KRISHNAMURTI FOUNDATION TRUST

2017-18 Annual Report

Message from the Board of Trustees

years of the Krishnamurti Foundation Trust (KFT) was cause for celebration this last year – just as 50 years of Brockwood Park School is this year – and an announcement by Krishnamurti, in the first Foundation Bulletin in 1968, made clear what the purpose of this new Trust would be:

All of us are working together in the spirit of real cooperation in which there is no authority: it is our interest in the teachings that brings us together and helps us to work together. The authority of a central directive ceases; each of us is important and we all help each other. occurred in Krishnamurti Writings Inc., preceding the creation of the KFT, had for a time left Krishnamurti with no control over his own publications. Such difficulties are happily a thing of the past. A great deal has been done in the last 50 years - not least in the KFT's first year of operation in purchasing Brockwood Park and opening the main school. As for the future we are excited about the many projects and plans that are in the pipeline.

We offer here a brief financial and functional overview which we feel clearly illustrates the overall wellbeing of the organisation.

As Trustees of the Foundation today, with overarching responsibility for all that happens in the Trust and at Brockwood Park, we feel that the 'spirit of real cooperation' is alive and well among us and in those that live and work at Brockwood. Our relationships as a group, and with the Brockwood Park staff, are underpinned by our interest in the teachings. Therefore there is a preparedness to question our own views and decisions, as we do those of others, making for dynamic, frank and healthy relationships in which no individual has pre-eminence.

There is a great deal to be done, which has not been done in the past, was the injunction and muted criticism which ended the Bulletin announcement in 1968. Conflict of the kind that had





In the financial year 2018, we had 33 residential staff and 26 nonresidential staff, as well as 13 volunteers working here. Brockwood Park School accepted 37 new applicants for the year 2017-18 along with 35 returning students giving a total enrolment of 72. Increasing the capacity of Inwoods meant that for the year 2017-18 we had 43 enrolled students.

Both schools continue to give a considerable number of bursaries. During the financial year 2018, the schools awarded approximately 12% of total fee income in bursaries, which amounted to £174,038, providing support to 23 students at the main school and 8 at Inwoods.

Total income of the charity increased from £1,898,038 to £2,380,838 due to an increase in school fees, donations and income from the Centre. Donations received totalled £484,543 (compared to £422,950 in 2017). Legacies amounted to £118,357 (2017: £25,966). After deducting total expenses of £2,030,087 (2017: £1,898,292), the Net Incoming Resources for the charity totalled £350,751 (2017: not Incoming, but Net Outgoing £254).

Though the activities at Brockwood continue to operate in a very uncertain climate, particularly due to Brexit, we feel encouraged by the positive results outlined above, by the continuing and new interest in the teachings, and by the hard work and initiative of the staff across all departments, which you will find reflected in the different reports included here. We are grateful to all those, both within and outside Brockwood who are helping in various ways to ensure that this work flourishes. We greatly appreciate your ongoing assistance.

Trustees of the Krishnamurti Foundation Trust Viswanath Alluri, Gisele Balleys, Alastair Herron, Derek Hook, Gary Primrose, Wendy Smith

Actual Financials for Financial Year 2017-2018

Krishnamurti Foundation Trust

Incoming Resources* £2.38m

Including all departments at Brockwood

Income from Charitable Activities £1.78m



VOLUNTARY INCOME 25% VOLUNTARY INCOME 25%

*Voluntary income includes income given to the charity on a voluntary basis such as gifts, donations and legacies. Incoming resources from charitable activities include any resources arising from activities promoting the charity's objects.



Resources Expended £2.03m



REPORT Krishnamurti Foundation Trust

Dissemination has seen the Foundation Bulletin undergo extensive changes in design, structure and content, with more information about our work and additional Krishnamurti texts. The Foundation initiated the Audio Collection campaign, releasing over 400 full-length audio recordings of Krishnamurti's talks and discussions on our YouTube channel. Over the year, videos and audios on the channel received over 4.5 million views. The official website of the teachings, jkrishnamurti.org, a joint project by all the Foundations, containing hundreds of videos, audios and texts, was updated and a new KFT site launched.

In addition to the ongoing translation and publication of Krishnamurti books in many languages, the book What Are You Doing With Your Life? was published by Rider in the UK. This book was very well received and sold 12,000 copies in less than nine months.

Thanks to a professional filmmaker, the Foundation produced a video about its work. The video features prominently on the new website and has been watched more than 90,000 times on Facebook alone.

The main challenge at the Foundation is that our small team, with limited resources, needs to attend to all the areas of work under the mandate of the Foundation as well as we can. This means that staff have multiple responsibilities and tasks. Also, we are making the teachings of Krishnamurti available free to the world, meaning that we now rely mostly on donations to sustain our work.



We have more than 80 large and small projects in the pipeline and can only mention a few here. We are upgrading our digital infrastructure and enhancing our social media activities to assist with dissemination, supported by the incorporation of a modern database for the Foundation and other departments at Brockwood. This will allow seamless communication with our subscribers and donors. Unpublished material will become available in a new book, Can the Mind Be Quiet?, due out in the summer. Finally, we will continue to produce the more than 2,000 audio recordings of Krishnamurti and make them available for free on YouTube.

The Krishnamurti Centre

During the last year, 345 guests visited the Centre for the first time, staying for at least one night to explore what it means to be on retreat or to attend one of our hosted events. The Centre has also received a considerable number of new day visitors during the year.

The Centre hosted a new type of event inspired by the fiveday study retreats taking place twice a year. For this event, guests were invited to focus on the subject of dialogue only. For the five days, the group immersed themselves in inquiry together and held on average five hours of dialogue per day.

A considerable refurbishment of the library began in 2018. As one of the most used rooms at the Centre, we are concerned that this space maintains its sense of beauty and comfort. A new carpet has been laid, two of the armchairs re-upholstered, and new lighting over the bookshelves added. New curtains are to follow.



CHALLENGES

HIGHLIGHTS

One of the challenges the Centre faces is to attract younger people as day and residential guests. We feel, given the teaching's (and the Centre's) concern with the inquiry into basic questions of everyday life, its relevance for young adults is clear. Finding ways to attract younger people and share the teachings with them is less clear, but we are determined to see more of this happen.

The Centre intends to continue working closely with the Krishnamurti Committees around the world to organise more group retreats and to encourage people who are not fluent in English to visit us. The Committees are also a platform supporting contact with a younger audience.

DEPARTMENT REPORT

Brockwood Park School

A comprehensive review of the curriculum was carried out, involving gathering feedback and identifying gaps or areas that needed further attention. As a result, changes were introduced and a plan of action was put in place to make sure that the curriculum remains alive and creative.

The School this year has a good mix of new and experienced teachers interested in education, the Brockwood ethos and Krishnamurti's teachings. They are working well together as a group, helping ensure a warm and serious atmosphere. An organised support programme was put in place for staff to ensure they can get the help they might need professionally and practically.

Student projects have become an increasingly important part of the curriculum and are often chosen as main subjects. Projects are challenging and stretch students differently to the way class subjects do. Examples of projects presented to the whole school included: body image (photography), music production and the sea, welding, biology and surfing, and an inner and outer exploration of what it is to be human.

Brexit remains the main challenge and risk as it may have a direct impact on the international mix of the School, particularly in relation to staffing. Our international makeup is important given our concern to provide an education exploring the nature of conditioning. We have looked at different scenarios to deal with the outcome, but considering the uncertainty surrounding Brexit, it has been impossible to plan with any surety.



We are giving more attention to outreach and communications, including the implementation of a new database, a new School website, better utilisation of social media, and improving student recruitment strategies. One of the main areas identified as part of the curriculum review was the need to strengthen Life After Brockwood, our programme for students preparing to leave, including consideration of the pathways to higher education.

FUTURE PLANS

HIGHLIGHTS

DEPARTMENT REPORT

Inwoods Small School

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We are offering parents the opportunity to deepen their understanding and learning regarding fundamental questions, by strongly encouraging them to join one of our small dialogue groups. These take place every other week, occasionally including a guest facilitator from the wider Brockwood community.

Due to an increase in enrolment and the requirement to minimise traffic on the narrow country lanes around Inwoods, a minibus service was implemented, alternating the collection of Inwoods children on two different routes per week.

Refurbishment projects included the addition of a porch to one of the classroom barns, freeing up workspace for the additional children enrolled, a small shed converted to a dedicated library and tutoring room, and treatment to the exterior woodwork of all our buildings, ensuring they are better protected and resulting in an improved look to the site.

Inwoods continues to stress that education is a mutual task and requires the dedicated input of parents in understanding not only how to best support their children but how to develop the School so that its education addresses the fundamental questions of living and our impact on society. A particular challenge is not to get influenced by national benchmarks or caught in personal agendas relating to one's child.



We have begun steps towards the replacement of one of our main buildings, the Big Barn, due to structural deterioration. This has opened up an exciting opportunity for the School to consider its current and future educational needs and work towards a design that ensures that any new building will benefit from more sunlight, open plan work and play areas, and dedicated rooms for specialist activities. Funding will inevitably be an issue for such a large project, so great care will be given to the most suitable design and materials without compromising on the quality, sustainability and the need for a variety of facilities.



Brockwood Park Bramdean, Hampshire, SO24 0LQ, England

home to

KRISHNAMURTI FOUNDATION TRUST LTD Registered Charity 312865 +44 (0) 1962 771525 info@kfoundation.org www.kfoundation.org

BROCKWOOD PARK SCHOOL +44 (0) 1962 771744 admin@brockwood.org.uk www.brockwood.org.uk THE KRISHNAMURTI CENTRE +44 (0) 1962 771748 info@krishnamurticentre.org.uk www.krishnamurticentre.org.uk

INWOODS SMALL SCHOOL +44 (0) 1962 771 065 info@inwoods.org.uk www.inwoods.org.uk



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