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HELA SARANA NEWSLETTER

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Charity No. 1093504

UK Government Approved Charity

PERALIYA HOUSING PROJECT

'Hela Sarana' was one of the first organizations to respond to the tsunami disaster in Sri Lanka, providing emergency medical aid, drinking water and food to the displaced people.



Homelessness is a major concern for the tsunami victims. The members of 'Hela Sarana', who convened an emergency meeting immediately after the disaster, took the decision to raise funds to build **one hundred** houses for the homeless in southern Sri Lanka.



Destroyed homes



A new Hela Sarana home

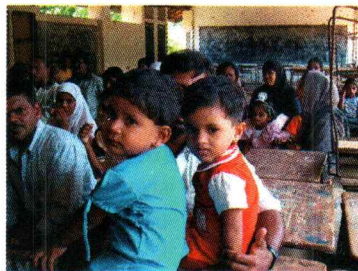
Phase-I of the project commenced on the 3rd of March 2005 and the first house was completed within three weeks, ready for the opening ceremony on the 26th of March 2005 to coincide with the three months remembrance alms giving for the tsunami victims.

Twelve houses are already complete.

Twelve more are due for completion by end of August 2005.

CHILDREN'S PROGRAMME

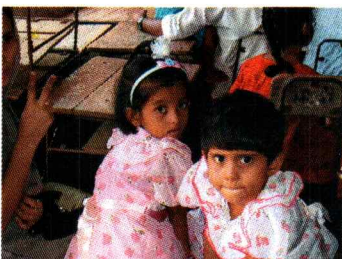
Children were the hardest hit by the tsunami. They suffered the highest death toll and also are the most vulnerable group amongst the survivors. In addition to coping with the psychological trauma, most of them have to rebuild their lives in the absence of one or both parents.



Rehabilitation of tsunami orphans will take decades. After the initial rescue efforts with food, clean water, clothing, shelter and health care, the long term plans need to be put in place.

Most of the orphans are currently being cared for by relatives, friends and religious institutions.

'Hela Sarana' has formed a partnership with 'Shilpa' (a reputed children's charity in Sri Lanka)



to sponsor **one hundred and one** of these orphans from Hambantota. 'Shilpa' has the infrastructure and the expertise to run this scheme effectively. **Presently 50 children are being cared for by 'Hela Sarana'**, providing them with financial and educational assistance as well as counselling.

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EDITORIAL

Sri Lanka faced its worst ever natural disaster, the Indian Ocean Tsunami on Boxing Day 2004.

Following the disaster, 'Hela Sarana' acted immediately to reach the devastated areas and distributed emergency relief to the people affected. Since then, the charity has been busy helping people rebuild their lives. Peraliya housing project is one of the main programmes launched by the charity.

Thousands of children were made homeless and orphaned. 'Hela Sarana' launched another major programme - 'CHERISH', to oversee the welfare of these children. In addition to these two main programmes the charity is involved in many other tsunami related projects.

While giving priority to tsunami relief work, 'Hela Sarana' has not neglected its previous projects in other parts of Sri Lanka. Most of those activities have been running continuously, such as education, health & welfare and agriculture programmes.

The organisation has formed its Sri Lankan wing to obtain registered charity status in Sri Lanka. 'Hela Sarana-Sri Lanka' was formed on 4th January 2005 in Colombo.

The charity has also appointed a co-ordinator based in Sri Lanka to monitor all its programmes. His duties include visiting and supervising projects as well as submitting progress reports to the committee. These measures help to coordinate and monitor the progress of the projects effectively.

'Hela Sarana' depends on your continuous financial support as well as feedback for the running of current and future projects. Nearing its 10th anniversary, 'Hela Sarana' takes this opportunity to thank all those who have helped in its benevolent efforts to help the needy in Sri Lanka.

TSUNAMI RELIEF ACTIVITIES

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

In Peraliya, 'Hela Sarana' is doing more than just building houses. The housing programme is community based, therefore playing an integral part in helping victims recover from the trauma of being displaced.

The planning and layout of each house is discussed with the individual recipient. In addition, the houses are built using locally produced material and the construction is carried out using the local labour force.

Two 'block building' machines and a 'wood-working machine' have been installed at the site. These provide employment for five families in the village.

Another three families were given financial help to restart their small businesses. Funds have also been provided for seven more families to start their own cottage industries.

In a further effort to bring normality to the village, 'Hela Sarana' wishes to establish a boat repair/spare parts centre and a tree planting programme in the area.

'Hela Sarana' has opened a community centre where discussion surgeries and advice sessions are being held for the villagers. It is also the location where computer training is due to be held for the local students.

Hela Sarana is working in partnership with 'Emali Gunawardane Children's Trust' to improve the education and health standards of the children in Peraliya village. Preliminary work has been completed to implement and develop an interest free loan scheme for the local women to re-establish their cottage industries.

Currently three British volunteers who are members of 'Hela Sarana' are at Peraliya working closely with the village school to improve the English knowledge of the students.

VENTILATOR FOR BATTICALOA HOSPITAL

A consultant paediatrician from Southend, moved by the plight of children following the tsunami, travelled to Batticaloa in eastern Sri Lanka with a team of doctors and nurses from Southend General Hospital. He realised that there was



a great need for essential life saving equipment at the hospital. 'Hela Sarana' has donated £500 towards the cost of a ventilator, which is now helping to save lives in the area.

BUILDING BOATS FOR SRI LANKA

'Community 4 Communities' is a group set up in Southend-on-Sea, Essex, to help victims of the tsunami.

The group is lead by tireless campaigner Eileen O'Connor who has raised enough funds to buy 20 fishing boats for fishermen who have lost their equipment and livelihoods. The boats will be constructed in Sri Lanka and sent to Kirelle, a remote fishing village near the Yala National Park.

Hela Sarana is helping this project by lending £600 needed to transport the boats to the site.

TSUNAMI RELIEF GROUP TO HELP THE ORPHANS IN MATARA DISTRICT

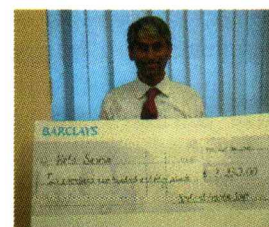
Dikvalle Dharmavillase Thero, the incumbent of the Godauda Sri Sumanaramaya, has identified a group of children who have lost parents, siblings or other relatives during the tsunami. He has formed a relief group that provides the children with clothing, shoes, books and other necessities. They are appealing to various organisations for help. Hela Sarana will donate £500 to assist them with their project.

COMPUTERS FOR TSUNAMI ORPHANS

Leeds Metropolitan University has donated 25 computers to children orphaned by the tsunami at the request of 'Hela Sarana'.

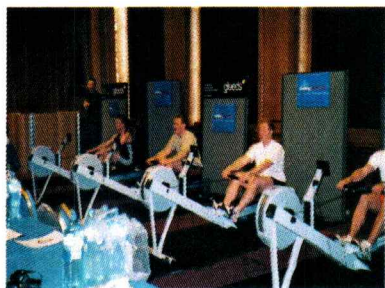
FUND RAISING FOR TSUNAMI RELIEF

A 'BIG' CHEQUE FROM SOUTHEND HOSPITAL



Southend Hospital staff dug deep into their pockets to raise money to build houses in Peraliya. A cheque for £2250 was handed over to the Hela Sarana secretary, Dr. Saman Perera who is an employee at the hospital.

ROWING FOR SRI LANKA TSUNAMI RELIEF WORK



The UK Members of the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors organised a one million mile indoor rowing event at the RICS Head Quarters in London on 7th April 2005 to raise funds for tsunami relief work in Sri

Lanka. 'Hela Sarana' was one of the main beneficiaries of the event, which was supported by RICS President Professor Barry Gilbertson, Olympic Champion Sir Steven Redgrave and Athens Olympic gold medallist James Cracknell.

CHILDREN RAISE MONEY FOR TSUNAMI

'Hela Sarana' would like to say a big thank you to the staff and students of the following schools for their generous donations.

Pupils at Southend High School for Girls raised £1000 for 'Hela Sarana' by holding a concert at the school, which was extremely well attended. They wanted to help build houses for the people displaced by the tsunami.

Woodford Girl's High School also raised £ 916.86 for victims of the tsunami by organising an event called 'Staff in Their Eyes' and handed over the proceeds to 'Hela Sarana'.

'Hela Sarana' received a cheque for £ 1000.00 from Oaks Park High School to boost the tsunami relief fund.

All the above donations will go towards the Peraliya Building Project.

OUR SINCERE THANKS TO...

- A gathering of devotees was held at Kethumathi Buddhist Vihara, Liverpool, to raise funds for the tsunami relief effort. It was organised by Dr. Suneetha Perera and the collection was donated to 'CHERISH' children's programme.
- Sri Lankan Buddhist Society Calgary – Canada. In recognition of the long term relief efforts undertaken by Hela Sarana on behalf of the tsunami victims, the above society has approved funds towards the construction of six houses in the Peraliya Housing Project. We value their encouragement and continued assistance in many areas of our relief operation.
- 'Hela Sarana' is extremely grateful to be nominated to receive funds from the Sri Lankan Buddhist Vihara of Sydney Inc. towards the construction of five houses in Peraliya.
- Three thousand pounds was raised in the Charity Evening held by the British Dental Association Young Dentists (Chairperson: Shareena Illyas). The money was donated to 'Hela Sarana' tsunami housing project.
- Nigel Champion (EDF Energy Contracting) organised a 'Tsunami Fund Raising Celerity Golf Event' and contributed funds raised towards the housing programme to construct 5 houses.
- The International Student House hosted a concert on 28th Feb 2005 in aid of the tsunami victims, with a part of the proceeds going to Hela Sarana tsunami relief work. Special thanks goes out to Alec Menace of

Intl Student House, Jamie Ballard of EDF Energy and the Organising Committee of the Student Union.

- Ameerta Kariyawasam was responsible for forwarding the proceeds from both the above events to 'Hela Sarana'. We are indebted to Ameerta for her magnanimous effort in raising a grand total of over £ 12,000.
- Hela Sarana' wishes to thank Irie Perera and team on her magnificent effort in the Southend tsunami relief fundraising dinner. The event was a great success and generated much needed revenue for the housing project.
- The organising committee of the Festival of Cricket 2005 has pledged to donate the proceeds of the raffle draw held at the event to the 'Hela Sarana' Fund.
- Knightsbridge Nursery has made a donation of Rs. 69,871.48 to supply dry rations for the children made homeless by the tsunami, who are residing at the community centre, Zoysapura, Moratuwa, being cared for by the Condominium Management Authority.
- London branch of the club 'Tiger Tiger' donated one whole day's collection of gate money to our tsunami housing project. We would like to thank Mr. Nalin Samarawickrema for his effort in arranging this donation.
- We announce with great pleasure that a major international oil company has pledged its support to the Peraliya Housing Project based on our past record of general charitable operations and specifically in recognition of our continued and tireless efforts to provide long term relief for the tsunami victims.
- Our sincere thanks go to Knowsley Ltd and Mr Jhutti (Managing Director of London Power Associates) for their generous financial support at a very critical stage of the housing project.
- The success of each and every project to date is a true testimony to the magnificent and relentless efforts of many and the contributions received from various sources; numerous individuals, groups, companies, charitable institutions and various voluntary organisations based in the UK and overseas.

Whilst we are truly indebted to every one who did support and will support our efforts in the future, we regret that it is not possible to highlight the names of all institutions, groups/individual donors, and the friends of 'Hela Sarana' Committee Members who undertook numerous fund raising activities in support of our appeals. We at 'Hela Sarana' are truly grateful and extend our sincere thanks to all for supporting us in undertaking this mammoth task.

PROGRESS REPORT

**RENOVATIONS AND CONSTRUCTION OF HOUSES
AT PERALIYA, TELWATTE UNDER HELASARANA PADANAMA**

DATE :- 20/07/2005

SRL NO	RECIPIENTS	DESCRIPTION						REMARKS
		FOUNDATION UP TO DPC	BRICK IN WALLS	ROOF WORKS	DOORS & WINDOWS	PLASTERING & RENDERING	FINISHING	
1	Mrs. J Jayanthi (2/Lt Rangana Kamalaratne)	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	COMPLETED
2	Mr. N.H. Pathmalal	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	COMPLETED
3	Mr. Asela Premanath (P/Sgt Asela Premanath)	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	COMPLETED
4	Mrs N.H. Pushpa Hemalatha	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	COMPLETED
5	Mr. N.W. Sirithunga	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	COMPLETED
6	Mrs. M Anuradha Irangani (WO II Sarath Bandula) (Rtd Died)	100%	100%	100%		10%		Plastering, doors & windows to be completed
7	Mr. L.H. Chaminda Prasad	100%	100%	70%	35%	70%		Slab is finished. Plastering, doors & windows to be completed
8	Mr. B.M. Dasantha Mendis (Cpl Dusantha Mendis)	100%	100%	100%	50%	60%		Slab is finished. Plastering, doors & windows to be completed
9	Mrs. G. Anulawathie	100%	100%	70%	35%	70%		Slab is finished. Plastering, doors & windows to be completed
10	Mr. J.P. Nimal (Major STB Dissanayake)	100%	100%	60%				Brick work finished. Roof & plastering, doors & windows to be completed
11	Mr. Indika De Silva		100%					Brick work finished. Roof & plastering, doors & windows to be completed
12	Mr. Bandu Jayasinghe (L/Cpl Bandara Jayathilake)	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	75%	Door & windows to be completed
13	Mr. W.S. Sumith Premalal (L/Cpl Sumith Premalal)	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	COMPLETED
14	Mr. G. Priyantha (Mr. Wijepala Gallage)	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	COMPLETED

15	Mrs. P.H. Sumanawathie	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	COMPLETED
16	Mr. MWCD De Silva (2/Lt MWCD De Silva)	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	75%	Slab is finished. Final finishes to be completed
17	Mr. O.N.Nandapala	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	50%	50%	Plastering, doors & windows to be completed.
18	Mr. N.H. Siripala	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	50%	50%	Plastering, doors & windows to be completed.
19	Mr. A.H. Sanjeeva Pushpa Kumara Silva (Pte Sanjeeva Pushpakumra)	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	60%			Brick work is finished.
*20	Mr. Susil Luxman De Silva (Cpl Susil De Silva)	100%								Foundation is finished. Proposed owner was taken out from the programme
21	Mrs. M.W. Nandani	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	COMPLETED
22	Mr. P.P. Methsiri (Cpl Methsiri GG)	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	50%	50%		Construction finished. Plastering, & finishes to be completed.
23	Mr. M.W. Nandasiri	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	COMPLETED
24	Mr. Sanjeeva Udaya Kumara Silva	50%	50%	50%	50%					General work in progress
25	Mr. K.H. Ranjan Kumara	100%	100%	100%	60%	60%	60%	60%	60%	Construction finished. Plastering, doors & windows to be completed

ESTIMATED COST - PHASE 1 - 50 HOUSES = £ 88,000

Summary

1 No.of Houses completed	1 0
2 No of houses to be completed by 30/7/2005	0 5
4 Work in progress	0 9
TOTAL NO. OF HOUSES	<u>2 4</u>

(To be completed by end Aug'05)

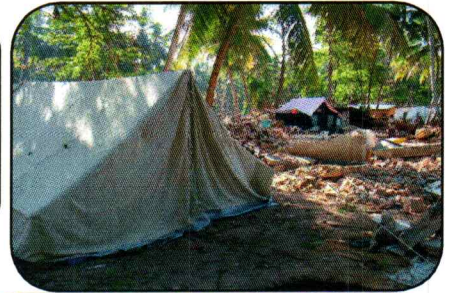
FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT :

Dr. Saman Perera	-	Secretary ' Hela Sarana'	017 0258 7716
Dr. Suneetha Perera	-	Cordinator - Tsunami Children's Education & Welfare	015 1494 9817
Mr. Jayantha Silva	-	Cordinater - Tsunami Housing Development	017 8442 0082
Mrs. Nalani Leelasena	-	Cordinator Children Grant scheme	020 8550 9224

IMAGES FROM 'HELA SARANA' TSUNAMI DISASTER RELIEF PROGRAMME



Tidal waves that hit the country just over six months ago have left bitter memories that will remain for many years to come.



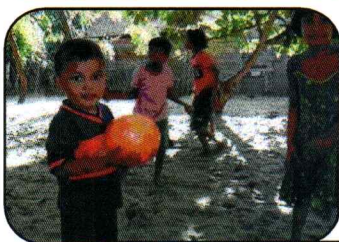
In the aftermath of the disaster, the people of Peraliya – one of the worst tsunami hit villages in the south, have found a helping hand from Hela Sarana to rebuild their lives.



Improving the social and economic vibrancy of the community is another project that our charity has undertaken. We are already starting to see its benefits.



Helping hand for the orphans of Hambantota



'Hela Sarana', in conjunction with SHILPA children's trust (government approved children charity) is sponsoring 50 orphaned children from Hambantota.



EDUCATIONAL GRANTS

This scheme was started approximately six months ago by 'Hela Sarana' with the intention of helping poor and needy students from various parts of Sri Lanka. The target during the first year is to sponsor at least one hundred students. This programme is intended to make an immediate difference to the lives of these children in terms of providing financial assistance to continue their studies, without being a burden to poor parents. Having suffered at the hands of the tsunami, more children are in need of help and we are continuously striving to get more sponsors. So far, we have been able to secure sponsorships for 83 students within the first six months of launching the programme.



Under this scheme, you as a sponsor, make a minimum donation of £2 per month per child to 'Hela Sarana', who in turn guarantees to give at least 15% more than what you pledge (if you are a UK tax payer) with the help of the Gift Aid scheme operated by the Inland Revenue. The sponsors will be given regular feedback on the progress of the children.

'Hela Sarana' would like to emphasise that it is fully committed to protect the security, privacy and dignity of the children who take part in this and all its programmes.

WATER TANK - GODIGAMUWA



The village of Godigamuwa in the Ratnapura District was badly damaged in the great flood in May 2003. The infrastructure of the local school endured particularly heavy damage.

'Hela Sarana' contributed to the reconstruction effort by funding the installation of a new overhead water tank (at a cost of £ 750). This tank provides for all water supply requirements in the school.

MORAWINNA GIRLS HOME

The Morawinna girls home in Panadura was established 47 years ago and at present has 25 resident girls (mostly orphans) between the ages of 5 – 25 yrs. It is supported by The Panadura Child Welfare and Social Services League. 'Hela Sarana' has funded the much needed renovation of the kitchen in the institution. This project was funded by the Kurukulasooriya family in

memory of late Mr. Shelton Kurukulasooriya who was a founder member of 'Hela Sarana'. We sadly miss Shelton who was a close friend and an ardent supporter of our organisation.

The Morawinna institution is maintained with meagre funds and desperately needs more financial assistance for its upkeep and has appealed to 'Hela Sarana' for further assistance. The charity is currently considering future projects to help the girls home.



AID FOR CHILDREN'S HOME - GALLE

'Hela Sarana' has donated funds for the care of twenty four needy pre school children in New Richmond Hill Children's Home, Galle. This will provide for their care for a period of one year. The children will be given nutritious food, health checks and pre school education. The project is supervised and supported by the Lions Club of Galle.



KURULUBEDDA PROJECT

Kurulubadda is a beautiful village 5 km from Wellikanda in Batticaloa. Educational facilities hardly exist in this remote area. The pre school is a small mud hut built in the village temple grounds. During the rainy season the school is closed due to a wet and muddy floor.

It was decided that a classroom for the pre-school children of this village should be build with bricks and mortar replacing the mud hut.

Hela Sarana expresses its gratitude to its partner charity, Rehabilitation of War Victims in Sri Lanka, who funded the entire project. In October 2004 two members of 'Hela Sarana' visited the site and laid the foundation stone on behalf of 'Hela Sarana'.

The building work was delayed due to the emergency tsunami relief activities, however it is due to be recommenced shortly.



SCHOOL IN VILLAGE TRACK -7

Track 7 Primary School, situated in a remote village in the Vavunia District, comprises of 20 children and one teacher. In order to accommodate at least one more teacher, a staff quarters compound has to be built.

The school also needs toilet facilities, a play area and most importantly a perimeter fence separating the school grounds and an adjoining plot of land which is heavily contaminated with unexploded land mines.

'Hela Sarana' members have visited and inspected the school and preliminary work has been carried out to commence the project which is funded by a generous donation of £ 500 from a London based charity, 'Tharuna Tharu'.

Currently negotiations are taking place between the school authorities and the Department of Education Sri Lanka to give the approval for the project.



HOUSES IN WELIOYA

Hela Sarana has allocated Rs. 70,000 for building material for 3 houses in Welioya, Anuradhapura district.

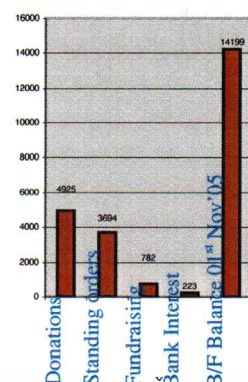
TREASURER'S COMMENTS

'Hela Sarana' produced a strong performance in the year 2004, particularly in funding rural education and health care. This year, as a response to the tsunami disaster in Sri Lanka, we have embarked on a massive undertaking by committing to build 100 houses for the homeless and to provide care for 100 orphans in the tsunami affected areas.

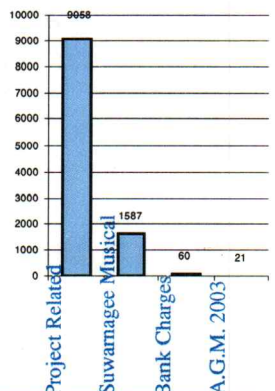
In parallel with the two above mentioned projects, we are providing grants to 100 school children living in the rural areas of the Sri Lanka. In addition, we are constructing two school buildings in the districts of Vauniya and Batticaloa. We have a clear vision of the tasks we have undertaken and wish to achieve these targets with rigorous fundraising and stringent management of our funds.

We thank all our donors and supporters and request your continued support to 'Hela Sarana'. The entire organisation is operated by a small group of volunteers, minimising overhead costs, therefore enabling us to direct all funds we raise to worthy causes.

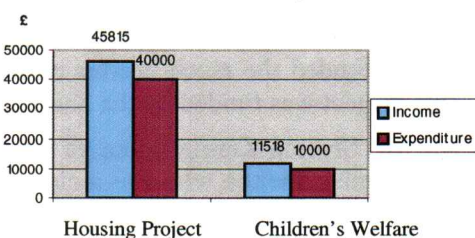
Income 1st November 2003
- 31st October 2004



Expenditure 1st November
2003 - 31st October 2004



Income and Expenditure for the
Tsunami Relief Projects



FUTURE EVENTS

- 'Hela Sarana' hopes to organise a Summer Food Fare this year with lots of delicious Sri Lankan food available.
- Last year's Christmas Dinner was a great success. We invite you all to join us again this year and enjoy the delicious food and great entertainment.
- 'Hela Sarana' would also like to remind all its well wishers that our Annual General Meeting 2005 will be held on 01st of October 2005.