

## October 2022 Newsletter

### AGM

We held our 5<sup>th</sup> successful AGM at The Taste of the Himalayas restaurant on Sep 13. We welcomed Helen Charles to our committee & were pleased to appoint Brian Nankivell again as our auditor. All office bearers remain unchanged & Lynne especially thanked retiring member Ainsley Roscrow for her years of service to the group & people of Nepal. She also noted that despite the fact that our team has faced, & continues to face, many personal challenges over the year, our commitment to the FESSHIP program has remained steadfast. Malcolm thanked Lynne on behalf of the group & informed us that FONAI's excellent reputation & productive relationship with the now disbanded Rotary Club of Brownhill Creek had carried over to his new club, the Rotary Club of Mitcham, & they would continue the support of Nepali projects through FONAI. He reported that 2 of the projects FONAI had supported were awarded the highest Rotary awards at the annual Rotary conference in Nepal which was both a great honour & credit to FONAI's efforts. He commented on the cohesion of our group & that although we were small in number we packed a great punch & enjoyed a well deserved excellent reputation locally & in Nepal! After the formalities were completed we enjoyed a delicious Nepalese feast with great service provided by the attentive staff.



We recently received the sad news of the passing of our original auditor Philip Paterson. We would like to acknowledge his hard work & his valuable advice that Philip gave to our small group during his time as auditor. We send our condolences to his family.

All annual reporting documents are available on our website. Thanks to all of our supporters for making our work possible.

### FESSHIP Student Report

We have been delighted to receive wonderful news about our students over the past few weeks!

One of our year 12 graduates, Sabina, has been awarded a full scholarship to study a Bachelor of Science at the Asian Women's University in Bangladesh. We are very proud to have supported her for the past 2+ years & congratulate her on this wonderful achievement opportunity.

Sajina & Shoban, both in their final year of nursing studies, received outstanding results in their exams. We are looking forward to following their careers or next study moves when they graduate in April next year.

Sushant also passed his Year 12 exams & is now considering his future options. He recently completed a Barista course with our good friends at Cocina Mitho Chha. All of the other students are doing well with ongoing student Prachandra, whom we have supported through Years 11 & 12, and the first 3 years of a computer science qualification, will be moving from a hostel into a rented room with friends, an exciting time for any young person & a small step towards independence for him! We will continue to support all of his course costs while he completes his degree.



## Dashain Festival

The annual Hindu Dashain holiday has just begun & all students who can will return to their villages for special celebrations with family & friends. This is an exciting & important holiday celebration for all Nepali's home & abroad! If you want to know more about this celebration follow this link!

[Dashain Festival, Nepal 2022 Dates, Celebration, Tika \(abovethehimalaya.com\)](http://abovethehimalaya.com)

## Lynne's visit to Nepal.

Intrepid chairperson Lynne & her daughter Bridie will be visiting Nepal in October, right in the middle of the Dashain celebrations! Following a trek, brave souls, they will return to Kathmandu where they will spend their days catching up with friends, visiting students & meeting with our Canopy team. Lynne is looking forward to seeing as many students as possible as some will still be in their villages for the holiday period.

Rotary meetings & visiting the RAWCS SEEP program & the COVID Isolation Clinic, now a hospital, we helped fund, will also be highlights.

Fortunately Lynne & Bridie have extra luggage allowances to carry the donations for FESSHIP & our outreach programs. She plans a few shopping trips to restock our supplies for upcoming markets! Lynne & Bridie will stay at Cocina Mitho Chha, (CMC) a sustainable social enterprise which uses profit made from daily commercial activities to conduct social work both locally & nationally. CMC, a Spanish funded NGO, is a beautiful bed & breakfast oasis in the heart of the city, & where our students have undertaken hospitality & barista classes & many members have stayed in the past. It is a wonderful experience to be served by the students undertaking the courses. We wish Lynne & Bridie successful trekking & a safe & healthy trip, & look forward to their reports on their return. Lynne is pictured here celebrating with CMC manager Debendra & his son on her last visit to Nepal!

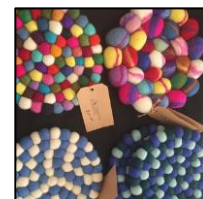


## Upcoming Fundraisers.

We are planning on attending Spring markets to sell the newly purchased Nepali items & other wonderful donations from supporters. Hilary has been busy making many Christmas & other items & Jan making marmalade jam. Check out these beautiful Christmas & Australian themed adult aprons! Only \$15 each. Pre-orders welcome with delivery available late October. Contact Denise if you want to reserve one of these for purchasing a gift that gives twice! The immensely popular marmalade jam (\$6 per jar) makes a great appreciation gift also! All proceeds from these generous donations go to our FESSHIP programs. Payment options include: Eftpos, direct deposit or COD!

Email details below or call 0414358106

- Saturday Nov 5 Urrbrae Farmer's Market Urrbrae HS Fullarton Rd
- Sunday Nov 13 Blackwood Rotary Christmas Fair Karinya Reserve Eden Hills
- Saturday Dec 3 Urrbrae Farmer's Market Urrbrae HS Fullarton Rd



Happy Spring & Happy Dashain!