

## **THE INDIA VILLAGE PROJECT**

### **TRUSTEES' REPORT**

**For the Session ending July 2011**

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

#### **Objectives**

The objects 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 RC Academy and the wider community of Dundee.

Since the last report we have continued to raise funds for the project. We have continued to develop our 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. They also demonstrated Indian cooking. The India Week was very successful, bringing together the staff, pupils and relatives to share their cultures. It is our intention to have another India Week in 2012

**Phase 4:** Three members of the school management accompanied four senior pupils to Mangamanuthu. Their remit was to spend time building closer ties with the pupils in Marcellin's school, explore ways in which they can better communicate with our school of St. Paul's. The Senior Management, together with the Head Teacher of St. Marcellin's, decided the most appropriate way forward regarding curriculum exchange, staff and pupil liaison. The group took over the £10,000 raised this year. This was shared among the three areas: St. Marcellin's school, Mangamanuthu village and the Rainbow (AIDS) Project.

In the next three years we will continue to raise funds for these three areas. We are anxious to add more solidly built houses in the village, but this will involve a significant amount of fund-raising. We may approach other charities to help us in this. Obviously this is becoming more and more difficult due to current circumstances.

**Phase 5:** Two staff from St. Marcellin's will spend time in Dundee. This will give them the opportunity to take back their own particular impressions of our school, give more information to the pupils, staff and friends of St. Paul's and take over the £23,000 gathered since last August. This money to be used for St. Marcellin's school, Mangamanuthu village and the Rainbow (AIDS) Project.

**Phase 6:** Staff and pupils of St. Paul's will visit Mangamanuthu in the summer of 2012 with the dual purpose of spending time with the villagers of Mangamanuthu and the pupils in St. Marcellin's. They will also visit the Rainbow (AIDS) project. This will serve as an annual inspection of our Project.

**Phase 7:** We are continuing to explore the possibility of a member of St. Paul's staff spending six months or a year working in St. Marcellin's, helping them improve their English. This will involve a significant amount of fund-raising. We will also continue to investigate the possibility of grants from the local Education Authority.

**Phase 8: Primary Schools.** St. Ninian's P.S. Hamilton is working towards liaison with the P.U. primary school in Trichy. The head teacher and a member of the parent council will visit P.U. in June 2011. They will spend time in the school with a view to sharing some curricular ideas, correspondence, interaction of staff and pupils. They will also bring out materials for the school. During their time in Trichy they will stay with the community of the Marist Brothers. St. Peter's P.S. Partick will continue to raise funds for the primary school in Mangamanuthu. St. John's High School will send out staff and pupils in the summer. The two high schools and two primary schools in Dundee, Strathclyde and Lanarkshire will be under the umbrella of The India Village Project.

**Other information: Change of Trustees**

Mr. Brennan is no longer available as a trustee. Two others have been appointed- Frances and Charlotte McLachlan. Both have been involved in the India Project since its inception.