

## BRIGHT FUTURE COMMUNITY CENTRE SUMMARY JAN 2014

Many thanks to all the volunteers, who over eleven years, have helped BFCC survive and grow. There is a significant group here in Australia which works behind the scenes to raise money. The sales at Camberwell Market are the main source of revenue and we depend upon the donation of goods from friends. The Rotary Clubs of Yarra Bend (formerly Kew on Yarra) and Pashupati (Nepal) help with the transfer



Pashupati Rotarians in the computer lab. NB new shelves

and distribution of funds and through RAWCS provide tax deductions. This year Rotary has been actively involved.

Thank you to all the volunteers in Nepal who over the years have contributed financially and with their expertise. Students from Latrobe University, Bundoora, have been volunteering in Kopan for seven years and their youth and exuberance makes a vital contribution. Some have returned; notably Kate Adams with her family. The Adams' Family and friends from Horsham have visited Kopan on three occasions.

Teresa Williams [www.slowtrekking.com](http://www.slowtrekking.com) has brought her clients to

BFCC for almost ten years and most are charmed by the children and want to help. One student told me one of her memorable moments was talking to one of the visitors. A brief visit can still have an impact on the lives of



A trekker and a Latrobe student helping with art lesson



Three little Pigs- a drama



Singing lesson

the children. The older children learn from visitors and become the teachers when the tourists have departed.



Education has outcomes over the long term and sometimes it is difficult to see progress. But this year I did see improvements in the standard of written work and the level of creativity. Epals is a global community program which links classrooms throughout the world. Children in BFCC made contact with children in England, USA, Japan and Australia. Computer skills had to improve to match projects and the examples from foreign schools were an inspiration and led to a leap in originality by our children. The donation of laptops by Trinity Grammar School and Lauriston Girls' School has given a real boost to computer learning. They are housed in the new extension built at BFCC using a donation from Horsham. It means students have access to computers on a daily basis and their combined efforts produce some excellent and original work. Volunteers were also able to help children with photography and art.





Learning sarangi



Dressed for party



Dancing has always been popular at BFCC, but there was a spectacular improvement in 2013. A small group of children meets four times a week and is taught dance by a very determined teacher. They are certainly entertaining and we would like to organize performances for tourists so we can showcase the local talent. A small group is being taught singing by an older student and some are also part of a music group. A man visits on Saturday morning to teach the sarangi to some of the students. This is a Nepali instrument and is quite



Home visit by a volunteer doctor



Teaching about pelvic floor in the new health centre

difficult to play. Bright Future Health Clinic and the new Fitness Centre made significant progress in 2013. The Horsham Group provided finance for the carpet and gym

equipment providing us with the basis to help the local women. Aparna Bhatta taught two classes about women's health and we hope to continue with this project. We now have a qualified nurse to run the clinic and we can run education programs about diabetes. I expect more progress will occur next year in the Clinic. The Sewing School continued to teach the local women sewing skills during 2013. The local tailors seem to be busy all the time, so it is a useful skill. The shop outlet is not selling any of these products, but the knitted

goods are popular with tourists. The Rotary Club of Pashupati is hoping to work with us with a large project, possibly linked to BFCC and we are planning for a Global Grant.



Group of teachers at Kangel school

Headmaster is young and very keen

Our other project is in Kangel, Netra's village. My niece, Cathy Ryan, and her friend, trekked with me to visit the school in Kangel, which is in the same region as Pattale, where a community health centre has been established by some of Teresa's trekkers. [www.pattalecommunityhealth.org](http://www.pattalecommunityhealth.org)

We want to help the local school in Kangel. Microscopes from Trinity Grammar are already there as are some of the surplus books from BFCC. A local Kangel girl was taught computer skills at Dreamland Computer School and she will run the new solar powered computer lab.

# HOW TO HELP

Make a donation through Rotary if you need a tax receipt:

**Bendigo Bank, Kew East**

BSB 633000. Account number 144357050

Name: Nepal Fund.

It is a good idea to email me with your details so I can organize the tax receipt. Money is needed in Nepal in February for school fees, June for university fees and October for the clinic and other projects

Make a donation while in Nepal

Visit BFCC and related projects and encourage the workers

**Volunteer in BFCC** . Everyone has some talent to pass on to the children to widen their horizons.

**Donate** bric-a-brac to be sold at markets.

Contact : [isabel.armer@gmail.com](mailto:isabel.armer@gmail.com)

Check out Bright Future Community Centre on Facebook



Visit BFCC and interact with the children. There is no measurement of your impact apart from the joy you feel and the knowledge you impart to the children.

