



Friends of Khasdobir, Bangladesh

Charity Number 1185262

4th Annual Report and Accounts

To 31st March 2024

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 (Resigned 3/6/2023)
Mr Dulon Miah (Resigned 3/6/2023)

Mr Monjur Elahi (Resigned 25/4/2023)
Ms Sue Simmons
Mrs Doreen Watson
Mr Philip Watson (Treasurer)
Ms. Rana Al Jalili (Resigned 25/4/2023)
Mr. Sachin Mohite (Resigned 3/6/2023)
Mr John Cowpe (Appointed 13/1/2024)

Bankers: Barclays Business Banking.

Ind. Examiner: Rachel Thorpe (Appointed 13/1/2024)

Web site: www.khasdobir.org.uk.

History and Objectives

Friends of Khasdobir has operated as a registered Charitable Incorporated Organisation since 1st April 2020.

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 is 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, are appointed by existing trustees to serve a period of 3 years. There must be between 3 and 12 trustees. This year we appointed one new trustee who is a relative of the original founder of the project. 5 trustees resigned during the year.

Review of the Year

Friends of Khasdobir supports the educational and welfare work begun by Peter East and Harun Ahmed in Sylhet, Bangladesh, 40 years ago. Since 1st July 2018 the Friends have supported the Sylhet Jubo Academy (SJA), a local non-government organisation based in Sylhet, to deliver the project. This is the second year of a three year commitment we have made to SJA to deliver the project up to July 2025.

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At the beginning of this year we made a commitment to support the construction of two new shelters for use as schools. One is an additional shelter on the tea garden in an area the project did not previously serve, and one is a replacement for a school that was meeting in a garage where there were some health and safety concerns. Both schools were completed, with children attending, by July.

We are currently giving attention to the long-term sustainability of the project. We have supported SJA to appoint a fundraising officer who has planned several local fundraising events including a cricket tournament that trustees took part in during their visit. Each centre also has a management committee of local people who take an interest in the centre and are starting to raise funds to support local activities.

Our UK fundraising this year has included a virtual trek in Sylhet, a virtual Christmas puppet show with children from one of the centres, fundraising meals, and a garden party. In April 2023 we had an event at All Hallows by the Tower in London to celebrate the 100th anniversary of our founder, Peter East. Over 30 people attended.

Our on-line fundraising platform is: <https://www.peoplesfundraising.com/donation/friends-of-khasdobir> We also now have an embroidery and craft shop selling items produced by the project. These proved very popular at our event in London.

In Sylhet the project provides 12 pre-primary centres for 420 children from the slum areas of the city and the tea gardens just outside the city. The centres all have monthly meetings with parents/guardians where issues related to children's welfare are discussed. In

January 2024 126 children transferred to primary schools from our centres.

The project continues to provide training in sewing, block-batik and hand embroidery, and computing. 100 young people take part in the training. We are especially pleased that some of the young people have been supported by SJA and Muslim Charity to start small businesses after completing their training.

During the past year the project outreach team continued door to door visits to families, organisation of courtyard meetings and distribution of widows' allowances. The work of the team ensures that we reach those in most need and that our beneficiaries access other services such as health facilities and education provision for children who have dropped out.

During the past year our Chair spent several months with the project and three trustees visited in February. They reported back to our committee and supporters.

We continue to have a facebook page with 821 followers and produce a regular newsletter. We have a leaflet informing people about our work and a web site.

Thank you to everyone who has donated and supported us this year. Next year we plan to continue our activities with a particular emphasis on trying to ensure the long-term sustainability of the work.

Risk Assessment

The Trustees have considered the risks to which they may be exposed and have policies in place to manage these. We have a lead trustee for safeguarding and have given particular attention to strengthening our communication with the project about safeguarding issues.

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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.

Below: Teachers painting new classroom wall



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

**Saturday July 6th 2024
10 am by zoom.**

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

khasdobir@btinternet.com

For more news and pictures do please visit our website:
www.khasdobir.org.uk

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 2024

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.

Rachel Thorpe (CIMA), 52 Priory Road, Loughborough, LE11 3PP

Independent Examiner

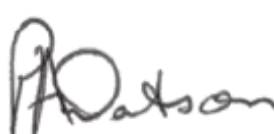
Accounts for the Year 1st April, 2023 to 31st March 2024

	Present Year 31/03/2024	Last Full Year to 31/03/23	Full Year to 31/03/22
RECEIPTS	£	£	£
Donations from Individuals: Gift Aid Tax Recoverable	9,972.00	10,093.00	10,413.00
Donations from Individuals: Gift Aid Tax Not Recoverable	1,469.09	2,498.81	5,434.94
Fundraising Meals Income: Gift Aid Tax Recoverable	795.00	765.20	0.00
Fundraising Meals Income: Gift Aid Tax Not Recoverable	130.00	175.00	0.00
Individual Donations from Fund Raising: Gift Aid Tax Recoverable	918.00	1,915.00	610.00
Individual Donations from Fund Raising: Gift Aid Tax Not Recoverable	0.00	49.10	45.00
Donations from Groups, Toc H Branches and Other Organisations	428.70	1,615.50	1,872.50
Legacies	0.00	25,000.00	0.00
Sales of Calendars, Surplus Jewellery, and Other Items	15.00	0.00	0.00
Interest from Charities Official Investment Fund (COIF) Deposit Accou	193.43	113.19	1.14
Interest from Charities Official Investment Fund (COIF) Investment Acc	4,957.45	5,823.92	6,389.69
Tax Recovered from HMR&C on Year's Gift Aidable Donations	3,635.47	3,090.61	4,217.78
TOTAL RECEIPTS	22,514.14	51,139.33	28,984.05
PAYMENTS			
Grant to Sylhet Jubo Academy in Bangladesh	50,150.00	57,769.00	58,504.50
New Colour Leaflet about Project	0.00	0.00	0.00
Quarterly Newsletter Printing and Packing	331.15	296.22	236.90
Postage (Mainly Newsletters, but Other Letters also)	498.00	338.40	283.02
Meeting Room Hire	0.00	60.00	44.50
Equipment Purchase for Sylhet Jubo Academy's Work in Khasdobir	0.00	0.00	0.00
Website Registration, Design, Management and Server Provider Contin	71.87	0.00	0.00
Trustee(s) Monitoring Visits to Bangladesh	3,229.84	4,303.41	0.00
Project Expenses by Trustees for work in Khasdobir	0.00	0.00	0.00
Costs incurred in fundraising (UK)	50.00	0.00	0.00
Grant to Sylhet Jubo Academy for Shelter Construction	14,702.00	0.00	0.00
Public and Trustee Liability Insurance	0.00	0.00	0.00
Bank Charges for Transferring Money to SJA's Account in Sylhet	150.00	100.00	99.00
Miscellaneous	70.00	646.00	
TOTAL PAYMENTS	69,252.86	63,513.03	59,167.92
Surplus (- = Deficit)	-46,738.72	-12,373.70	30,183.87
BALANCES			
Balance Brought Forward	203,615.12	223,363.47	235,168.94
Revaluation of Investment Fund (gain/loss) as at 1st April 2023	14,202.51	-7,374.65	18,378.40
Surplus or Deficit this year	-46,738.72	-12,373.70	-30,183.87
Cumulative Surplus Carried Forward	171,078.91	203,615.12	223,363.47
Represented By:			
Barclays Bank Current Account	3,066.17	13,955.77	12,266.58
CCLA Charities Official Investment Fund (Deposit Account)	5,344.17	9,193.29	3,256.18
CCLA Charities Official Investment Fund (Investment Account)	162,668.57	180,466.06	207,840.71
Total Bank Balances	171,078.91	203,615.12	223,363.47

**Friends of Khasdobir Annual Report and Accounts adopted
by the Trustees on 29th April 2024**



MIKE SHERRIFF
Chair of Trustees



Phil Watson
Hon Treasurer

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

