

KRCF

KATHLEEN KIBBISI CHILDREN'S FUND

Jesus

*In Love,
He came
to teach the world.
In Peace,
He walked the earth.
In Hope,
He gave us
all a chance
to choose
a second birth,
In Joy,
He used
His holiness,
to be our Christ
and Lord
In Spirit,
He's forever near
to be
our true reward.*

*Christmas
Blessings*



Kathleen Keegel was born in Sri Lanka in 1923 and married Frederick Keegel on 30th December 1942. After immigrating to Australia with their 10 children in 1966, Kathleen never forgot the under-privileged people of her native Sri Lanka.



Every Christmas Kathleen would send tea chests of clothes and gifts to the friends and family she left behind. Kathleen dearly wanted to do more, so in her memory, her children founded The Kathleen Keegel Children's Fund Limited (KKCF).

The charity's goal is to care for orphans and under-privileged children of Sri Lanka. Early in 2004 Olivia, Kathleen's 6th child, and her husband Fred left Australia to live in Sri Lanka to give something back to a country that was so close to their hearts. They opened St Anthony's Children's Home on 4th July 2008 (this would have been Kathleen's smallest thing can take months to achieve as progress is slow and the bureaucratic systems are not straightforward or transparent. Despite this and the added challenge of limited funds and resources, they purchased a small 9 acre block of land and have kept firm on their path to achieving their goals.

Their aim is to provide for as many children in need as possible, in the local area, with a place to rest their heads, a kitchen to cook their meals and a school to help educate the children, giving them hope for a better future.

St Anthony's Children's Home currently homes 25 children. Fred and Olivia continually develop the children's learning centre, which is geared towards caring for orphans, abused and neglected children. They now have an agricultural project on the 9 acre block in the south east of the country and recently commenced English lessons and life skills for neglected young adults in the local area.

KKCF has a group of dedicated volunteers who are highly motivated in running the charity back in Australia with ongoing fundraising events.





Dear Folks,

We have reached that wonderful time of year to start preparations for the birth of Our Lord Jesus. In doing so we count our blessings and take a trip down memory lane to remember all our family and friends and give thanks for the blessings we have received throughout the year.

Christmas is the time of year when we share gifts and special precious times with family and friends. The greatest gift that has been given to us is the birth of Christ and the greatest gift we give to others is our TIME.

We, the Kathleen Keegel Children's Fund in Australia and the Kathleen Keegel len's Home in Sri Lanka, wish to Thank you for your support, time and generosity in helping us to help many children and families in their time of need.

Our Christmas cards are not just a mere routine of names on a Christmas list. We are indebted to you for helping us reach our achievements.

I especially thank all those who helped me in donation and time given to help me celebrate my 60th birthday with 37 children. They were thrilled at the experience of little things they had never done, and McDonald's was the highlight of been at a big restaurant for the first time.

May the spirit of Christmas that forever endures, leave its richest blessings in the hearts of you and yours.

Olivia and Fred



OUR CHILDREN



Siva and Nirosha received a prize for high achievements.



Children proud of their Sporting Achievements.





Olivia teaches the staff and young girls to make the Children's cakes.



Children's birthday celebrations and other children from the local area like to come and share their birthdays with the Children at the home.



Children's Art, Craft and Needle Work



The Children are taught to use recyclable items such as material cut offs, old boxes, coconut husks to be creative. They make brooms, flowers, pictures, candles. The list is endless!



Children on excursions



Visit to the museum. Colourful hats help us to keep track of the children. Thanks to Mackay East State School for the wonderful donation.

Starting the climb up Sigiriya Lion Rock





Little Angels Pre-school



Children Celebrating Sinhalese New Year in April



This year we have had many visitors and donors who gave much of their time and efforts to support our cause.



Photos of all the Children were taken by Norm and William
Rosemary collected lots of donations from her friends in Australia
and brought them over for the children including school shoes,
socks and stationery items



Visitors



John Langdon from Melbourne

Visitors from Sweden took some of the children to the
Elephant Orphanage





Kev, ex-policeman from the UK, stayed for two weeks.
He is now enrolled to study English training and plans to come back
and help the children.

Ben from England for three weeks; Norman, William, Kitty Jansz and
Maeve (from Melbourne), Mary Kuruppu, the Keegels from Melbourne
and Brisbane, and some friends of Rotaract from the Blue Mountains
in NSW.



Visitors teaching English



Rachel and Shane



Dr Rushna Bandaranaike from Townsville examined the children, Warren Don Paul (Melbourne) assisted with setup of computers, Mark Coady in Dubai organised charity indoor cricket match. Steve and Deanne from Melbourne and Gillian Cortass from Brisbane have also visited.

Vanessa playing "Hangman"





Lesley, Neil, Joe and Sophie from Dubai dropped in for lunch and delivered many items and cash they collected from their family and friends.

Joe enjoyed playing football with all the boys.

The Gibson family from Melbourne - donation through a 5c drive at the junior campus of Maranatha Christian School in Endeavour Hills, Melbourne.



Balangoda Project



Citrus trees have begun to provide fruit.



young boys building a road to the top of the hill to plant 1400 cinnamon trees



Buffala



The Land donated to us by Misaka Peris and his family

These photos gives you an idea of the work we have ahead of us in the New Year.

Clearing the property and planting crops will certainly keep Fred and his new English students busy with the Agricultural Project.



Fundraisers held in 2011:



- January - Garage Sale
- February - Garage Sale
- March - Hopper Lunch
- April - Royal Wedding celebrations in Melbourne
Melanie Winship Skydive in Dubai
- May - Mothers Day Lunch at Windmill Hill Farm and
another Garage Sale
- June - Olivia's 60th birthday-thanks to those who
donated, Olivia was able to take the children
to the Zoo, Airforce Museum, Beach and
McDonald's kids party for the first time
- July - Trivia Night
- August - Elvis and Michael Jackson Night
- September - Sydney Marathon
- October - Melbourne Marathon and Sri Lanka Society of
Queensland Charity Night
- November - Garage Sale, Gold Coast Bollywood Night
by Renee Hardy

