



The lovely garden at our  
Brighter Life home

Dear Friends of Star Action,

We send with this letter our thanks for all your support over the past years. We will be writing a full report of all our work in our Spring Newsletter, but as we approach the Christmas season we wanted to share with you a little of the progress in each of the countries where we are now working.

So, dear friends, if you feel moved at this Christmas season to send a donation to help our work in any area, it will be most gratefully received.

On behalf of Star Action Trustees

Joan, Kate and Stuart

## INDIA

It is now twelve years since our Charity, Star Action, was founded and twenty two years since our Save the Babies Childrens' home was started by Stuart's daughter, Kate, who was only eighteen at the time. Star Action happily incorporated Kate's childrens' home in its work, and it now has the lovely new name of 'Brighter Life', as the work has extended to look after our children long past babyhood. As reported in previous Newsletters, our delightful house parents, Sasees and Richard, have helped us establish a truly happy home atmosphere and just as in all happy families, the growing children have stayed in our hearts right into adulthood. We really do love all our children and make sure they have the opportunity of a 'brighter life' as they progress into further education and better paid jobs than those without adequate education.



Richard with some of the boys from  
the Cardomom Hills

Education is one of the important themes which has emerged over the years in our Star Action work, and as we have reported in past Newsletters (you can read more in our

recently updated website [www.staraction.org](http://www.staraction.org)), we can now look back on the success of a number of our Star pupils, including our newly qualified Dr. Velammal!

In June this year we also welcomed five more young ones into our Brighter Life Home, thus giving them a far greater life opportunity than they would have had staying in their tea-plantation village in the Cardomom Hills.

## SRI LANKA NEWS



Happy pupils in Sinhala class at  
Buddhist school

In Sri Lanka we are truly proud of our Sinhala Teaching project now working with five village schools, helping an estimated one hundred and fifty

children. Star Action pays the teachers for their 'after school classes' (school ends at one thirty pm in this hot country). The teachers love working for us, as they can rely on receiving their payment on time, which is not always true of their Government salaries. From February this year, we are also helping more nursery schools and have provided new playground equipment and sponsorship for school lunches.

Shakeenah, from a very poor Sri Lankan family, is now training to be a doctor in Chittagong Medical College in Bangladesh.

The students in this college (which is situated not far from a huge camp for Rohingya refugees from Myanmar) will be playing a part in the future in caring for these refugees.

Further news of our Sri Lanka projects will follow in our Spring time Newsletter, but we can report now that the most urgent work on repairing village house roofs has been completed, thanks to your generous donations.

## INDONESIA

We are also helping with individual sponsorship of higher education in Indonesia. If you look at 'latest news' on our website you will see details



Zahra at Aceh University

about Zahra Astriani whom we are helping with her fees to attend Aceh University - a rebuilt town, flattened in the tsunami - to train to be a Vet. (She is concerned about animal welfare in the developing world.)

## NEPAL



Earthquake damaged  
Panchakoshi School

Our wonderful friend and 'Star Action agent' in Nepal, Keshav, has told us that the work is successfully going on in his home village near Pokhara. Star Action is currently helping the Panchakoshi School, which was badly affected by the recent earthquakes with

provision of a new library. The post earthquake house re-building has been completed.

## AFRICA

Our wonderful news here is that our Community Centre in Asiakwa is now in full use, following our lease of the building to a truly philanthropic head teacher, Samuel Asamoah. Already taking in poor children at half the normal school fees, Star Action is paying him to take in two more truly needy children from the village every year.

We have also extended our work in Africa to help the Portland School and Community in Amor village in Uganda. This is a community that is supporting some of the many families in Uganda who have lost often many relatives through HIV and Aids. They are trying to become self sufficient and we are financing the fencing of an area to enable them to protect their animals and crops from wild creatures.



New fence for Portland  
School