

December 2003



.... and good news from our treasurer

FUNDS SENT FROM IREF (UK) TO IREF INDIA

IREF (UK) was founded in May 1996 to help finance the tremendous work being undertaken by IREF in India. From a very small beginning IREF (UK) has grown until we are now sending more than £20,000 per annum to India. Indeed, by the end of 2003 we will, since the formation of IREF (UK) have sent a total in excess of £110,000. Some of this funding has been from gifts received for specific projects in India (such as the building of a village church) but most of it has come from sponsors of which we currently have 20 for Indian Pastors or Bible Ladies and 42 for children.

Please pray that the Lord will continue to bless the work in India and that IREF (UK) will continue to grow in terms of the finance we are able to send from the UK.

Jim Fraser

KEEP IN TOUCH



It would be very helpful to keep in touch with supporters and sponsors via email if possible. This would allow fast & efficient distribution of prayer requests, news etc. If you would be happy to receive information in this way, please send your email address to leitch@bigfoot.com

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Contact IREF

Email: David@drghunt.freerve.co.uk

Mail: David Hunt
94 Sunnyside Road
Sunnyside
Newcastle upon Tyne
NE16 5NF

Scotland

Email: leitch@bigfoot.com

Mail: Jason Leitch
2 Mannoeh Place
Coatbridge
ML5 4FB

Phone: 01236 426797

IREF Website

For all the latest news/pictures and the US prayer letter, visit the IREF website at www.IREFUSA.org

IREF Prayer Letter

Welcome to the latest IREF Prayer Letter
We really appreciate your support and interest in the advance of the Gospel in rural India

Welcome to the latest IREF Prayer Letter

We really appreciate your support and interest in the advance of the Gospel in rural India. At the time of going to print, Ian Leitch is in Gospel Fields, Repalle with his Heralds colleague Alex McLellan. Ian is teaching his "New Life" Seminars to another enthusiastic group of pastors and Christian workers, while Alex is working with the students in the senior school. Both Ian and Alex have had the privilege in recent days, of attending the opening of a number of new church buildings and weddings. Stand by to read a first hand account of Ian's latest trip in the next issue of the prayer letter.

In this issue, we look forward with David Hunt and Jason Leitch to their forthcoming trip to India in January 2004. We also look back with our treasurer, Jim Fraser, and give thanks to God for the way the financial support has grown. We hope that you'll find the reports encouraging and stimulating as we continue to pray.

*"Be strong and courageous, and do the work. Do not be afraid or discouraged, for the LORD God, my God, is with you. He will not fail you or forsake you until all the work for the service . . . of the LORD is finished."
1 Chronicles 28:20*

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.... an update from David Hunt

I am excited and humbled by the thought of returning to India once again, four years after my last visit. I am looking forward to seeing all the new developments that have taken place since our memorable Golden Jubilee visit in 2000, such as the new College building. Many of our UK supporters helped support this project financially, and it will be good to bring back some photographs of it to publicise in future news letters and on our recently updated website. I am also looking forward to visiting some of IREF's new Day Schools (Child Development Centres). So far, we have raised sufficient funds for the start-up costs of three of these projects.

Thank you again for your generosity in this regard.

We fly out on Tuesday, 27th January, meeting up with the USA team at Heathrow. We arrive in Madras early Wednesday morning and will travel straight on to Repalle, as the main evangelistic meetings start that night! Please pray that we won't be too jet-lagged to preach well on that first night. We will continue with the evangelistic meetings in Repalle each evening through to Sunday, taking teaching session for the conference delegates during the day. Please pray that each of the Pastors will be guided to the right kind of teaching material so that our ministries complement each other.

Monday, 2nd February is scheduled as a day off, with Tuesday, 3rd February - Friday, 6th February being given over to evangelistic village meetings at night, and probably some further teaching during the day (to Pastors and students from IREF's School of Evangelism). A Village Church Dedication is planned for Saturday, 7th

February, and we will be taking worship services on Sunday, 8th February. We depart for Madras on Monday, 9th February, and arrive home with all our memories to share and stories to tell on Wednesday, 11th February!

Please pray for the many practical arrangements still to be made (visa applications, injections, etc.) and for our own personal spiritual preparations as Pastors. As always on these visits, we seek only to serve our Indian brothers and sisters in Christ, and thereby bring glory to the name of Jesus.

David Hunt

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.... and also from Jason Leitch

Once again a UK team is preparing to travel to India. Four healthcare workers and one pastor are joining up with the US contingent in January to visit Repalle. The team consists of:

- David Hunt - pastor of Durham Rd Baptist Church
- Aileen Bell - Dentist
- Stuart Bell - Nurse
- Elizabeth Callander - Nurse
- Jason Leitch - Dentist

The medical team will join forces with five US nurses to carry out the routine checks on all the children and many of the adults at the IREF compound. It will be a hectic job as always. The children will have their annual checks including dental extractions as necessary. Many of them will remember this experience from the last visit in 2002.

This will be Stuart's first visit he brings considerable talent and experience and will fill a vital role.

David Hunt will be part of the ministry team who will conduct a variety of teaching sessions during the day and evangelistic meetings in the evenings.

Liz and Jason, from Airdrie Baptist Church, will have the opportunity to visit the village church in Ullipallem which was built with funds raised by the church in Airdrie. The pastor is also supported by the same fellowship.

It will be an opportunity to see considerable progress and inform the local congregation of how much this project has meant to the people in Airdrie.

You can help with the January trip in many ways; firstly you can pray for the team, for safe travel, for good health and for God's work to be done in all forms the ministry takes from healthcare to evangelistic rallies. Practically we need to take simple medication such as multivitamins, iron tablets, Paracetamol and Ibuprofen as well as tooth brushes for all the children. Financial donations will also be gratefully received and will be used to buy drugs and equipment to directly help in Repalle. Please contact Jason Leitch, 2 Mannoeh Place, Coatbridge, ML5 4FB. (leitch@bigfoot.com) if you would like to help. As in previous years we will be setting up an e-mail prayer chain to keep those interested up-to-date and support the team in prayer while they're ministering. If you would like to be involved please contact Jane Arnott at sasw08508@blueyonder.co.uk

Jason Leitch

Remember

You can write to
your supported
child or evangelist:
c/o Gospel Fields
Repalle
Andhra Pradesh
India 522265