

The Abode Trust - Community Support

We work to support the traditional life of village people and have many mini initiatives to do this:

- We collect and distribute donated second hand glasses and digital hearing aids from the UK and distribute them to people who need them in Sri Lanka
- Similarly, used mobile phones are donated by our supporters and either sold or distributed in Sri Lanka so we can further support local people
- Having acquired paddy fields and chenna plots in remote locations we let local people farm the land and supply fertilisers, seeds so local people can make a living in remote areas
- Giving small grants to local people to start working with new crops such as tobacco
- Providing assistance to rebuild family homes in remote villages which have been damaged by high winds or elephant attacks

Voluntary donations of time, goods or money from our supporters and the money gained from Eco Tourism from our sister organisation [Abode Tours](http://www.abodetours.com) all sustain our work. Here are some examples:

Rehousing village people

In 2009, after an elephant attack destroyed the traditional house of the grandparents situated high in the Abode Mountains, we raised money and oversaw the building of a new home for them in the bottom valley, where it was safer.



Many of our friends and supporters pitched in with donations which helped us install window frames, put glass in the windows, install limited electricity via a small solar panel, provided the building materials and all labour came from local people and the grandparents extended family. Previous sponsors helped with money for windows.



Continuing donations from [Abode Tours](http://www.abodetours.com), our friends and supporters keep the house in good condition and decorative order and has recently in 2015 meant that mains electricity is for the first time available to the grandparents, which is a great help as they get older and their eyesight is weaker.



Supporting people with sensory impairments

Since 2007 we have been taking second hand glasses donated by people in the UK to those who live in remote villages in Sri Lanka.

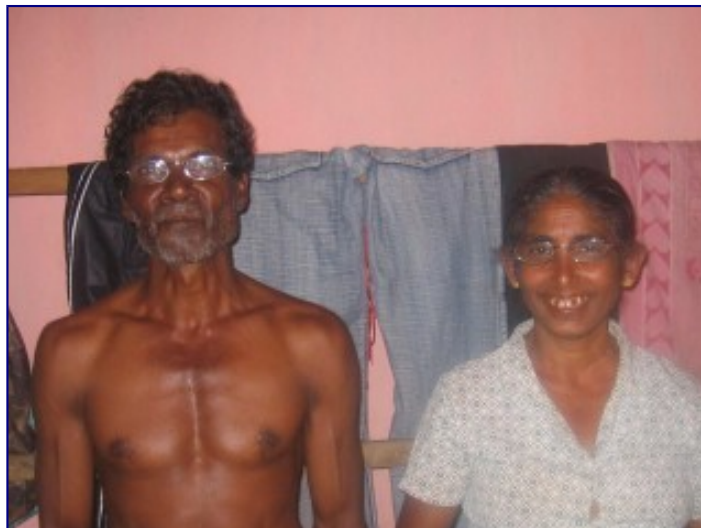
Many there have poor eye sight and are unable to read newsprint or food labels and to have the sharp focus that spectacles bring is something so easy to arrange yet makes such a difference to the quality of people's lives.



- Buddhist monks to distribute to individuals and groups who live in the remoter hill areas of the country

We have also supplied second hand digital hearing aids to those in remote communities.

Many people in Sri Lanka only have access to the old fashioned type of hearing aid, the type last used in the UK by our grandparents. We have now taken digital aids to local people, thanks to those who have donated.



A large shipment, 44kg of second hand glasses, was delivered in November 2014 to:

- The PRATHIBHA CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETY and distributed amongst their community
- Roshan Jayawardena – Captain of the Singhe Regiment based at Devils Point on the north West coast to be distributed to local people in the north west of Sri Lanka



Sponsoring the special education needs of a child in Pesali, Mannar Island

Thanks to a generous donation and fundraising from the Philips family and their friends in London UK, we are currently supporting Murika, who has additional needs and lives in Pesali, Mannar Island in the north west of Sri Lanka, to attend a special school. Previously she was unable to attend as the family could not afford the uniform or daily taxi fare to take her to the school. Murika has now been in school since 2015.



We support local charities and organisations which work with the most vulnerable people and communities



This little girl is one of three living with her parents in this floating shanty of corrugated iron, near to Mullaitivu on the north east coast which was in the battle zone in the last stages of the civil war. Her father was injured in the crossfire, along with thousands of other village people, and he can no longer come out in daylight as his eyesight has been badly affected. Her mother struggles to bring up the girl and her brother and sister as they have no money or food.

After three years living in Menic Farm, a government camp, they were allowed to go but have no home, and their land is flooded. There are no welfare benefits or other means of support. They need your help.

The Jaffna Jaipur Centre for Disability Rehabilitation (JJCDR) in the north has long been in the front line of the civil war and has been providing prosthetics and other help to war victims for over twenty five years.

In 2014 we met there many innocent victims of land mines, from young people to pensioners, young mothers with no lower limbs and those who now work at the centre providing assistance to others. Bombs do not discriminate.



With little government help, the centre pursues funding from other countries and from their own efforts to keep going. They provide mobility devices, physiotherapy services, micro credit loans and student educational grants to the disabled people. Jaipur's mission is to reach out to people with limb-loss / physical disabilities and empower them through a total rehabilitation programme to restore their dignity, rights and recognition.



Almost 2000 clients are currently registered at the JJCDR. They have a variety of mobility impairments such as limb-loss, polio, club-foot, leprosy, cerebral palsy, stroke, congenital deformities etc and many have had limbs amputated because of undiagnosed diabetes. Almost three-quarter of the clients are landmine victims and war wounded.

They need funds continually to keep going. If you want to help, contact us or see their website:
<http://www.jjcdr.com/>

The Zahira School in Kattenkudy in the Eastern Province is an excellent example of local people working together to help children with special needs achieve their potential.



[Zahira School](#) - read about their work and their ongoing need for financial support. Funded mostly by local businessmen and community leaders they offer a chance for children who would otherwise be kept at home without an education or a chance of a future.