



Friends of Khasdobir, Bangladesh

Charity Number 1185262

1st Annual Report and Accounts

To 31st March 2021

Patrons: The Rt. Hon the Baroness Morgan of Cotes; Rt. Hon Sir Kevin Barron

Trustees

Mr Mike Sherriff (Chair)
Mrs Moyra Blake (Secretary)
Ms Maureen Haddock
Mrs Kathleen Jackson
Mr Kazi Mashud (Vice-Chair)
Mr Dulon Miah

Mr Monjur Elahi (Membership/Newsletter)
Mr Geoffrey Pool
Ms Sue Simmons
Mrs Doreen Watson
Mr Philip Watson (Treasurer)

Bankers: Barclays Business Banking.

Ind. Examiner: ICFS Agar FCA

Web site: www.khasdobir.org.uk.

History and Objectives

Friends of Khasdobir has operated as a registered Charitable Incorporated Organisation since the beginning of this year. Previously we were a registered charitable association and prior to that operated as part of Toc H under the name Toc H Friends of Khasdobir. The objects of Friends of Khasdobir, Bangladesh are:

- *To advance the education of children, young people and adults in Bangladesh, in particular by supporting the work of the Khasdobir Education, Welfare and Development Project to provide and assist in the provision of facilities for education in the area currently known as Sylhet*
- *The relief of financial hardship amongst people living in Bangladesh, in particular by supporting the work of the Khasdobir Education, Welfare and Development Project to make grants of money and provide goods, services or facilities for the relief of the poor living in the area currently known as Sylhet*
- *To advance the education of the public in England and Wales in the subject of development in Bangladesh*

Structure, Governance and Management

The Charity has been governed by a Constitution adopted at a General Meeting held on June 29th 2019. Trustees, most of whom have visited the project we support in Bangladesh at one time or another, are appointed by trustees to serve a period of 3 years. There must be between 3 and 5 trustees. This year one new trustee was appointed bringing the total to 11 trustees.

Review of the Year

Friends of Khasdobir supports the educational and welfare work begun by Peter East and Harun Ahmed in Sylhet, Bangladesh, some 38 years ago. Since 1st July 2018 the Friends have supported the Sylhet Jubo Academy, a local non-government organisation based in Sylhet, to deliver the project. This year the work of the project, and our UK fundraising, has been dominated by the impact of the corona virus pandemic. All the services have

Continued on page 2

Continued from page 1

continued to operate in Sylhet but to comply with measures to prevent the spread of the virus numbers attending activities have been limited. For example, the 80 widows we support no longer collect their monthly allowance on the same day of the month but over several days so that social distancing can be maintained. Numbers attending the pre-schools and training have also been limited with children and young people attending in smaller groups. There have been occasions when it has been necessary to close classes and the teachers have given children activities to do at home.

In the UK our fundraising events have been replaced with on-line fundraising and a sponsored walk that people can take part in as individuals. Our on-line fundraising has included a virtual tea garden trek, a puppet-show and workshop with the children from the project, and an on-line cultural performance. Fundraising is a continuous challenge, and we appeal to all our supporters to consider how they may assist us with this important work. Our on-line fundraising platform is:

<https://www.goldengiving.com/wall/friends-of-khasdobir>

In Sylhet the project continues to provide 10 pre-primary centres for 350 children from the slum areas of the city and the tea gardens just outside the city. The centres are all in sheltered accommodation and this year we constructed two new simple buildings bringing the total number of purpose-built centres to 5. The remainder are operated in rented accommodation. This year 146 children completed the pre-primary course and were supported to enrol in local primary schools.

The project continues to provide training in sewing and computing. This enables 80 young people to acquire skills that they can use to provide financial support for themselves and

their families.

The project has two outreach workers, who visit families door to door. They assess needs and find those who would benefit most from the 80 allowances we provide to widows, the additional funds we provided to relieve the impact of the corona virus pandemic on families, the devices we have supplied to disabled children, the pre-primary schools and training courses. In addition, they help families get access to other local services such as second chance schools and health provision.

Friends of Khasdobir has an agreement to fund the Sylhet Jubo Academy until June 2022 to deliver the project. During the next year we will be reviewing, with the project, funding arrangements for further years. We are especially keen to develop the outreach work and the use of the centres that have been constructed for additional community activities. During next year we will continue to monitor the impact of the corona virus pandemic on the work of the project and action that should be taken in response to this.

We continue to have a facebook page with over 850 followers and produce a regular newsletter. We have a leaflet informing people about our work and a web site.

This year our usual annual monitoring visit by trustees to Sylhet was not possible due to the corona virus. Instead, we arranged a series of virtual monitoring meetings with staff and beneficiaries of the project. Trustees will be reporting on these meetings to our supporters on 3rd July.

Thank you to everyone who has donated to us and supported us during the past year. We look forward to your support during the coming year to make a real difference to the lives of people living in need in the Khasdobir area, and continuing the work begun by Peter East and Harun Ahmed many years ago.

Continued on page 3

Continued from page 2

Risk Assessment

The Trustees have considered the risks to which they may be exposed and have policies in place to manage these.

Public Benefit

The Trustees confirm that due regard has been given to the Charity Commissioners' guidance on public benefit. The work in Bangladesh, which we support, assists the very poorest people in the area without charge.

For more news and pictures do please visit our website:

www.khasdobir.org.uk

This report and our accounts will be presented at our Meeting of Supporters on:

Saturday July 3rd

11.30am

at

**Friends Meeting House, 16
Queen's Road, Leicester LE2 1WP**

There will also be an option to join the meeting using zoom.

Please contact us by email to confirm that you will attend or to request the zoom link to join the meeting.

khasdobir@btinternet.com

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees on the unaudited financial statement of Friends of Khasdobir, Bangladesh (on Page 4)

I report on the accounts of Friends of Khasdobir, Bangladesh, to 31st March 2021

Respective responsibilities of Trustees and Examiner

As the charity's trustees you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts, you consider that the audit requirement of section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the Act) does not apply and that an independent examination is needed. It is my responsibility to examine the accounts under section 145 of the Act, to follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act, and to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of Independent Examiner's Statement

My examination was carried out in accordance with the general Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a "true and fair view" and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

- (i) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:
 - to keep proper accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the Act; and
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and to comply with the accounting requirements of the Act

have not been met; or

- (ii) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

ICFS Agar FCA

Robert Whowell & Partners

CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS AND STATUTORY AUDITORS

78 Loughborough Road, Quorn, Leicestershire, LE12 8DX

FRIENDS OF KHASDOBIR: BANGLADESH**Charity No. 1185262****Accounts for the Year 1st April, 2020 to 31st March 2021****Full Year
to 31/03/21****RECEIPTS****£**

Donations from Individuals: Gift Aid Tax Recoverable	12,033.00
Donations from Individuals: Gift Aid Tax Not Recoverable	7,939.45
Fundraising Meals Income: Gift Aid Tax Recoverable	70.00
Fundraising Meals Income: Gift Aid Tax Not Recoverable	0.00
Individual Donations from Fund Raising: Gift Aid Tax Recoverable	1,165.00
Individual Donations from Fund Raising: Gift Aid Tax Not Recoverable	328.00
Donations from Groups, Toc H Branches and Other Organisations	1,691.88
Legacies	0.00
Sales of Calendars, Surplus Jewellery, and Other Items	0.00
Interest from Charities Official Investment Fund (COIF) Deposit Account	3.64
Interest from Charities Official Investment Fund (COIF) Investment Account	6,798.96
Tax Recovered from HMR&C on Gift Aidable Donations	4,814.78

TOTAL RECEIPTS**34,844.71****PAYMENTS**

Grant to Sylhet Jubo Academy in Bangladesh	32,998.00
New Colour Leaflet about Project	0.00
Quarterly Newsletter Printing and Packing	510.75
Postage (Mainly Newsletters, but Other Letters also)	376.58
Meeting Room Hire	19.60
Equipment Purchase for Sylhet Jubo Academy's Work in Khasdobir	793.00
Website Registration, Design, Management and Server Provider Continuation	0.00
Trustee(s) Monitoring Visits to Bangladesh	0.00
Project Expenses by Trustees for Work in Khasdobir	614.12
Transport Costs for Computer Class Staff	0.00
Grant to Sylhet Jubo Academy for Shelter Construction	10,319.00
Public and Trustee Liability Insurance	0.00
Bank Charges for Transferring Money to SJA's Account in Sylhet	102.00

TOTAL PAYMENTS**45,733.05****Deficit****-10,888.34****BALANCES**

Funds Transferred from Previous Charity	205,513.27
Revaluation of Investment Fund (gain/loss) as at 1st April 2021	40,544.01
Deficit this year	-10,888.34
Cumulative Surplus Carried Forward	235,168.94

Represented By:

Barclays Bank Current Account	16,341.28
CCLA Charities Official Investment Fund (Deposit Account)	4,365.35
CCLA Charities Official Investment Fund (Investment Account)	214,462.31

Total Bank Balances**235,168.94**

Accounts to be inserted

**Friends of Khasdobir Annual Report and Accounts adopted
By the Trustees on 17th April 2021**



MIKE SHERRIFF
Chair of Trustees



Phil Watson
Hon Treasurer

Friends of Khasdobir, Chapel cottage, Station Road, East Garston, Hungerford, Berkshire, RG17 7HF