



We have a dream.....

Realising Children's dreams

From 1st to 15th November I visited our children in Nepal and together with our treasurer we assisted with the School+Plus program for three days.

I wish everyone could see and share in the joy these children get from the creativity and support the program offers.

Day-by-day the children supported by IGWR-Nepal have a relatively good opportunity as they have the support of the IGWR-Nepal team; however even these children have a relentless school routine that is quite foreign to that experienced by children in Australia.

The quality of education/teachers is (at best) terrible, with rote learning, under-qualified teachers and some of the most boring lesson plans imaginable.

Some of the children head off for school at 6am in order to get extra tuition before school, some have extra tuition after school and then a 1-2hour homework load. All of which lacks creativity and any encouragement for self-expression.

I have a dream, a song to sing
To help me cope with anything

We introduced this ABBA song to the children and asked one of the senior students (Unik as shown in the picture) to teach the song. When we returned three days later, all the children could sing the whole song, and Unik, plus two others on guitars and one more on a drum box had the musical accompaniment sorted.

Giving children a creative opportunity allows them to shine and that is one of the best things that's being achieved through School+Plus. It is even more important in poorer communities where the daily routine is one of survival, and even those going to school have little opportunity to discover life's joys.



Announcing School+Plus 2

During our November visit we reviewed all aspects of our operations in Nepal and together with Raja, our Country Director, we've decided to start the second School+Plus program and have already chosen a location that is nearby a very poor (and so probably poorly run) government school.

It is however a decision that now requires us to find the support for this next project



School+Plus2 - help us in meeting the challenge

We have begun the preparation work and are currently discussing all aspects of the program with the various stakeholders such as the Government School Principal and Local Area Committees.

We've appointed an interim 'management team', two of IGWR-Nepal's senior graduates, to look at potential properties, canvass local families and liaise with the local school(s); they will also work with Raja to establish a detailed budget, job descriptions, hiring requirements, policies and procedures.

Currently we anticipate an annual budget for SP2 of around AUD\$20,000, however as we will be offering full-time staff positions based on a three year contract we will realistically have to consider an overall commitment of \$60,000.

Join us in making this dream for children come true

□ We will be creating a second Global Giving project for School+Plus2 and this will be launched for our December fundraising campaign.

□ **Christmas is coming – A time for giving**

□ Each Year I make a Christmas list and allocate an amount to each of my family and friends that I then donate on their behalf to help the children in Nepal.

It is a great gift that gives twice and unlike over 80% of Christmas gifts it doesn't end in landfill.

□ We'll be promoting our Christmas Giving catalogue on our website from December 1st

□ And we will be promoting small monthly donations as they all add up together and monthly gifts give us a regular commitment that helps us to make critical budget decisions.



Thanks for the gifts you have already shared,

and for the dreams that you have enabled us to make real, we'll have a lot more to share as we approach Christmas and we hope you might look at donations to our School+Plus programs as you consider your Christmas shopping.

More information about School+Plus is available on our website:

<https://www.igwr-nepal.com/>

And there are regular pictures on our facebook page:

<https://www.facebook.com/IGWRNepal>

