

Inspirational People

who I am honoured to have met...

Subhash Mohato came to the foot care clinic at Purulia hospital for in-patient care with very small ulcers. Subhash had previously been treated for leprosy-related ulcers and sensation loss in his feet.

The difference between Subhash and other leprosy patients I met is that he is well educated, having earned a degree. He understands the importance of self-care and has been taught how to care for his feet. Subhash knows that keeping his skin moisturised and wearing good shoes are vital to prevent dryness and injury to his desensitised feet. His ulcers are now almost healed and it is likely that he will never need surgery as he will look after his feet properly.

Because his leprosy was treated early and he has no other visible skin damage Subhash has been able to keep his job as a harvest cultivator. He hides his ulcerated feet with shoes and long trousers. As a result he is able to contribute towards the cost of his treatment. As a leprosy patient Subhash would have been entitled to free care, but he wanted to pay. He is very proud of his contribution.

Sister Bera is ward sister at Purulia hospital.

“Sister Bera is a living testimony of faith in action.”

She could be paid a lot more money if she were to work as a nurse at one of the private hospitals or even in a government hospital. But Sister Bera has chosen to use her nursing skills for those who have no hope other than The Leprosy Mission.

I noticed that Sister Bera always makes a point of hugging or shaking hands with the patients, giving the youngsters a rub on the head and sharing a laugh with folk as she does her ward rounds.

We read of so many occasions in the Bible where Jesus reached out and touched those that society deemed unclean and unworthy of love. Two thousand years later Sister Bera and many others like her reach out not only with their own hands but with the hands of Jesus too. She is a small woman, barely reaching 5ft, but she has a huge heart and a passion for people, whatever their status or background may be.

Lisa Lewis, Area Coordinator.



Subhash Mohato



Sister Bera

The South-East project

Supporting physiotherapy in Kolkata



The slums of Kolkata

A crucial need - together we can meet it

Kolkata is one of the world's most densely populated cities. The population is currently around 5 million and that figure is increasing all the time. The city is well-known for its extreme poverty and overburdened infrastructure that simply cannot cope with the demands put on it.

Premenanda Memorial hospital in the north of the city has been serving people affected by leprosy and disadvantaged backgrounds since 1986. Annually it provides care for around 15,000 people. Part of the care given is to provide surgeries and subsequent physiotherapy to people whose leprosy has advanced past the early stages. The hospital has a huge catchment area and people travel from all over West Bengal (and beyond) to receive treatment.

Here in South-East England we are partnering with the physiotherapy department in Kolkata to help leprosy-affected patients recover after surgery. In real terms we are being challenged to raise £7,500 to support the vital work of the physiotherapy ward.

All of the fundraising events mentioned in this newsletter will help to support the work of the physiotherapy department in Kolkata. Whether you are walking on the beautiful Isle of Wight, enjoying a family quiz night or sipping wine in Surrey, you will be supporting thousands of people in Kolkata as they rebuild the strength in their leprosy-damaged bodies.

If you would like to donate or hold your own fundraising event, specifically for our partner project in Kolkata, please get in touch with me and I will be able to give you more details.



Assessing the physiotherapy needs of the patients

Family Quiz Nights

What you need to know...

... the answers to the questions, perhaps? Well, you're not getting those!

1. Find the quiz that's nearest to you and ask some friends or family to help make up a team. You can come on your own and we'll make up teams when you arrive, but it's great fun if you bring your friends.
2. Book your place at the venue of your choice.
3. Come along and have a great time knowing you are helping Kolkata hospital.

The quizzes are all family friendly, but might be unsuitable for under 8s. But it may be a good idea to get some youngsters on your team as there might be some questions about Disney or X-Factor!

Quiz nights cost £5 each (£3 under 12s) including simple refreshments and nibbles. You are welcome to bring extras along for your team. There will also be drinks available for sale on the night.

Flower workshop

What do you do when someone gives you flowers?

If you'd like to learn how to do something more than sticking them in a vase on top of the telly, then the Flower Workshops are for you. If you live too far from Guildford, perhaps you'd like to host a flower workshop yourself? To discuss this idea further please call me.



Sheila putting finishing touches to her flower arrangement

For more information please visit www.leprosymission.org.uk

Events where you live



Fundraising events and days out

A fun night for young and old alike

Quiz night venues

Salem Baptist Church, Dover
Date: Saturday 2 April 2011

Sandown Baptist Church
Date: Friday 6 May 2011

Brighton Road Baptist Church, Horsham
Date: Saturday 24 June 2011

St James Church, Milton
Date: Saturday 2 July 2011


St Barnabas Church, Istead Rise
Date: Saturday 9 July 2011

Godalming Baptist Church
Date: Saturday 15 October 2011

Park Road Methodist Church, Hastings
Date: Saturday 28 October 2011

Emmanuel Church, Guildford
Date: Saturday 26 November 2011

Start time for all quiz nights: 7pm

 Look for the symbol for the Family Quiz Nights on the map. It will help you to see which ones are near you.



Sponsored Walks

Whitstable Walk of Hope

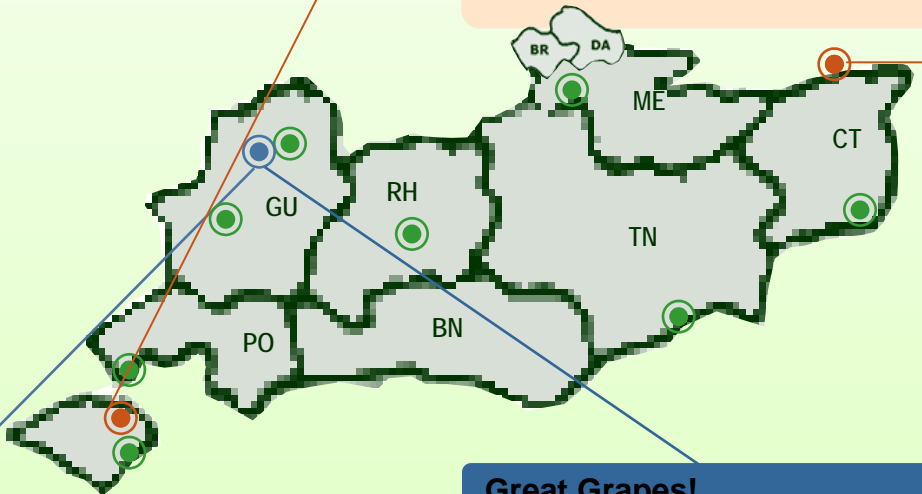
9m Date: Saturday 25th June
Length: 9 miles Start: 10am

A bracing walk along the seafront path from Whitstable to Herne Bay and back again taking in Whitstable Harbour, the brightly painted famous beach huts and Herne Bay pier. This walk is mainly flat.

Pier2Pier Walk of Hope

10m Date Saturday 1st October

This is not one for the faint-hearted! The hills of the eastern side of the Island provide some spectacular views, but you've got to conquer them first! This walk starts at the end of Ryde pier and ends on Sandown pier.



Flower Workshops

Dates: Saturday 9 April 2011 10am
Saturday 8 October 2011 10am
Friday 23 December 2011 2pm

Venue: Emmanuel Church, Guildford
Cost: £30 April and October
£20 December

Designed for beginners and those with a little floral know-how. Create two stunning designs (one in December) to take home and enjoy and learn a new skill too.

All equipment and flowers are provided as well as some yummy treats.

Book all three for £70



Great Grapes!

Date: Friday 20th May
Details Emmanuel Church, Guildford
Start time: 8pm Cost £10

Do you know your chardonnay from your shiraz? A wine tasting with a difference as you learn about the effects of 'place' on wine grapes—oh and drink some wine too!

What makes French wine different from Australian Wine? Come and find out...

All of these events are supporting the South East region project

Further information and sponsorship forms can be downloaded from the

Coffee and Care

120 churches needed! Will your church be one of them?

The vocational training centre in Bankura, India is where up to 200 students from leprosy-affected backgrounds are studying hard for their qualifications. For many young people when leprosy comes into a family, the option of college and further education becomes an impossible dream. That's where The Leprosy Mission steps in and offers vocational training in a number of specialist fields. Students can study motor mechanics, electrical engineering, welding, tailoring and needlework, business studies and IT, all with a view to that all-important job.

For students at the Bankura vocational training centre, all their basic needs are provided for whilst they study. It costs £28 to feed all the students every day and that's where we need your help. We are looking for 120 churches in the South-East to hold a Coffee and Care event. From the conventional coffee morning to afternoon tea, summer barbeques or an early breakfast, there are many different ways of holding your Coffee and Care event. Thinking outside of the box, perhaps you could give up the expensive frothy cappuccinos from the high street coffee chains just once a month in 2011? At £3 a time, that'll be £36 - more than enough for one day's food at Bankura.

Whatever you decide to do, let us know – we'll be publishing some of your Coffee and Care stories later in the year. For more details please contact me.



Please request the 2011 Coffee and Care leaflet



Students on the mechanics course



Your Region

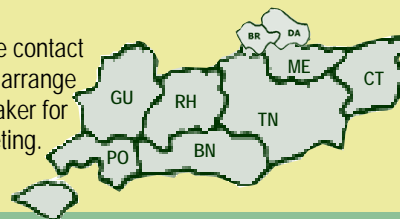
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01483 225958

Covering postcodes:
BN, BR, CT, DA, GU, ME, PO, RH, TN.

Please contact me to arrange a speaker for a meeting.



Event booking and response form

Please make cheques payable to The Leprosy Mission

Event Title (e.g. 'Whitstable Walk of Hope')	No. of people	Amount enclosed (if applicable)
_____	_____	£ _____
_____	_____	£ _____

Please send me Coffee and Care leaflets _____ (number required)

Name: _____ Address: _____

Postcode: _____

Telephone: _____ Church/Group: _____

Email: _____

I/we would like to support the work of The Leprosy Mission. Please accept the gift of:

£100 £50 £25 £ _____

giftaid it For personal gifts only, not group donations

Please treat all my donations to The Leprosy Mission for the four years prior to this year, and all subsequent donations until I notify you otherwise, as Gift Aid donations. I will pay Income and/or Capital Gains Tax at least equal to the tax reclaimed on my donations in any tax year.

Signature _____

Date _____



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