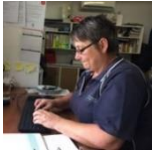


NEWSLETTER - NOVEMBER 2017

Namaste!



We extend a warm welcome to Bernadette Jarvis who has joined our committee! Bernie has been co-opted onto the fundraising committee & has agreed to help organise our book sale on Thursday Dec 14 at the Montessori Children's Centre (MCC) annual TWILIGHT PICNIC. We will also be selling Nepali artefacts at this event. Thanks to MCC centre management for this opportunity.

FES Coordinator

We also welcome Razeev Kapali as our Nepali scholarship program coordinator. Razeev replaces Purshottam Dahal who left the position to take up work in Doha. Razeev will work closely with MMSD-N & Bhim Kumar, our Education program manager, to manage the daily operations of the program in Nepal.

Bhim, Lynne & Razeev



Lynne's Report from October visit to Nepal.

This October I again found myself on my way to Kathmandu. Realising that half of the time I would spend in Nepal it would be the Diwali Festival and most businesses would be closed- I knew it was going to be busy!

I visited the Children's Development Society (CDS) on the first morning to see the Health Camp, sponsored by Rotary Club of Blackwood, in action. CDS aims to provide a health camp for mothers & babies 3-4 times a year. Volunteer doctors & nurses do regular health checks, provide medication where necessary & refer to hospitals as needed. Each health camp has a different emphasis e.g. Dental, Growth & Nutrition, Respiratory, &

Orthopaedics Many women & children were waiting patiently to be seen by the medical staff. I met with our partner NGO – MMSD-N & was introduced to their new board members. I was able to welcome old friend, but new FES Coordinator, Rajevee, to the program. I also had the pleasure of introducing some of our scholarship students to indoor bowling – something that they had never tried before. There were some very interesting styles of bowling 😊 lots of laughs & fun was had by all.

I joined Sanjeev Dahal at SAB school festival celebrations, where I caught up with many of our friends from the Rotary Club of Dillibazar. We were entertained by two very funny comedians, a famous lyricist & special Dashain Festival dance demonstrations. After 7 days my daughter Holly joined me. We were very fortunate to visit another project of CDS – the Self –Employment & Education Program. (SEEP) where we met two new groups of illiterate women who were very excited to be starting their education/employment journey. Handing out their first ever book was such a privilege & highlight for both Holly & me. We also attended the local Panchkhal Council meeting where CDS & the Council signed an MOU for the SEEP Program. The trip ended up taking the whole day 9am until 7.30pm. The 'roads' were rather rocky & it felt like we were having a 'Nepali Massage'! Despite many FONAI office meetings, we managed to do some Nepali shopping – Yoga-mat bags, puzzles, fine silk scarves & Christmas decorations will all be available at the Rotary Christmas Fair next Sunday. Other highlights for us both were the many invitations from friends to join their families in the beautiful week long Festival Celebrations - we were fed & we danced & danced & danced!



Scholarship Student Report.

The students were all enjoying the festival & those completing Year 11 or 12 are awaiting their reports for the first semester. We expect to receive them shortly. They have all returned to their studies & our management team reports all continue to progress well.

Manju is very excited to be starting her second year at law school & Bishal also his second year of accounting.

Bhanu has recently completed his cooking classes & Sanjeev is studying hard for his final second year IT examinations.

Anjana has resumed her fashion design classes & MMSD-N is in the process of organising internships for both Bhanu & Anjana in their fields of study.

We wish them all good luck for this semester of studies.

Anjana enjoying bowling!



Fundraising Report

'Flourish For Nepal – Spring Fashion Parade & Fundraiser!'

A big thankyou to Jackie Leo from Flourish Home & Gifts for hosting the wonderful fashion parade fundraiser for us on Oct 20. This very entertaining event sold out quickly & raised over \$6000 for our scholarship program. Thanks to Jackie for her generosity, the welcome gift bags, raffle & lucky ticket prizes. We really appreciate the amazing support we get from the South Australian community for our program. Thankyou again!



Coming up!

Join us at the Rotary Club of Blackwood Annual Christmas Fair this Sunday Nov 19., where once again we will be face & henna painting, selling bric a brac & Nepali artefacts. Thanks for all who have donated items for us to sell & offered to help out on the day!

Book Sale

We will have a book stall at Montessori Children's Centre Annual Twilight Picnic on Thursday Dec 12. (5-8pm) Thanks to all for donations!

Prem Oli & Rotarian Sagar - Rotary Club of Brownhill Creek Friendship Exchange

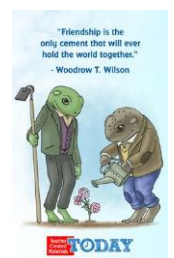


You are all invited to join The Rotary Clubs of Blackwood & Brownhill Creek combined meeting on 28th November, to hear Prem speak about the progress of SAB school following the devastating earthquake. The meeting will be at the Belair Country Club, Upper Sturt Rd, Belair 6.00- 6.30 start.

Meal cost is \$28 per head. BYO OK. Please advise President Garry Dolman by noon

Monday 27th November of your attendance & any dietary requirements.

Garry Dolman dolman@internode.on.net



Prem & Sagar will enjoy a 10 day Friendship Exchange visit with the Rotary Club of Brownhill Creek.

FONAI Other 2017 Activities!.



The Child Development Society (CDS), Rotary Club of Blackwood, & Rotarian Hilary Flynn.

FONAI has partnered with CDS an NGO whose founders have strong connections with the Rotary movement. CDS's mission sits well with that of FONAI – their goal is to free children from child labour, exploitation & trafficking, by educating & empowering

families.

CDS Day care Program

In May/June FONAI members, together with Blackwood Rotarian Hilary Flynn, carried funds donated by the Rotary Club of Blackwood International Committee, to present to this program. This donation was used to fund a Health Camp for the CDS Day care program for local families who work as day labourers. Thankyou to the Rotary Club of Blackwood for making this happen! Your donation has been very well spent!



CDS SEEP Program

FONAI has also facilitated the transfer of a bequest to the CDS SEEP – a group program which provides illiterate village women with literacy & financial education & support, as they work together to identify, start & manage their own small businesses.

FONAI is very proud to have formed such a strong relationship with CDS & hopes we can work together in the future.

See Lynne's report for more information about these programs!

The Chelsea Foundation, (Nepal) South Pacific School Aid (SPSA) & the Rotary Clubs of Brownhill Creek & Blackwood.

FONAI, in collaboration with the volunteers at SPSA & Sanjeev Dahal, from Nepal Orphan's Home, facilitated the shipment of 3 pallets of books for the new community library at the Chelsea Foundation. A big thankyou to RC Club of Brownhill Creek for funding the considerable freight costs– almost \$4,000! The need for good quality teacher reference books, & fact & fiction books for all ages, is very great in Nepal. The shipment took over 4 months to arrive as it was delayed by monsoon flooding in India & Nepal ,but we are delighted it arrived safely!



RC of Blackwood also donated funds which were put towards costs of sewing machines for this group. Thanks again to Hilary Flynn for facilitating this.



We have had requests for further book shipments, but at present lack funds for freight!

Social Workers Association of Nepal (SWAN) _ we were proud to donate \$500, via Sanjeev Dahal, from our Gala Dinner fundraiser heads & tails, to this organisation for monsoon flood relief. The funding was applied to costs of medical & psychological support for flood victims.

We wish you the compliments of the season & thankyou for your valued support of our programs



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