

Newsletter #15 June 2017

Nepal Trip Report.

Members of the committee recently returned from a very successful three week trip to Nepal. A primary goal was to streamline the management of the daily operations of the Education Scholarship program in Nepal. We were delighted to sign a Memorandum of Understanding with a Nepalese charity, Mission for Modern Social Development – Nepal, whose mission it is to fight for social justice for marginalised groups in Nepal. We will now work in partnership with MMSD-N to manage & monitor our Education Scholarship program. Bhim Kumar, our education manager, is currently chairperson of this group of young Nepali professionals whose members include medical professionals & social workers. MMSD- N nominated secretary Pursottam Dahal (P.D.) to act as inaugural FES coordinator. He will take over the daily duties of managing the current students &, in consultation with Bhim, will identify, nominate & interview new scholarship applicants for referral to us for final decisions. We worked closely with Bhim & P.D. to simplify scholarship paperwork & together visited the students, their living places & institutes of study.



We also established shared office space with MMSD-N. We relocated our 'business office', from Bhim's Cyber Café, to shared office space with MMSD-N in nearby Budhanilkantha Municipality.

Students now have a central place for their bi-monthly meetings & visitors to Nepal now have somewhere to go to find out more about our program.



FES Manager Bhim & Coordinator Pursottam

Scholarship Student Update

We are pleased to report that the students are all doing well. Anjana, Bhanu & Ganesh are waiting for their Year 12 results. They take up to 6 months. Anjana & Bhanu decided to use this time to acquire new skills & we were excited to enrol Anjana in a Diploma of Fashion Design at Intel College & sewing classes, & Bhanu in a 4-6 month Nepali & foreign cuisines cooking class at Sahara College of Hospitality & Tourism. Both students began these classes while we were there & have settled in happily. Ganesh decided to spend his 6-month waiting time in his village.

Manju continues to do well in her law studies & will complete her first year in August 2017. Sandeep recently completed Year 11 exams at Sirjana College of Fine Arts & starts Year 12 in July, Bishal is also undertaking second year exams in his Bachelor of Business Studies before embarking on the second stage of his accountancy studies & Sanjeev is continuing to do well in the second year of his IT studies at Softwarica College of IT. Prachandra BK, a new scholarship applicant, is waiting to undertake entrance exams for science studies to complete Year 11 & 12. Bhim & P.D. are in discussion with 3 students from the Orphanage who have contacted them about scholarships to complete Year 11 & 12. Entrance exams are underway so we are waiting for their report.



Our Farewell Dinner!

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Proud 'Parents!'

Sandeep BK, one of our talented scholarship students has submitted 2 original watercolours in the Rotary Club of Blackwood Art Show. Funds raised from the sale will go to our scholarship program. Be quick, they are good! Visit the Art show at Blackwood High School from Thurs 13th July to Sun 16th July 10am to 7pm Thurs 20th July to Sat 22nd July 10am to 7pm or Sun 23rd July 10-3 pm



Fun times.

Teacher training

We had many fun times with the dedicated teachers at Chelsea Foundation, DRMIS, SAB, Ujjwal Tara & Liberty schools delivering English, Montessori, Writing & First Aid classes. The staff are always so happy to get this training & great fun as well.



Rotary Club of Dillibazar

We were welcomed twice to this friendly & very active club & enjoyed a traditional Nepalese meal with dancing & singing with members also. We have known some of these members for 8 years!

Children's Development Society Village Visits.

A highlight of our trip was visiting villages with Surendra Dhakal & Soniya Rijal from the Children's Development Society & helping them deliver backpacks with books & uniforms to some very poor children & schools. We visited empowerment groups for illiterate women in these remote villages & were inspired by their resilience & commitment to making lives better for their families.



Sanjeev Dahal & Roshina's Wedding.



We were very privileged to attend Sanjeev's wedding. Sanjeev is the adopted son of the Rusk family & we were excited to attend this amazing ceremony. Day 1 - at the groom's house, celebrations & rituals, followed by a noisy dancing procession with brass band to waiting jeeps & buses to collect the bride for the ceremony! The 1,000 guests were then treated to eating, dancing & watching the bride & groom receive tikka & gifts for over 4 hours! It was very hot! Day 2 saw all 1,000 of us gathered again for the groom's family party. Traffic delays meant the bride & groom were greeting guests for about 3 more hours. More dancing, eating & fun before we headed off home after a truly wonderful celebration!

MARK YOUR
CALENDAR!

Coming events.

Annual Gala Dinner at the Taste of Himalayas restaurant on **Friday Aug 25** where we have some amazing items to auction, a beautiful Nepalese meal to enjoy, an impressive wine wall & guest speakers Rupert & Indiga, who will share news of their meetings with the students, & their impressions of Nepal. We really need your support to fund the scholarship requests so get a table together & book now on Try Booking! Flyer attached!

Our **AGM** will be held at Kathmandu Palace Glenelg on Thursday 21 September. Details to follow!

Marmalade Jam.

Thanks to the continued generosity of Jan & Bob Arnold, we have beautiful jam for sale, \$5.00 per jar. All proceeds go to funding scholarships so if you want some of this delicious jam contact Denise 0414 358 106 ASAP!

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Annual Fundraising Dinner

at

A Taste of the Himalayas

489 Brighton Road, Brighton. S.A. 5048

Friday August 25 2017

6.30 for 7:00 pm start

Tickets

Adult \$60.00

Child \$25.00 (under 10 years)

Tables of 10 \$550

Includes

Two Course Meal — individual entrée with traditional Nepalese buffet

BYO with small corkage fee

Bar facilities available

Guest Speakers

Live & Silent Auctions

Wine Wall and Raffle



Get together with friends & reserve your table now!

Bookings thru - <https://www.trybooking.com/278021>

Enquiries – 0417 312853

All Proceeds Go Directly To Our Education Scholarship Programs