

Newsletter December 2018

Namaste! Merry Christmas & Happy Holidays!

It's been a busy year & our intrepid committee is looking forward to a well earned break! We wish to thank you for your continued support. We could not achieve anything without it.



FESSHIP - Scholarship Program Update

After a month's break for festivals & celebrations, our secondary school students have begun semester 2 of their studies. The students continue to do well with the usual ups & downs of study. Hem, Prachandra & Bijay are completing their final year of school & we look forward to hearing their plans for their futures. These boys have just moved to a quieter, less crowded hostel which will help them to focus on their studies & prepare for their all important final exams. Sanjeev & Bishal will complete their Bachelor studies in May & October 2019! They will be our first students to graduate with Bachelors in IT & Business Studies. We are excited to see how the education scholarship support they have received over the past 3 years will change their lives. Our three girls are also doing well! Anjana completes her final Diploma in fashion design exams next month & will, thanks to the generosity of our partner donor The Children's Fund, transit to Bachelor studies in January 2019. FONAI will extend her scholarship to support her living costs for the duration of her studies. We are delighted that she is now living with the family of her Internship mentor Nirmala, & working part time in her fashion boutique. Shrinkinhala has successfully completed her Year 11 semester 1 exams.

Manju has begun her third year at Kathmandu School of Law & we would like to share her amazing achievement with you. Following a stringent selection process, Manju was successful in gaining a place on the KSL team which was invited to submit an application to participate in the South East Asian region Oral Rounds of the Price Media Law Moot Court Competition 2018-2019.

Manju's team was the only Nepali team to successfully qualify for this prestigious competition. 14 teams participated. The competition took place in New Delhi Nov 19-29th & unfortunately the team did not qualify for further rounds.

Our partner NGO, The Children's Future Fund, in Germany funded this wonderful opportunity for Manju. Our manager facilitated Manju's trip! It was her first trip abroad! We thank them both for making this dream come true!



Self Employment through Education Program Update.

The first three groups FONAI has facilitated support for recently completed their training & established their core businesses of buffalo farming. The groups are continuing to use savings & seed money to finance new businesses put forward by members. Strong links have been established with local & government groups to make the project sustainable. Two new groups are currently being formed. Unfortunately our recent application for a DFAT Friendship Grant to further support this program was unsuccessful. We will try again for the next round in 2019.

A big thank you to the Rotary Club of Blackwood International Committee for their recent donation of \$1,000 for this program!



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Fundraising.

The Rotary Club of Blackwood Christmas Fair was held on 11 November 2018. Thanks to the Rotarians who assisted us in putting up the stall! We raised over \$2100 on the day, a great effort by all. Thanks to you all for your kind donations.

Our stall at the Urrbrae Farmers Market on Dec 1st raised over \$500 & we will have our final fundraising stall at the Montessori Children's Centre Twilight Picnic at McLaren Vale on 13 Dec. We are currently planning for next year's events!

Special Thanks.



A big thankyou to Flourish gift & home, for the donation of Christmas items & jewellery for our stalls, & to owner Jackie, who asked guests to make donations to FONAI instead of giving gifts, at her recent birthday celebrations. She raised over \$1100!

Thanks to Jan & Bob Arnold & Hilary Flynn for their continued generosity in making jam & sourcing relish.

For Sale.

We have marmalade jam & a variety of relishes, if you are in need of a tasty homemade Christmas present. Contact us via email or 0414358106.

Perpetual Impact Funding Grant Application

With the help of one of our supporters, Chris Schutze, we recently submitted a grant application for the establishment of a separate 'women only' FESSHIP scholarship program.

We will not know the outcome of this application until June 2019!



We wish you all a very Happy Christmas & a safe & happy holiday season.

Thanks for your ongoing support, in what has been another successful year for our NGO.



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