



Friends of Khasdobir, Bangladesh

Charity Number 1116316

14th Annual Report and Accounts

To 31st March 2020

Patrons: The Rt. Hon the Baroness Morgan of Cotes; Rt. Hon Sir Kevin Barron

Trustees

Mr Mike Sherriff (Chair)
Ms Moyra Blake (Secretary)
Ms Maureen Haddock
Mrs Kathleen Jackson
Mr Kazi Mashud (Vice-Chair)

Mr Monjur Elahi (Membership/Newsletter)
Mr Geoffrey Pool
Ms Sue Simmons
Mrs Doreen Watson

Bankers: Barclays Business Banking.
Ind. Examiner: ICFS Agar FCA
Web site: www.khasdobir.org.uk.

History and Objectives

Friends of Khasdobir came into existence at our inaugural meeting on July 8th 2006 and our registration as a charity was completed in October 2006. For several years prior to that we operated as part of Toc H under the name Toc H Friends of Khasdobir. The objects of Friends of Khasdobir up to 31/3/2020 were:

To advance the education of children, young people and adults in Bangladesh, in particular by supporting the work of the Khasdobir Youth Action Group to provide and assist in the provision of facilities for education in the area currently known as Sylhet.

The relief of financial hardship among people living in Bangladesh, in particular by supporting the work of the Khasdobir Youth Action Group to make grants of money and provide goods, services or facilities for the relief of the poor living in the area currently known as Sylhet.

To advance the education of the public in England and Wales in the subject of development in Bangladesh.

This is our final year of operation under the current constitution and we have now registered as a charitable incorporated organisation with amended objectives. Our new registration number is 1185262

Structure, Governance and Management

The Charity has been governed by a Constitution adopted at a General Meeting held on July 8th 2006. Trustees, most of whom have visited the project we support in Bangladesh at one time or another, were elected annually at the Annual General Meeting.

Review of the Year

Friends of Khasdobir supports the educational and welfare work begun by Peter East and Harun Ahmed in Sylhet, Bangladesh, some 35 years ago.

Since 1st July 2018 the Friends have supported the Sylhet Jubo Academy, a local non-government organisation based in Sylhet, to deliver the project.

This year the project has operated 10 pre-primary education centres for 300+ children. All the centres now have shelter accommodation. The 3 shelters on the tea estates were constructed by the project. In the slum areas premises are rented. All schools follow a curriculum including language, maths, stories, songs, and physical exercise. There are monthly parents' meetings. In January 146 children transferred to primary school. Highlights

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during the year included distribution of teddy bears made and donated in the UK and puppet shows from the Bangladeshi volunteer team Jolputul.

40 young people attend the sewing classes, learning skills that they can use to earn an income. Sylhet Jubo Academy now employs a computer trainer and provide training in computer basics, graphics and website design to 40 young people. Student design competitions included and ID card and visiting card for the Friends of Khasdobir treasurer. The hope is that with their new skills the students should be able to respond to the international demand for freelance ICT workers.

The Project provides monthly allowances to 80 widows, some of whom are now taking part in sewing training.

A new initiative has been the recruitment of two outreach workers, who encourage the children of the poorest families to attend our schools and assist families with other health and education related problems. They have helped many families to obtain birth certificates for their children. They have also assessed the needs of children with disabilities, encouraging them to access specialist provision and in some cases to benefit from devices to assist mobility, funded by the project.

At the beginning of March two of our trustees, Phil and Doreen Watson, visited the project. They went to all 10 schools and the sewing and computer workshops. They attended the distribution of widow's allowances and took part in outreach sessions and follow up visits to previous sewing class students. Reporting to the trustees they said that the transformation of the schools over the past 18 months has been remarkable and were especially impressed with the outreach work, noting that this was something we may wish to expand in future. Our chairperson also spent several months with the project in 2019/20.

It is the intention of Friends of Khasdobir to fund the Sylhet Jubo Academy for the next 2 years to deliver the project, continuing to give emphasis to reaching the most vulnerable people living in the area. We may need to

adapt our work and priorities to take account of the impact of the corona virus on the community we support. We have already planned an initial emergency response to the situation, with our partners Sylhet Jubo Academy.

This year there has been a decrease in our fundraising and fundraising is likely to be

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the problems faced by poor people in Bangladesh. The Trustees are confident that they provide public benefit.

supporters to consider how they may assist us with this important work.

**For more news and pictures do please visit our website:
www.khasdobir.org.uk**

Thank you to everyone who has donated to us and supported us during the past year. We look forward to your support during the coming year to make a real difference to the lives of people living in need in the Khasdobir area, and continuing the work begun by Peter East and Harun Ahmed many years ago.

Risk Assessment

The Trustees have considered the risks to which they may be exposed and have policies in place to manage these.

Public Benefit

The Trustees confirm that due regard has been given to the Charity Commissioners' guidance on public benefit. The work in Bangladesh, which we support, assists the very poorest people in the area without charge. Through the newsletter sent to donors and through fundraising meals and presentations to supporters Friends of Khasdobir educates citizens of the UK about

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These accounts will be presented at our AGM on

**Saturday July 4th
11am**

This will be a virtual meeting using zoom. We aim to have a direct link with the project to meet some of our beneficiaries and a presentation from the visit by trustees.

Please contact us by email to confirm that you will attend, and we will then send you the link and password details to join the meeting.

khasdobir@btinternet.com

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees on the approved financial statement of Friends of Khasdobir, Bangladesh (on Page 4)

I report on the accounts of Friends of Khasdobir, Bangladesh, to 31st March 2020

Respective responsibilities of Trustees and Examiner

As the charity's trustees you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts, you consider that the audit requirement of section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the Act) does not apply and that an independent examination is needed. It is my responsibility to examine the accounts under section 145 of the Act, to follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act, and to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of Independent Examiner's Statement

My examination was carried out in accordance with the general Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a "true and fair view" and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

- (i) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:
 - to keep proper accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the Act; and
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and to comply with the accounting requirements of the Act

have not been met; or

- (ii) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

**ICFS Agar FCA
Robert Howell & Partners
CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS AND STATUTORY AUDITORS**

FRIENDS OF KHASDOBIR: BANGLADESH

Charity No. 1116316

Accounts for the Year 1st April, 2019 to 31st March, 2020

| | Present Year from 01/04/2019 to 31/03/20 | Last Full Year to 31/03/19 |
|--|--|-------------------------------|
| | £ | £ |
| RECEIPTS | | |
| Donations from Individuals: Gift Aid Tax Recoverable | 12204.50 | 14,269.30 |
| Donations from Individuals: Gift Aid Tax Not Recoverable | 3,548.32 | 3,799.63 |
| Fundraising Meals Income: Gift Aid Tax Recoverable | 2,071.00 | 2,931.00 |
| Fundraising Meals Income: Gift Aid Tax Not Recoverable | 60.00 | 243.00 |
| Donations From Individuals on The London Walk: Gift Aid Tax Recoverable | 212.04 | 876.34 |
| Donations From Individuals on The London Walk: Gift Aid Tax Not Recoverable | 70.00 | 35.00 |
| Donations from Groups, Toc H Branches and Other Organisations | 2,055.58 | 4,923.35 |
| Legacies | 888.88 | 0.00 |
| Sales of Calendars, Surplus Jewellery, and Other Items | 40.00 | 0.00 |
| Interest from Charities Official Investment Fund (COIF) Deposit Account | 45.68 | 35.91 |
| Interest from Charities Official Investment Fund (COIF) Investment Account | 7,429.15 | 7,282.98 |
| Tax Recovered from HMR&C on Previous Year's Gift Aidable Donations | 4,507.95 | 4,980.45 |
| TOTAL RECEIPTS | 33,133.10 | 39,376.96 |
| PAYMENTS | | |
| Grant to Sylhet Jubo Academy (and KYAG) in Bangladesh | 42,682.00 | 34,077.00 |
| New Colour Leaflet about Project | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| Quarterly Newsletter Printing and Packing | 978.33 | 60.00 |
| Postage (Mainly Newsletters, but Other Letters also) | 847.01 | 81.36 |
| Meeting Room Hire | 219.20 | 19.00 |
| Equipment Purchase for Sylhet Jubo Academy's Work in Khasdobir | 2,313.87 | 0.00 |
| Website Registration, Design, Management and Server Provider Continuation | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| Trustee Monitoring Visits in Bangladesh | 1,542.00 | 9,362.31 |
| Project Expenses by Trustees for Khasdobir Work | 0.00 | 2,118.00 |
| Transport Costs for Computer Class Staff | 0.00 | 394.00 |
| Grant to Sylhet Jubo Academy for Shelter Construction | 8,000.00 | 5,361.00 |
| Public and Trustee Liability Insurance | 191.88 | 191.88 |
| Bank Charges for Transferring Money to KYAG's & then SJA's Account in Sylhet | 125.00 | 177.00 |
| TOTAL PAYMENTS | 56,899.29 | 51,841.55 |
| Surplus (- = Deficit) | -23,766.19 | -12,464.59 |
| BALANCES | | |
| Balance Brought Forward From Previous Year, Incorporating Investment Account | 233,413.88 | 229,637.95 |
| Valuation as at 1st April 2020 | -4,134.42 | 16,240.52 |
| Surplus or Deficit This Year | -23,766.19 | -12,464.59 |
| Cumulative Surplus Carried Forward | 205,513.27 | 233,413.88 |
| Represented By: | | |
| Barclays Bank Current Account | 5,032.22 | 2,273.24 |
| CCLA Charities Official Investment Fund (Deposit) Account | 2,562.75 | 9,087.92 |
| CCLA Investment Fund as at 1st April | 197,918.30 | 222,052.72 |
| Total Bank Balances | 205,513.27 | 233,413.88 |

**Friends of Khasdobir Annual Report and Accounts adopted
By the Trustees on 2nd June 2020**

MIKE SHERRIFF
Chair of Trustees

Phil Watson
Hon Treasurer