volunteers.
2. Obtain grant funding from British Council and petition schools to apply for funding for cultural school exchange visits.
3. Publicise the successes of the HVS in the UK
4. Extend the volunteer blog/ pages with regular updates and information
5. Prepare comprehensive briefing, orientation and offer training locally to coordinators and involve schools in SL and equip volunteers with info packs/ support materials.
6. Limit the number of annual placements per year and actively discourage lone female volunteers especially for very long periods of time.
7. Appoint 1 trustee to be responsible for the HVS.
8. Vary the locations of the placements (currently Rathgama, Galle, Tissamaharama, and Moratuwa only) subject to safety/ security.
9. Research accommodation and air and transport rates and produce detailed suggested itineraries and appoint agents in the UK.
10. Continue to negotiate with Sri Lanka Airlines for best rates and additional luggage allowance

### **PARTNERS OF HELPLANKA:**

When Helplanka began its life as a charity it was a direct response to the effects of the Tsunami and we acted primarily to provide emergency relief. After dispatching supplies of food, medicine and vital

goods to Sri Lanka (including a container of drinking water) several issues needed to be addressed. Firstly Helplanka needed reliable partner charities/ organizations / individuals who could responsibly facilitate the safe and fair delivery of items to the needy. Helplanka at the outset relied heavily on family members in Sri Lanka and then through recommendation and careful research and vetting approached some key partners in identifying key geographical areas and projects which we could assist in the medium term and apply funding accordingly.

## **SERVE**

The very first Partner we approached was SERVE in Moratuwa who were funded by save the Children and had set up several childrens' centres in Moratuwa, Kalutara and Galle staffed by experienced social workers and with excellent local links and coverage. SERVE has been active in preventing sexual, physical and alcohol/ substance abuse as well as providing assistance to street children, and the very deprived and orphaned and abandoned children. It was also through SERVE we managed to send subsequent shipments of computers, clothes, books toys and our 2 shoe box appeals .SERVE have benefited from Helplanka's volunteers, access to training and counselling, funding for specific projects, computers and toys for the centres, provisions for the centre including soap, towels and toothbrushes and toothpaste and latterly with visits from the Helplanka Mobile Library. SERVE has also managed the day to day coordination of the Schools twinning programme with liaison with the various principals and managing the projects and supervising project plans and reporting progress and actions. The volunteers in Moratuwa were also managed and supervised by SERVE and it was SERVE who also arranged and coordinated the Helplanka "MORATUWA SARANA" 1<sup>st</sup> year Anniversary of the Tsunami (Dec 26 2005) and several other projects in the Moratuwa area.

## **ENVIRONMENTAL COMMUNITY TRUST**

Set up by Patricia Parkin in the UK, ECT's projects, mainly located in Tissamaharama in the deep South of Sri Lanka ,concentrated in developing support and education for the environment, wildlife awareness and also the provision of improved education infrastructure in the Hambantota District.

ECT became partners of Helplanka in Sept 2005 and the services of their local Field Officer were offered to assist us in developing links and programmes with 6 schools in the area and the agreement was that we would help these schools jointly. The reality was that Helplanka funded the projects and the Field Officer helped us to implement the programmes. We also helped ECT with aid shipments from the UK and provided some computers. We also provided their Field Officer with training and counselling skills. Helplanka has now officially terminated the relationship with ECT and has now appointed its own independent Helplanka Coordinator for the area.

### **UK SRI LANKA TRAUMA GROUP**

Sam Goonetillake is an Executive Committee Member of the group and advises the charity on marketing matters. The UKSLTG is made up of specialist Psychologists, Psychiatrists and counsellors who are Sinhalese, Tamil and British who have been active in counselling and psychological intervention and training in the North and east of Sri Lanka for 18 years. Since the Tsunami, the UKSLTG has moved its focus to helping those affected by the impact of the Tsunami and were first on the scene after the disaster. Funded by CAFOD, NHS and Kings College London the UKSLTG has opened a centre in Colombo and Batticaloa and has for the last 2 year held workshops in all aspects of trauma intervention at all levels and is looking at opening a centre in Jaffna and possible one in Galle. The UKSLTG has provided counseling, training and professional support to Helplanka's coordinators and teachers and other support workers and all its executive committee are advisors to Helplanka. Helplanka, as an official partner of the UKSLTG, has access to the Samutthana Centre in Colombo to provide training and support to its projects/ beneficiaries along with use of its trainers and counselors in Sri Lanka and its library of educational resources. Helplanka and UKSLTG organized a workshop in Galle in July to offer support for teachers of a Girl's school to handle some difficult social problems. A 2 day workshop on Anger management and counseling skills has also now been organized for December 2007 for all Helplanka coordinators and support staff in Colombo.

### **JIGSAW INTERNATIONAL**

Helplanka and Jigsaw began a successful working partnership in 2005 commencing with Helplanka paying to sponsor a group of children from the UK who had suffered bereavement to meet and work with

their Sri Lankan counterparts post tsunami. Anne Davies Chief Executive and a group of children and social workers visited a number of Helplanka projects in August 2005 and undertook some very useful practical workshops. The trip was partly organized by Helplanka and the partnership between the two organizations has grown to include training and counselling, Sam Goonetillake being appointed as an Executive Trustee of Jigsaw International as well as supporting the work of Helplanka at events in the UK and more importantly social work support and advice in Sri Lanka. Jigsaw 4U in the UK undertakes work with children and young adults by providing support to cope with bereavement, loss and abuse. Professional social workers trained in these skills visit schools to support teachers and children as well as offering a centre for children to visit and a network of mentors and support staff.

#### **OTHER ORGANISATIONS WHO HAVE SUPPORTED HELPLANKA:**

- A) International Childcare Trust (ICT)** UK based childrens' charity supporting children in Sri Lanka and SE Asia – working with SHILPA in Sri Lanka in Colombo and Hambantota concentrating on skills training, cooperatives, micro financing , running Women's centres etc. Helplanka have made financial donations to SHILPA for work in the centres as well as offering counseling training. ICT UK have offered advice and attended events.
- B) TEARDROP RELIEF** – run by a group of UK based Sri Lankans personally known to Sam Goonetillake , Teardrop's main focus has been to supply and run a red Double Decker UK bus that has been made into a Play bus with toys, bouncy castle, magician etc visiting Tsunami Camps and orphanages in Sri Lanka. Helplanka has attended most of Teardrop's fundraising events and have run a joint programme in July 2006 in Sri Lanka for children at Helplanka's projects.
- C) Adopt Sri Lanka** – a local well funded charity set up by Geoffrey Dobbs in 2005 Helplanka has been fortunate to have been given financial support to build a pre school in Hambantota and also provide a fishing boat in Matara. Adopt Sri Lanka also started a successful school twinning project and has grown in size as a charity mainly due to

the large amount of money collected by Geoffrey's contacts.

- D) Sewalanka** – A Middle sized Local SL charity concentrating on aid, house building and education but don't seem keen in working together. Sewalanka assisted in organizing the Helplanka Galle Forum in July 2006.
- E) National Christian Council of Sri Lanka** – This organization was instrumental in providing reliable and honest contacts in Hambantota district and so Helplanka was able to provide relief and support immediately after the Tsunami.
- F) British High Commission** – Excellent support from The BHC in Colombo with attendance by the Deputy HC at the Helplanka 1<sup>st</sup> year anniversary event . Assistance and advice about safety for British Nationals coming to Sri Lanka and the registration of all Helplanka volunteers whilst in SL arranged.
- G) Sri Lankan Airlines** – some support given by sponsoring Independanz tickets for artistes in February 2007. Also additional baggage allowance given for Helplanka volunteers. Some Schools on the Sri Lankan Cares programme have participated in The Art Of Peace exhibition. Helplanka has also provided training and counseling for Sri Lanka Cares staff in Sri Lanka.
- H) IDM** – provided sponsorship of IT Scholarships at 6 locations in Sri Lanka and attended the Galle Forum in July 2006.
- I) MD Gunasena Bookshops** – The largest booksellers in Sri Lanka have provided discounts on book vouchers and also has donated books to the Mobile Library. MD Gunasena have set up a discount scheme for Helplanka students in SL to purchase educational supplies at a large discount through our Coordinators island wide. MD Gunasenas also printed the Helplanka book marks.
- J) Golden Eagle Printing Colombo** – have been the main printer of letterheads, banners, business cards and all Helplanka stationery for the last few years.

# HELPLANKA ACHIEVEMENTS 2006

1. 3 Field visits to Sri Lanka
  2. First large group of volunteers to Sri Lanka July 2006
  3. Established contact with rural projects in Rathgama March 2006
  4. Funds raised to provide a fishing boat in Matara and handed over
  5. New coordinator appointed for Galle area.
  6. 4 volunteers visit Helplanka projects in Galle and Moratuwa
  7. Harriet House Pre School built and equipped in Hambantota.
  8. Supplied schools with blackboards and books and educational equipment
  9. House Building project set up
  10. School trips to Yala and Dehiwela Zoo sponsored and arranged.
  11. Galle Forum arranged by Helplanka
  12. Meetings with School principals in Moratuwa and Hambantota District arranged and project plans formulated.
  13. Meeting with Rt Hon Susil Premajyantha MP Minister of Education arranged.
  14. Sam Goonetillake attended and successfully completed Breavement counseling course run by Jigsaw 4u Sept 2006
  15. Project for Mobile Library set up
  16. Presentations and visits to 10 UK schools arranged for school twinning links
  17. 2 Fund raising events arranged
  18. Research carried out in non tsunami areas and schools visited.
  19. Sports teacher sent to Sri Lanka as a volunteer Jan 2006
20. Rugby Coaching and distribution of sports equipment to Panadura January 2006
21. Donation and help given to Vision Lanka Weligama
22. All Doctors and psychologists from UK Sri Lanka Trauma Group join Helplanka on advisory Committee December 2005
23. Distribution of further educational equipment to all projects January 2006

24. Donations to 3 new schools in Sri Lanka January 2006 to pay for security guard, new playgrounds, toilets, library books, new sports equipment, stationery and staff training
25. Purchase & distribution of swings, slides and playground equipment to schools in Tissamaharama March 2006
26. Harriet House Pre School Nursery built for 70 children in Siribopura Hambantota – March 2006
27. Books, stationery, furniture and blackboard purchased for Nirosha School Rathgama – March 2006
28. Books, stationery and toys purchased for Kirinda School March 2006
29. Books and Stationery purchased and distributed for Osuwinna School Tissamaharama March 2006
30. New Fishing boat engine and nets purchased and delivered to a fisherman in Matara March 2006
31. 2 large boxes of stationery shipped from UK School to Twin school in Tissamaharama March 2006
32. Donation to SHILPA from sales of Calendars March 2006
33. Roof repairs for Children's Centre in Moratuwa undertaken and sponsored March 2006
34. Donations and project plans for Moratuwa schools twinning programme March 2006
35. Helplanka Coordinators and partners attend Trauma Counselling Workshops organised by Partner Charity UKSLTG April/May/ June 2006
36. Teardrop Relief Play bus to support Helplanka's projects on South Coast July 2006
37. 28 6th Form students from Richard Huish College teach English and Sports to 3 schools in Rathgama near Galle
38. Helplanka visits and supports Barnsooriya Boys Home Hikkaduwa providing play therapy and equipment

39. Anula Devi School Galle twinned with Farlington School Horsham and Internet and computers are provided
40. Harriet House Hambantota opened and equipment and furniture supplied by Helplanka July 2006
41. School principal meetings and project plans underway in Tissamaharama and Moratuwa with donation funding given for educational assistance for 12 schools
42. Helplanka organises Conference for NGOs and charities in Galle attended by Southern Provincial Governor
43. Photocopier machines, sports equipment and books donated by Richard Huish College and Helplanka to Rathgama Schools
44. Helplanka organises 12 IT Scholarships for Tsunami affected children through IDM.
45. School bags and books and toys donated to schools in Tissamaharama and Kirinda area
46. Coordinator and Teaching Staff training and motivation day sponsored by Helplanka
47. Repairs and washroom built at Rathgama School
48. Shipment of toys and books for Galle Schools sponsored by Farlington School and distributed by Helplanka
49. First aid boxes and medicines donated to 5 schools
50. 2 6th form volunteers from Faringdon teach English for 6 weeks in Hikkaduwa area
51. Helplanka sponsors field environment day for Tangalle School, Teachers and parents to Uda Walawe National Park
52. 6 computers and printers shipped to Sri Lanka donated by St Cuthbert's School Egham Surrey
53. Educational books, Curriculum aids, teaching equipment donated and researched by UK schools sent to Sri Lanka and used by Volunteers

54. Name signs and playground equipment purchased and distributed
55. Rachel Green spent 3 weeks teaching English and Dance to children in Moratuwa including handicapped children and orphans Sept 2006
56. New furniture provided to 3 schools
57. Emergency assistance to children's day centre in Kahawe Hikkaduwa by Helplanka volunteers
58. Computers and training provided to coordinators
59. Abigail Anderson to research Helplanka's projects and assess effectiveness over 10 months commencing Oct 2006
60. Books videos and toys donated to Barnasooriya Boys Home Hikkaduwa
61. New School twinning project set up with Ranapardeniya Vidyalaya Rathgama and Melbourn Primary School Royston donation given, computers and printers and books.
62. Teaching sessions at new Twin schools
63. Pens, pencils, books and clothes and shoes given to school children in Rathgama
64. VCR machine donated to Barnasooriya Boys Home Hikkaduwa
65. New facilities for volunteers including new bathroom and bedroom completed
66. New classroom facilities at Nirosha School completed
67. Donation for books and equipment for Kirinda Pre School Kirinda
68. Drama Workshops arranged in Galle and Hambantota for Feb / March 2007
69. Induction and training for volunteers completed
70. Donations for feeding 20 children from a Tsunami camp in Egoda Uyana for 1 year agreed and paid

71. Support for training for Matara based social workers

## FUNDRAISING

Helplanka's fundraising activities have included the following:

- ❖ Art Exhibition and sale Europa Gallery Sutton December 2005
- ❖ Sri Lankan Pola fair Sutton December 2005
- ❖ Cake sales at schools
- ❖ Car washing at schools
- ❖ Packing shopping at supermarkets by school children
- ❖ Craft fairs using Emporium Gifts
- ❖ Sponsored Women's only walk Hydro Run Sept 2005 Hyde Park London
- ❖ Sponsored walk by St Philomena's School ( raised 5000 Pounds)
- ❖ Sponsored Bungee jump raised 500 pounds
- ❖ Sponsored silence at Farlington School
- ❖ Art exhibition and sale The Art of Peace Nov 2007
- ❖ Sponsored walk in Wales by Guy Swallow for Moratuwa schools
- ❖ Fundraising at Somerset Cricket Club June 2006 by Richard Huish College for Rathgama Schools
- ❖ Musical concert by Bathiya Santhush, Ranidu and Iraj February 2007 raised 10,000 for mobile Library
- ❖ Lankan Lounge Musical club night raised 3000 Pounds November 2006
- ❖ Art Exhibition and sale 7 Days with Gerard in Brighton to raise funds for fishing boat Dec 2005 – Jan 2006
- ❖ Dress down days at all schools in the UK
- ❖ Children in need donations by Barry Comprehensive school
- ❖ Emporium gift shop sales at St Mary's Coffee Shop

- ❖ Corporate sponsorship at Helplanka events including brochure advertising
- ❖ Donations from Glen Carriers from airline ticket sales
- ❖ Helplanka Collection tins
- ❖ Collections at Xmas School concerts
- ❖ Corporate sponsorship collected by Getronics, Crown Agents
- ❖ Matching fund by Barclays bank UK
- ❖ Sales of Sri Lankan food
- ❖ Stalls at Sri Lankan Association events in UK

## **HELPLANKA MOBILE LIBRARY**

### **Project outline**

1. To fund, organize and manage a mobile Library unit for children in Sri Lanka to provide long term educational assistance to remote rural areas.
2. To include books, reading and writing resources, toys, games, activities, art and crafts, face painting, Music and films
3. To add value to Curriculum based learning in Sri Lanka for schools
4. To target orphanages, children's centres and special needs children and to adapt resources and provision accordingly
5. To use the Mobile library as the main tool for Helplanka to improve the standard of spoken English in rural and Tsunami affected schools in Sri Lanka.
6. To use the Mobile Library as the main resource and tool for UK volunteers in Sri Lanka.
7. To offer the services of the mobile Library to Helplanka Partners and INGOS and Local NGOS and Government on a sponsored basis at cost
8. To supply books and resources on a loan basis only for schools & children's centres
9. To continually adapt, maintain and improve the services offered by the Helplanka Mobile Library and to evaluate its effectiveness.

10. To aim to run the mobile Library and fund its upkeep on a permanent basis.

**WHERE THE MOBILE LIBRARY HAS VISITED TO DATE:**

1. Siri Sumana , Devapthiraja, Ranapanadeniya Vidyalaya Rathgama
2. Barnasooriya Boys Home Hikkaduwa
3. Sambodhi Home Galle
4. Osuwinna Vidyalaya Tissamaharama
5. Harriet House School Hambantota
6. St James Centre Moratuwa
7. SERVE Centre Moratuwa
8. St Anthony's Girls & St Anthony's Boys School Panadura
9. Mother Theresa Orphanage Moratuwa
10. Healing Hands projects Matara
11. Aluthgama Vidyalaya Bentota
12. Modarawanna Vidyalaya Embilipitiya
13. Meth Mihira Moratuwa
14. The Rainbow Centre Bentota
15. Rohana Deaf School Matara
16. Mawadawila School Rathgama
17. Deaf & Blind School Tangalle
18. Al Hilal School Kirinda
19. Home for Mentally handicapped Koralawella Moratuwa
20. Nirasha School Hegoda Rathgama

## **MOBILE LIBRARY PROGRAMME EXAMPLES:**

1. Making masks from card / paper
2. Where in the world map quiz
3. Making sentences using word cards in pairs/ groups
4. Head shoulders Knees and Toes
5. General knowledge quiz about Sri Lanka
6. Drawing / painting exercise with a chosen theme e.g. Peace
7. Counting games using balls/ shapes etc
8. Juggling
9. Nursery Rhymes
10. Ball games
11. Reading aloud in groups / pairs
12. Treasure hunt
13. Blind man's Buff game
14. Guess who games with clues
15. Face painting
16. Quiz about England

## **WHAT NEXT FOR HELPLANKA?**

1. Helplanka plans to launch the Help a Lankan Child Sponsorship Programme which will be a target of sponsoring 100 children at 10 pounds a month per child to cover tuition fees and exercise/ text books and an educational trip in 2008
2. Helplanka will seek to find corporate sponsorship / INGO/ NGO sponsorship of the Helplanka Mobile Library so that it is funded for the whole year.
3. We plan to continue to support the schools/ orphanages / children's centres we have been helping since 2005 depending on receiving funding from donors/ schools in the UK but switch to long term educational projects and the mobile Library.
4. Helplanka will begin to develop programmes with the mobile Library in non Tsunami areas subject to sponsorship in 2008 and will target the Chilaw area first.

5. We will assist UK schools in volunteer and gap Year placements but will need to recover administration and expenses from 2008 to do so.
6. The role of Chief Executive for Helplanka will need to be financially compensated in 2008 including obtaining regular funding for all expenditure including travel for the year.
7. Costs of coordinators will need to be carefully monitored and adequate funding found to include their training and expenses.
8. No events will be held in 2008 unless sponsorship costs are underwritten
9. Partnership agreements will be reviewed and some partners will be dropped in 2008 due to lack of support and commitment.
10. The need for Helplanka to be registered in Sri Lanka as a non profit making organisation will need to be addressed in 2008/ 09
11. Helplanka will endeavour to visit as many of its schools and projects and partners in Sri Lanka (3 times a year) subject to funding and safety.
12. Helplanka will endeavour to visit at least 6 schools in the UK in 2008 to give feedback and make presentations to children about the Twinning Project.

**PROPOSED ANNUAL BUDGET FOR HELPLANKA** - Initial thoughts:

<b>ITEM</b>	<b>MONTHLY AMOUNT</b>
1. Chief Executive Salary	2500
2. Sri Lanka Coordinators salary & expenses	450
3. Mobile Library running costs	400
4. Telephone fax & internet	200
5. Admin postage etc	100
6. Travel UK	150
7. Training	120
8. Sri Lanka trip ( 3 per year)	625

9. Printing & stationery	100
10. Supplies and sundries	120
11. Events	100
12. Contingency vehicle repairs, insurance etc	150
TOTAL MONTHLY :	<b>5015</b>