

21st October 2019



Anna died on Sunday 21st October 2018.

He had been in hospital for one week during the celebration of Durga Puja here in Kolkata and on the last day of the Pujas, which is called Bijoya and is the day that the goddess returns back to her heavenly abode, we received news from the hospital that Anna was coming home the following day.

He came home and died the next day in the afternoon surrounded by the shuktara family.

According to the Hindu calendar his first year death anniversary and the rituals around it fell on Thursday 10th October which is when this photo was taken at Anna Bari, his home, named in his memory. During the course of the day Pappu did all the rituals for his final shradh.

It included lots of fire and very significant and meaningful moments, like walking outside the house with his favourite food, leaving it by the pond - walking away and not looking back.

Painful, but one more lesson in letting go.

Everyone came to Anna Bari, the girls all came from Lula Bari and the two older boys who are now married and living independently, came with their wives and daughters.

It was an exhausting day for everyone but important in so many ways to honour the memory of Anna who meant so much to us and along with Sunil were the first boys

and the beginning of shuktara.



In our last newsletter which I wrote and sent in July, I was able to tell you about a young man called Rubel who had lost his family and was living at Anna Bari. Just as he started to really settle down, the police called to say that his family had put in a missing persons report and that Pappu was to take him to the Social Welfare offices where his family would come to claim him.

Pappu met the family and he has now been safely reunited.



The Social Welfare Departments and the police are all really working well together to try and trace missing children and one of our boys Raja Singh who was with us in 2015 ran away after only a few months - last week he was traced to a Residential Care Home in North Bengal, where he has a different name and is happily settled. Pappu had filed a missing persons report, so consequently had to go and identify Raja Singh and agree that he stays where he is happiest.



In amongst all of the sad and happy news was the news we had all been waiting for - in August Pappu finally got the paperwork through to receive foreign funds into India. We appreciate how much all of you have given over the years to shuktara, but the inability to receive donations directly to Kolkata never stopped or hindered any of the work here. We are grateful to those that brought money to us and helped us get through those difficult four years. I am particularly grateful to Sue and the Trustees in the UK who never gave up on Pappu and continued to support and encourage him.

I have known Sue Tungay and her husband Mike since 1977, so when I came back to London in 2004 and started telling friends about shuktara, Sue was instrumental in setting up a meeting where we could talk about how people outside India could help. Shuktara Trust (UK) was born then - on 25th November 2005. Sue Tungay was Secretary from the start and became a Trustee shortly afterwards. Simeon Underwood was the original Chairman and once he got all the registration work done he handed the Chair over to Mike Tungay. Sue has been Secretary for 14 years and a Trustee for 13 years. Mike has been a Trustee for 14 years and Chairman for 13 years.

On the 17th September Mike announced his retirement as Chairman and we were delighted that Adam Thompson accepted. On the 1st October Karen Guile took over as Administrator and Fundraising Manager.



Adam Thompson



Karen Guile

It's impossible for me to put into words how important the work is that Sue Tungay has done for Shuktara. In terms of her personal time it is inestimable. If someone donated £5 or £5000 she would make sure that she wrote and posted a letter to them. For me in India knowing that everyone was being thanked for their support was a real blessing.

Her support for Pappu when he was going through all the paperwork for FCRA registration was constant. Even though frustrated with the length of time it took, I don't think Sue ever gave up hope that Pappu would be able to get everything done.

Of course Mike and Sue also visited Shuktara in Kolkata and spent a holiday in Puri by the seaside with us all.



Sue and Mike Tungay

For you as supporters, nothing has changed. The phone number and address you see on the Shuktara Trust (UK) website will stay with Sue Tungay at 7 Lily Close. She can forward information and letters and report on any phone calls to Karen Guile who has taken over until they find a more suitable point of contact. Karen and Sue are, and have been working closely together and of course, Sue and Mike both remain trustees.

This is what Sue wrote:

“We are both in our seventies and for me I wanted to hand over the admin side whilst I was still compos mentis. As Mike worked closely with me as Chair it seemed an opportune time to also hand over to someone who would be working closely with Karen. We also felt it was a good opportunity to have younger people at the helm. We are

still very happy to remain involved as trustees and to give Adam and Karen all the support they need in the changeover.”

So, lots of positive changes in the UK and with the paperwork clear to receive funding, there are lots of positive things that we are able to do here in Kolkata. Our dream for a café could come true now that the older boys at Shuktara Cakes are fully capable and professional bakers in French Patisserie - it would be good to have our own outlet. As far as Lula Bari and our girls, now that the older ones are out of school, we really need to start something for them. We want to do something away from the Lula Bari space, so they become used to independence and working outside. It will not be as easy for them as it has been for the older boys, but we must try and they have a lot of support from staff and local people here. Whatever happens you will be the first to know.

Thank You for supporting this work.
David Earp

ADDENDUM

This Mailchimp is an exact e-copy of a paper newsletter that David sends out to supporters.

Since posting the letter Karen Guile has resigned as Administrator and Fundraising Manager and all work for the time being has shifted back to Sue Tungay, until a suitable replacement is found.

We are so grateful to Sue for all she is doing for Shuktara Trust UK and we ask you all to think of her and the Trustees as they try to find an option to relieve Sue of these responsibilities.

Thank You

DONATE TO Shuktara Trust UK

DONATE DIRECTLY

In the UK the most cost effective way to help the running of our two homes is to donate directly to Shuktara Trust UK account:

Santander UK plc.
Account no: 04404505
Sort Code: 09-01-50
Account Name: Shuktara Trust (UK)

If you're a UK taxpayer, **Gift Aid** increases the value of your charity donations by 25%, because the charity can reclaim the basic rate of tax on your gift – at no extra cost to you.

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DONATE ONLINE IN \$



DONATE TO shuktara, Kolkata

KOLKATA BANK TRANSFER DETAILS

Swift Code: PUNBINBBDCA

IFC Code: PUNB0008500

MICR Code: 700024004

Account Name: shuktara

Account No.: 3187000100080165

Bank Name: Punjab National Bank

Branch Name: Kolkata Gariahat Road Branch

Branch Address: 18/1 Gariahat Road, Kolkata 700019

Shuktara provides a home for life for children and young adults with disabilities in Kolkata, India, who have no family.

shuktara.org

Official website of Shuktara Trust (UK) | UK Charity Commission No: 1112303





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