

THE INDIA VILLAGE PROJECT

TRUSTEES' REPORT

For the Session ending July 2010

The Trustees submit their report together with accounts for the session ending July 2010.

Objectives

The objectives of the Society continue to be: the physical improvement of the village and St. Marcellin School in Mangamanuthu, Tamil Nadu, India, through liaison with S.Paul's R.C. Academy and the wider community of Dundee.

Since the last report we have continued to raise funds for the project. We have also developed a strong relationship with the local Bharatiya Ashram. The members of the Ashram have generously shared their Indian culture with St. Paul's by providing the pupils and staff with workshops on Indian dance, music and costume displays and also demonstrated Indian cooking. The India Week was very successful, bringing together the staff, pupils and the local community to share their cultures. It is our intention to have another India Week in 2011.

We are now in phase 4 (cf. last year's report)

Phase 4: Three members of the school senior management accompanied four senior pupils to Mangamanuthu. Their remit was to spend time in building closer ties with the pupils in St. Marcellin's school, finding ways in which they can best communicate with our school of St. Paul's, spending time in the village of Mangamanuthu and helping with the Rainbow (AIDS) Project. Our teachers, along with the head teacher of St. Marcellin's, discussed the most appropriate way forward regarding curriculum exchange, staff and pupil liaison. The group took over the £10,000 raised by the school and this was shared among the three projects: St. Marcellin's school, Mangamanuthu village and the Rainbow (AIDS) Project.

This year we are committed to raising £36,000, £13,000 before Christmas 2010 and a further £23,000 by July 2011. We may have to spread our net to raise this significant amount of money. We have already made a start in the school, but may have to look further afield for assistance in raising the money.

Phase 5: Invitation to two staff and two pupils from St. Marcellin's to spend time in Dundee. This will give them the opportunity to form their own particular impressions of St. Paul's and to give more information about St. Marcellin's to the pupils, staff and the community

Phase 6: Explore possibility of a member of S.Paul's staff spending six months or a year working in St. Marcellin's helping them improve their spoken English. This will also involve a large amount of fund-raising. We will investigate the possibility of grants from local Education Authority.