

The McCabe Educational Trust



Send in the Nawabganj Clowns

June 2011

“God’s children and their happiness are my reasons for being”

Red Skelton (1913-1997), famous clown and creator of the Red Skelton Foundation which cares for needy children.



Andrew McCabe (bottom, pictured with David Muraiya, one of his many “charges”) is not a famous clown, but he has been caring for needy children in India for sixty years and to all the children in his care at the Anand Niwas Boys Home, he is known as “uncle”.

Alistair, Lynne, Angus and Eva McCabe spent four very special days in April this year staying at Anand Niwas which means “House of Joy”.



Angus McCabe writes: “It was an amazing experience which I shall never forget, from being met on arrival by the boys showering us with flower garlands, singing and clapping, to giving us a fantastic evening of fun and culture on our last night.”

These boys have nothing in terms of material things but they are shown respect, love and support from Andrew and his team of fantastic staff and carers who are dedicated to making these boys’ life meaningful and safe. Many have literally been rescued off the streets and slums of cities like Calcutta; many have been orphaned and have nowhere to go, no one to love them, feed them or clothe them.

To spend time with the boys (aged from 5 to 18 years) was hugely rewarding. Everything that is done for them, however small, is appreciated and revered. A trip to the local shop (opposite page) for some of them was the highlight of the year. Every boy was thrilled and delighted to accept the new clothes we bought for them and couldn’t wait to wear them. There was certainly no squabbling over who was going to have the red shirt or the green one!



Their day starts at 5.30am with a loud wake up bell followed by communal prayer time. The school is right next to the home so getting to classes is easy. The boys attend lessons in all the standard UK National

Curriculum subjects and also receive medical and nutritional care. While we were there we cut the ground (see pictures) to start the building of a three-roomed science block paid for by a £18,000 grant from the McCabe Educational Trust. There are already plans for three more classes to be built on top when funding is available.



A busy day ends with a well earned supper in the dining hall and time of course for cricket. Bedtime is at sundown as electricity is very sporadic in this remote rural area and the generator is expensive to run for too long. We all had early nights at Anand Niwas!

The children are taught to help each other out, treat other people with love and respect and to look after the environment in which they live; their home was immaculately kept and free of litter. At harvest time they enjoy helping to bring in the wheat and the sugar cane from the fields next to the school. The school and the home are extremely self-sufficient and produce nearly all of their own food, including milk from their own buffalos.



Our visit was truly special, not just because we had at last managed to travel to this remote area and see where uncle Andrew lives, but because meeting the boys made us realise how much we take for granted at home and how fussy and self-focussed we can be about life when we have so much choice and money available to buy whatever we need. The children we met here were a credit to Andrew and his staff and it was an honour to meet them and spend time with them. Angus and Eva have each sponsored a boy and we will look forward to visiting them again.



If you would like to become a sponsor, we and they would be delighted. It's not just the money, a letter and a picture means so much and are treasured, kept under pillows to be looked at every night.



Anand Niwas Boys home



You can make a difference

The McCabe Educational Trust is committed to providing half the running costs of the Anand Niwas Boys Home. You can become a partner in this work. Just £50 a month will provide food, board and tuition for one child. Help us change lives. Help us keep these boys smiling. Allow them to become something in their lives. Give these boys hope and health and they will be happy and prosper.

Thank you

to McCabe pilgrims who helped us raise **£18,048** during May contributing to a total of **£92,191** for the year to date.

For more information about our work, please take a look at the Trust pages on the McCabe website www.mccabe-travel.co.uk With your ongoing support we will continue helping those in need we encounter on our travels.

The McCabe Educational Trust 11 Hillgate Place London SW12 9ER
Tel: 020 8675 6828 www.mccabe-travel.co.uk registered charity number: 1020058