

# Reaching the Unreached

Childcare education health housing water welfare - serving the rural poor in South India



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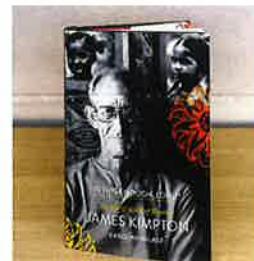
Dear Friends

Greetings from Mo from the RTU office in the UK. Please excuse this round robin letter but I wanted to write to you now to enclose our Christmas leaflet and send you a brief update as I am shortly off to India with a group of supporters to see RTU's life-changing work at first hand. I hope you enjoy browsing through it, if it is a little early, and find something of interest! As always, the proceeds from the sales will help RTU's work.



It was a great pleasure taking Father Antony to meet many of our church groups and supporters when he came here in May, and thank you for taking the time to come and meet us if you were able to. It was a busy 12-day tour but so encouraging for us to have such great hospitality, see many old friends and meet new supporters for the first time. For the staff in India, who work so hard and are so dedicated to the children, it was a great encouragement to them as well to see all the photos and hear about you when Father Antony returned home and shared stories of his visit.

As many of you know, it is the centenary of the birth of RTU's founder, Brother James Kimpton, this year and RTU have found various ways of celebrating this. Here, in the UK, we have published a biography, written by a volunteer who worked with him for 7 years in the late 70s/early 80s when he first set up RTU. Over in India, the children put on a play depicting his life, and the local villages have built a commemorative arch at the entrance to RTU's main school campus.



To mark the centenary year, Father Antony hopes to be able to build 100 new houses for destitute families who live in their area. So far, they have built 45 houses this year so a big thank you to all who have contributed so far. If you would be interested in helping, please do email me or contact me via my address above. A house costs just £1,200 (which becomes £1,500 with Gift Aid) and RTU are more than happy to put a plaque in memory of a loved one or in thanksgiving.

Let me share one example of how these houses have transformed lives. One of the new homeowners is, Ayyammal, a 67-year-old widow whose youngest daughter has returned home after her husband abandoned her leaving her with three young children. They were living in a thatched hut on bare earth with a corrugated iron roof and now have a safe and secure home.



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RTU in India is an independent organisation registered in Tamil Nadu  
Director: Fr Antony Paulsamy OFM Cap, G Kallupatti, Periyakulam Tk, Theni District 625 203, Tamil Nadu, South India

Father Antony also wishes to find 100 new sponsors for the orphaned and vulnerable children in their care. I have sponsored two sisters for many years now and it has been wonderful to watch them grow into the confident young women they are. It costs just £20 a month to sponsor a child and this regular income provides Father Antony with the security of knowing that the children in the Children's Village will always be provided for. Again, please do contact me if you would like to help.



Children like Akilan, aged 7, and his younger sister, Anu Shree aged 6, who came into RTU's care recently. Their mother very sadly committed suicide three years ago, and the father cannot work labouring in the fields due to health issues. The grandmother stepped in working and providing what care she could but now, with her advancing age, it is too difficult for her to care for them adequately, so she brought them to RTU. Now they will get the food and care they need, a high-quality education and the prospect of good careers. The grandmother and father will be able to visit them regularly.

Thank you to all those who contributed to Father Antony's Lent project, to build a new nursery/pre-school to give the very youngest children in the surrounding villages a good start in life and a solid educational foundation for when they start school. These are the most vulnerable children from the most destitute families, and RTU not only helps with their early years' education, but also regular health checks and good nutrition is also a major part of this project to ensure these children are not malnourished or suffering from preventable health issues. Thanks to your generosity, all the funds for the new school have been raised, and work started in July with a pooja to bless the site.



We are very grateful for all you do to support us, and all the various fundraising initiatives you help organise. One such event coming up is the Annual RTU Sponsored Walk for all the churches and groups in the Bournemouth and Poole area. Organised by one of Brother James's former pupils when he was a teacher in Bournemouth, this is one of our main fundraising events. If you would like to support John Duffy, now in his late 80s, please do contact me.

Whether through building homes, sponsoring children, or organising fundraising events, every contribution makes a real difference. You can find information about everything I have mentioned on our website (links below) but if you would prefer to write, email or phone me, it would be lovely to hear from you. Please do feel free to use the freepost envelope enclosed to make a donation or get in touch by post. Thank you for all you do to help.

With warmest wishes,

*Mo*

Mo Houlden  
UK Co-ordinator

PS If you would like copies of the Christmas flyer and this letter to distribute to friends or members of a parish or group you are involved in, please do let me know. I need a lot of help to spread the word about the vital work in India!

Christmas cards and weaving goods from India. <https://www.rtu.org.uk/christmas-shop>  
Build a house <https://www.rtu.org.uk/Appeal/build-a-house>  
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