

## **Annual Report -2019**

Welcome to all members, donors and well-wishers. Our UK-based charity has been helping to identify the needs of our relations at home village for the past 24 years with the tremendous contribution of all of you and has also maintaining cordial relationship with our relatives, friends and well wishes living in the UK.

We are continuously supporting number of projects in Nainativu and Vanni and also organise Pongal festival to support our younger generation to maintain our art and culture and organise sports carnival to encourage our talents in sports. These events give an opportunity to gather our relatives and friends.

### **Nainathivu Hospital Project**

The new Board of Trustees, which took over in November 2017, fully supported the initiative of the German Red Cross to build a new hospital in Nainital and raised a large donation of £ 17,500 (€ 19,508.75) for the project to raise funds from our relations and well-wishers.

However, the Germany Red Cross said the hospital plan could not be implemented as expected and proposed an alternative plan. Donors to the hospital project have been notified of the proposal and the association will make a decision based on their choice.

### **Nainathivu Education Project**

The Education Project initiated by the Association was able to continue with the monthly donations (£ 25) of the committee members for the educational development of the children of our village and the association is working with the idea of making the project effective.

### **Tree Planting Project**

Some trees have grown through the tree planting project started in our village. Based on the experiences and the ideas presented at the last general meeting, we consider that the best solution in the current situation is to protect the environment and the soil by expanding tree planting in the village.

### **Vanni Aaputhiran Farm Project**

Infrastructure facilities for the Aaputhiran Farm Project were provided by the association with the aim of improving the livelihoods of those affected by the war and the cows were procured. A fixed deposit was also made for the maintenance of the farm and handed over to the Vanni Association for the Visually Handicapped, Sri Lanka. However, we have been informed that the Vanni Association for the Visually Handicapped has faced difficulties in maintaining the cows provided by the association.

We are aware that the farm is currently cultivating vegetables and steps are being taken to raise local cows. It is the duty of the Vanni Association for the Visually Handicapped, Sri Lanka, to use the farm effectively and distribute the maximum benefit to the beneficiaries.

We urge the Vanni Association for the Visually Handicapped to reach out to other charities and stakeholders to reap the supreme benefit.

### **Pongal Festival and Sports Carnival to unite relationships.**

#### **Pongal Festival - 2019**

Pongal Festival 2019 was held at Greenford Hall on 19/01/2019 with much fanfare. The festival was a platform to showcase the personalities of our children and the audience was delighted by the outstanding performances by our village artists and our country artists who are living in the UK.

The highlight of the Pongal festival was the social drama "*Valisumantha Thaagam*" presented by the artists of the association and received a unanimous welcome from all. Our relatives from many parts of the UK and their friends flocked to the event and Pongal Festival 2019 was a highlight with a packed audience. As usual everyone was provided with free snacks and dinner and this time, we took all possible steps to prevent food wastage. In addition, on behalf of the association, we would like to take this opportunity to express our heartfelt gratitude the businesses excellent Mr. M. Sathiyarupan, Managing Director, MSR Group, Mr N Krishna, Managing Director, Sri Shobana Nakamadam and Krishnika Nakamadam and Mr. K. Puvaneswara, Managing Director, EKS Party Service for the support given to the association for the success of the Pongal festival.

#### **Sports Carnival - 2019**

"A happiest day to gather our village people" Summer Sports Carnival -2019 was held on Sunday 16/06/2019 at Beverly Park, New Malden. Everyone from children to adults happily attended the event and could be seen going home. Softball cricket was very popular, and the lack of time made it possible for cricket fans to organize another cricket match. It was decided at the board meeting that this time the corporation would be responsible for the expenses of the summer sports festival as it was not possible to hold the sports festival every year with the contribution of the committee members. The availability of donations from the members and well-wishers who attended the Carnival was able to offset a significant portion of the cost of the event.

Our association organizes such events in the midst of various difficulties to bring our relationships together and guide our children to see and interact with each other. We warmly invite all of our relationships to allocate one day a year to attend and celebrate such events.

## **Nainai Cricket-2019**

Association sponsored to organise a Cricket Tournament for Nainai Cricketers and Friends at Beverly Park, New Malden on Saturday 04/08/2019 in a bid to alleviate the time constrained faced by the Nainai Cricketers at the Summer Sports Carnival. The association sponsored the competition and provided all the assistance needed to make the event special and success. Nainai Cricket-2019 featured excellently and made the day a happy one for everyone. Expenses for the event were borne by the contestants themselves.

## **Obtaining Gift Aid from the Income Tax Department (HMRC)**

There was a delay in getting the donation assistance as our association has not been registered with the HMRC since the association established. Thus, we have made arrangements to register the association with the HMRC first and have obtained the registration number of the HMRC for our association during this administration period. Subsequently, when trying to submit the application by obtaining the required entry number to make the online application for donation assistance, it was found that the details of our donation need to be uploaded in the Excel sheet in a specific manner before submitting the application. We are pleased to inform you that the Excel sheet has been prepared and the application for donation assistance has been submitted to the HMRC on 25/09/2019.

## **25th Anniversary Celebrations of the Society**

As our Association celebrates its 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 2020, the committee members have decided to hold a concert on 11/04/2020 entitled "Megalai -2020" to mark the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the association and we would like to inform you that we have booked Dorking Hall for this concert. Apart from this, it has been decided to hold a Tamil Talent Competition among Tamil schools, a Cricket Tournament between Softball Cricket Clubs and badminton Tournament between badminton clubs on the occasion of the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary. A sub-committee comprising of Mr. A. Satchithanandarajah, Mr. Y Jayakanth and Mr. G Ketheeswaran has been appointed by the President to be in charge to organize this 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Events. We hope the new administrative committee will incorporate this subcommittee and organize the 25th anniversary events successfully.

We sincerely hope that this 25th anniversary event will be an event that unites all of our relations and urges all new committee members to come together to celebrate.

**Thanking you**

**Secretary**

**Nainai Manimekalai Welfare Association**

**29 September 2019**