



THE GOOD SHEPHERD AGRICULTURAL MISSION  
BANBASA, UTTARAKHAND, INDIA

# ANNUAL REPORT 2021/2022



# DEPUTY DIRECTOR'S DESK

To our supporters,

Here at the end of another year we once again find ourselves filled with a sense of gratitude. In a world climate of lockdowns and shortages, where everything is so unpredictable, we consider ourselves blessed to have been relatively unaffected by the pandemic; this is not something we want to take for granted.

While there have been some difficulties and challenges we have managed to make grounds with several major renovation and construction projects - the most notable being the commencement of construction of our new kindergarten building. We are so grateful to the Samartha Saxena Foundation and TURBOCAM India for their support in launching this project.

The new building in our school is a reflection of the growth that we are seeing in the student body; once again we have seen excellent admission numbers in the student body. Our staff continue to do an admirable job and I want to extend my gratitude to them for their hard work and adaptability during this challenging time.

At the very heart of our organization, our children continue to thrive. Their hard work, positive spirits and love for each other is truly inspiring and something that really must be seen to be understood and appreciated. This year I was filled with pride to see our young boys and men going to Tanakpur to help clean houses that had been affected by flooding; it was truly disgusting, dirty, back-breaking work but not once did their positive spirits falter.

Those who are completing degrees through our Mission University program continue to do very well. Each time I visit their respective universities I receive overwhelmingly positive reports from the faculty there. We are excited at what the future holds for them; the world is truly open for them.

Writing these annual reports each year is a mammoth task and though it may be a legal requirement, it is also an amazing record and testimony of the work that goes on day-in and day-out here on the Mission. I want to extend my gratitude to Brenda Kniefel and Frank Barta for their help in both writing articles and correcting my horrific grammar throughout this report - they truly polish it off well.

Finally, to all of you, our amazing supporters, I want to say thank you for every donation, every email of support, every donated hour and every encouraging call that you have given us. Your support means more than you can possibly know and we truly could not do this without you.



Rev. Clifton S. Shipway  
Director  
(Elected as of 02-04-2022)



## ORGANIZATION STRUCTURE

The Good Shepherd Agricultural Mission (GSAM) is an independent, non-governmental, social development organization that has provided support to those in need since 1952. 'The Mission' works in an array of areas: education, support to lepers, community training & development, as well as disaster relief. However its primary focus is the care and protection of children.

The Mission works hard to provide a loving home for every child in its care; working diligently to promote family relationships and impart a spirit of responsibility in every member of the organization.

## REGISTRATION DETAILS:

The GSAM is a non-profit that is registered under the following Acts/Government Offices:

### Societies Registration Act

UK0650162021006196

### Income Tax Act

Section 12A, 80G, PAN: AAATG3113G

### Foreign Contribution Regulation Act (FCRA)

Registration Number: 136620006

### Uttarakhand Education Department

Registration Number: 779-53/2015-2018

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

The following people make up the elected Board of Directors of The Good Shepherd Agricultural Mission as of March 31st, 2022:

Name	Age	Gender	Position	Occupation	Meetings Attended
Warwick Shipway	68	Male	Director	Philanthropist/Retired Farmer	4 / 4
Eugene George	42	Male	Secretary	Agriculturalist	4 / 4
Clifton Shipway	35	Male	Deputy Director	Photographer	4 / 4
Priscilla Shipway	37	Female	Treasurer	Childcare Worker	4 / 4
Simeon Karada	43	Male	Member	Teacher	4 / 4
Josie Singh	77	Female	Member	Agriculturalist	4 / 4
Paula Karada	45	Female	Member	Social Worker	4 / 4



# FINANCIAL REPORT

Once again we want to express our deepest gratitude towards our sponsors, regular supporters, one-time donors and corporate partners - your support allows us to continue the work we do, together we are changing lives and making incredible impact.

Our partnerships with organizations like Health & Development Aid Abroad, TURBOCAM International, the Samartha Saxena Foundation, S.Group, Change Overnight Hotel, BILD International and Door-of-Hope remains strong and we value the input, support and guidance that is given by each one.

For the purpose of auditing and financial accountability our statutory auditors and chartered accountants remain AKRSS and Associates of B4 Alisha Apartments, MMM Marg, Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh, India. A complete copy of the 2020-21 Audited Report may be found by visiting the following page on our website:

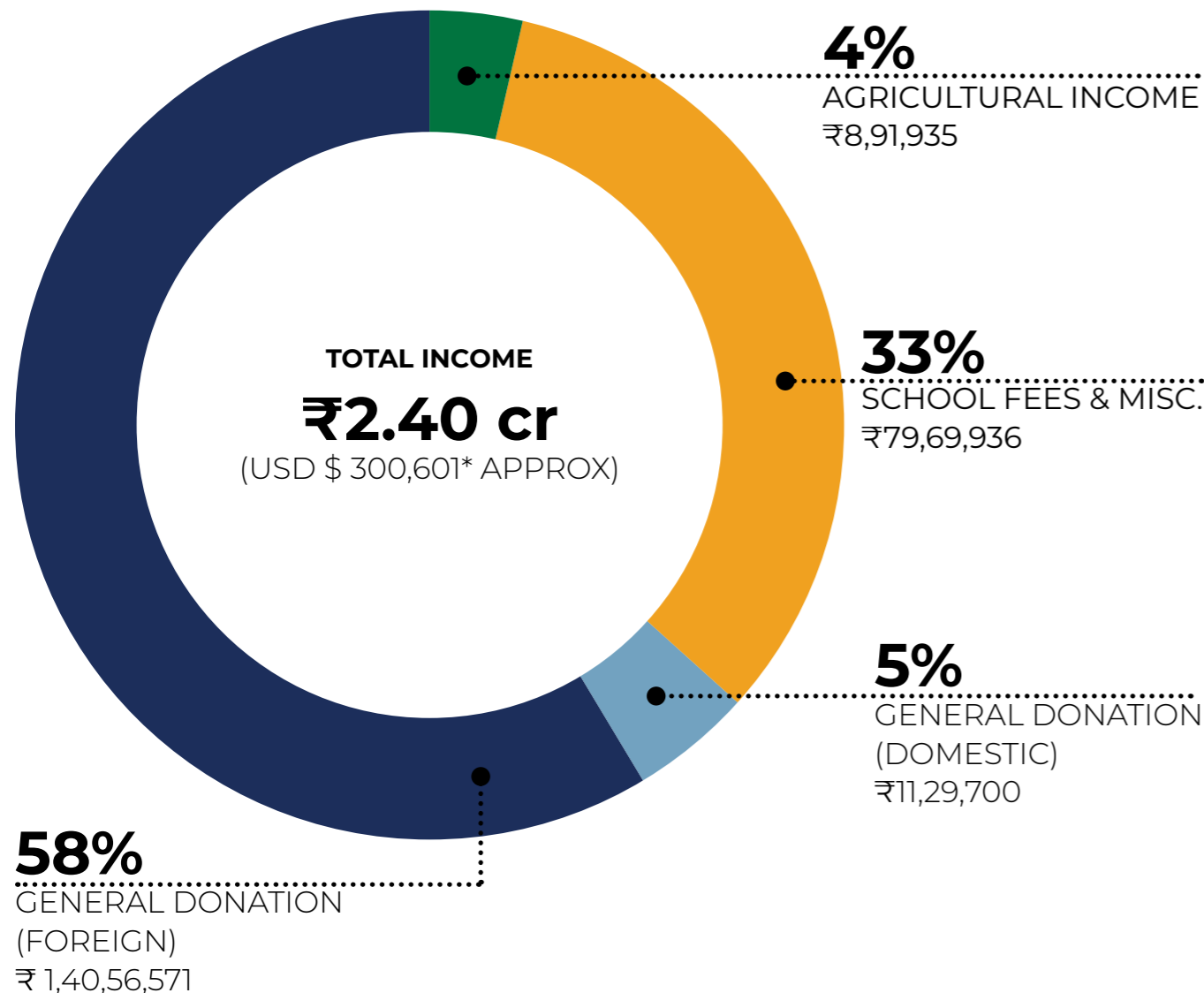
[www.IndianOrphanage.com/financials-annual-reports](http://www.IndianOrphanage.com/financials-annual-reports)

## INCOME

Year-after-year we find ourselves repeating our astonishment at the commitment of our donors; a testimony to the relationships that we have built and maintained with our supporter base over the years. Donations made up more than half of our annual income this year with over 58% coming from outside of India - a large percentage of this being donations towards our Mission University project and construction of our Kindergarten and boundary fence. We also saw our domestic donations more than quadrupling as our connections within India continue to grow.

On the agricultural front, a great return on our rice paddy crop meant that our agricultural income almost doubled when compared with last year.

Our school income last year made up 22% of our overall income and this year, without any increase in fees, we have seen in excel to 33% due to the additional students joining our school family.

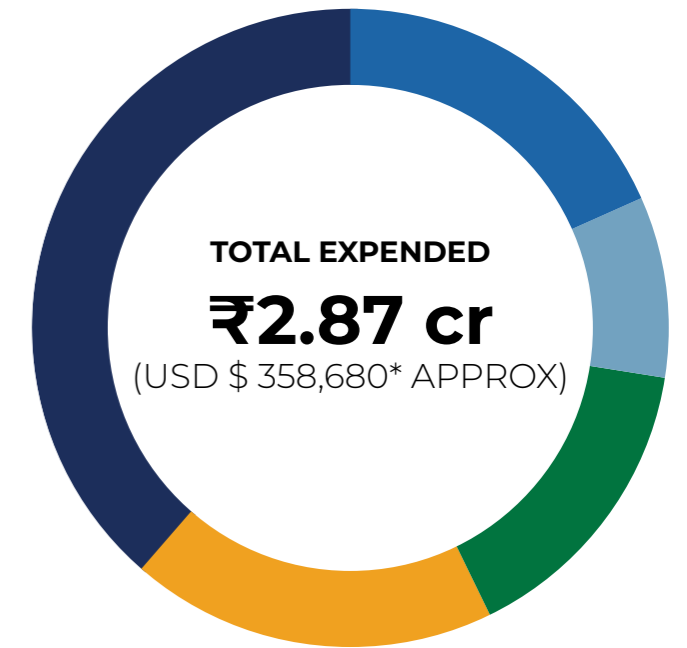


## EXPENSES

Below is a summary of expenses undertaken by our organization beginning April 1st, 2021 and ending March 31st, 2022.

Expenses have been categorized and their respective colors have been used to create the graph on the right for a quick understanding of where our funds are utilized.

The total expended this year surpassed the total income due to the use of unutilized funds carried over from the previous financial year.



Indirect Expenditure	Amount (INR)
Advertisements	4,333.10
Audit Fees	60,000.00
Bank Fees & Charges	59,966.93
Depreciation	37,11,622.00
Diesel & Fuel	9,53,812.80
Festivals & Ceremonies	4,38,352.60
Interest Paid on Loans	72,811.00
Interest Paid on TDS	5,149.00
Legal & Professional Fees	3,66,457.00
Miscellaneous Expenses	3,18,483.00
Newspapers & Periodicals	15,537.00
Office & Admin	1,19,248.00
Postage & Couriers	1,371.00
Printing & Stationary	70,716.80
Repairs of Agricultural Equipment	23,958.00
Repairs of Buildings & Furnitures	10,77,680.00
Repairs of Computers	53,920.00
Repairs of School Project	9,145.00
Repairs of Vehicles & Generators	3,34,678.00
Salary & Wages	15,03,036.00
Staff & Workers' Welfare	4,72,557.00
Telephone & Internet	73,559.00
Travel & Conveyance	80,070.00
Vehicle Insurance	1,02,234.00
Water & Electricity	10,75,107.00
<b>Total Expenditure</b>	<b>1,10,03,804.23</b>

Children's Home Expenditure	Amount (INR)
Children's Clothing and Wearings	2,66,795.20
Children's Education & Tuitions	34,10,489.00
Food & Consumables	10,87,927.30
Medical & Health Care	5,22,170.79
<b>Total Expenditure:</b>	<b>₹52,87,382.29</b>

Expenditure of School Project	Amount (INR)
Books & Stationary	3,250.00
Right To Education	1,44,731.00
Salary & Wages	40,59,805.00
School General Expenses	55,574.00
Software Subscription	97,702.00
Staff & Workers Welfare	25,335.00
<b>Total Expenditure:</b>	<b>₹43,86,397.00</b>

Addition To Assets	Amount (INR)
Boundary Fence	6,72,950.00
Building (Kindergarten) WIP^	29,86,679.00
Building (Staff Accommodation)	75,000.00
Car (Suzuki S-Presso)	4,97,056.00
Computers & Technology	751513
Electrical Fittings	1,70,962.00
Furniture & Fixtures	1,81,795.00
Library Resources	2,057.60
Motorcycle (Bullet 500cc)	70,000.00
<b>Total Expenditure</b>	<b>₹54,08,012.60</b>

Agricultural Expenses	Amount (INR)
<b>Total Expenditure:</b>	<b>₹26,08,804</b>

\*For the purpose of this document 1 USD = INR 80

^WIP = Work in Progress

## ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

As in other years, our Annual General Meeting of our Body Members was a complete success with around 35 members, staff and visitors present; there are so many people who work tirelessly to run our organization and it is always wonderful to meet as one body.

Many important items of business were discussed during the meeting including condolences for the loss of so many loved ones throughout the pandemic, the new staff accommodation, our Summer Games event, the fencing project, renovation of our administration building, construction of our new red shed as well as reports from all hostels, departments, our school, legal team and an update on the progress of our Mission University students.

SEPTEMBER



OVER 30 PEOPLE ATTENDING OUR AGM

## NEW ROOF FOR UNCLE MALCOLM

After many years of leaks and other problems, work on the home of Malcolm and Sonia (long term residents on the Mission) took a big leap forward with a new roof over their main bedroom. The original corrugated sheets were well past their prime, but - after more than 60 years of work - that's definitely understandable. Through the support of their daughter and the efforts of a small band of our workers, the old roof was taken down and the new roof installed on the same day. Amazingly, even after over 60 years, the standard size of roofing sheets has remained essentially unchanged, meaning sheets could simply be swapped over. A small expense and little bit of effort and suddenly we had a water-tight house again.

NOVEMBER



INSTALLING NEW ROOFING SHEETS

## IT'S A NEW CAR!

In December the Mission received a truly amazing early Christmas present from a relative of Rick and Clifton's in the USA - a brand new Suzuki S-Presso car! We are so excited to have a vehicle with, not only an air-conditioner, but also a stereo system! It will be the perfect vehicle for short trips to nearby markets, the hospital or to take some of our senior secondary students to their schools nearby if they miss the morning bus. However, it has already proven itself on longer trips; including multiple trips to Delhi (around 7 hours drive away). It has acquitted itself brilliantly and shown us how much of an asset it is to have a modern, reliable vehicle available to support our work. Thanks Doug for helping us get it!

DECEMBER



OUR NEW VEHICLE



EUGENE & FILLY WITH THEIR DAUGHTER EDDU

## EDDU'S GRADUATION!

One of our biggest prides this year was that we celebrated the graduation of Eugene and Filly's daughter, Eddu who finished at the top of her entire university! As if that wasn't enough, she was also offered three major job placements to ensure everyone around here knows she is an absolute legend! What makes this even more special is that Eddu was the first one of our kids to start off our Mission University program (roughly four years ago) and many of you were part of her fundraising campaign - "Eddu's Education". She truly has blazed the trail for future kids and we could not be more proud of how much she has accomplished! Way to go, Eddu! And thank you to her supporters for making sure this amazing girl's dreams came true!

DECEMBER

## SNOW TRIP

Just a few hours drive away is Abbot Mount - a place near and dear to our hearts as it has been the summer refuge for our large family for generations. A sudden plan was put together in February, spearheaded by Filly and the Mission University boys, and soon a group of 44 headed up to its snowy peaks to enjoy a winter stay. Lodging in multiple mountain homes, the group spent one cold night before returning home to the Mission (but not before taking advantage of the clear, still sunlight for some epic snowball fights). They also took the opportunity to check the Mission's old church on the Abbot Mount property which is on the "do list" for restoration... you know, when we run out of work to do at the farm.

FEBRUARY



TEAMS PREPARE FOR AN EPIC SNOW FIGHT!



A LOAD OF 'KABAR' (RECYCLABLE MATERIALS)

## REDUCE, REUSE, RECYCLE

Recycling in India is different - it requires quite a bit of knowledge and labor in order to actually participate and even turn a profit. As a regular exercise, we gather up all our reusable waste: in April, for example, this included mountains of cardboard, five old rusty steel cupboards, a beaten up old bike frame, electrical wire clippings from renovation work, two giant bags of Pepsi bottles, and nine broken plastic chairs. After everything is sorted into piles (according to material type) each pile is weighed and purchased from us by the local recycling operator. We made a little over \$160 from this one batch; a welcome amount coming from items that would otherwise have been thrown away.

ALL YEAR ROUND

## TRACTOR GARDEN

During the monsoon season, it's somewhat of a futile effort to try to weed or control our gardens as everything grows on steroids. It's best to just wait out the rains and clean up during the short two-three week pre-winter weather window. So this year, that's exactly what we did starting with our "tractor garden" which marks the center of our Mission campus. The tractor (within the garden) was driven some 2000 km across India back in 1948 by Maxton Strong, our founding Director. It now sits, retired from the fields but never forgotten; as a testament to the extraordinary work done to bring us to where we are today. And each year, we plant beautiful flowers around it to remind us all what a special place this really is.

AUGUST



OUR TRACTOR GARDEN GETTING A FACE-LIFT

## STAFF ACCOMMODATION AWNINGS

The heavy monsoon rain (which beats down on us every year) has a way of exposing any issues with buildings - old and new alike. To that end, our new Staff Accommodation showed us that it required some modifications to protect the intrusion of unwanted water. Large open balconies were exposed to the heavy rain which built up and could eventually have caused minor flooding of the houses themselves. Our talented workshop team quickly designed and fabricated metal awnings to solve that issue; firstly a prototype was installed on the lower floor and then, with its effectiveness proven, similar structures added to protect the next story. We were able to complete this project, and protect every house, before the rains hit.

JULY



PREPARING TO INSTALL ONE OF THE AWNINGS

A BIRD'S EYE VIEW OF OUR PROPERTY. OUR FIELDS ACT LIKE A BUFFER AROUND OUR CENTRAL CAMPUS WHERE OUR STAFF AND HOSTEL CHILDREN LIVE. THE GREEN ROOF OF OUR SCHOOL CAN BE SEEN ON THE RIGHT, BELOW IT OUR FISH PONDS.



## GUESTHOUSE RENOVATION

For years, our guesthouse has served hundreds of people (both local and abroad) who want to come and experience life on the Mission. As COVID slowed down travel for so long, we took the opportunity to spruce up the place! This included a fresh face for the bathroom, taking out the very odd-looking cement toilet throne (those who've stayed there will understand what this means!), adding beautiful tiling throughout and (will eventually include) taking out the old water tank - which is a massive undertaking. We can't wait for visitors to return as life begins to look a bit more normal around here - and around the world. We hope you'll consider coming for a visit sometime soon! Those interested can get in contact through our website.

**FEBRUARY**



**BROKEN PIECES OF THE THRONE BEING 'DUMPED'!**

## OFFICE RENOVATION

Our main administration building was built 16 years ago and sees so much traffic for the everyday workings of this place. You can imagine, after all those years and work, how much wear and tear it has sustained. Thus, this trusty old building received a beautiful new facelift this year. We painted the walls, put in new furniture (including a huge cupboard Ganesh carefully crafted), put in new floor tiling throughout, incorporated new electrical work, changed some windows and put in an outside cooking space to enjoy all year round (which has far better ventilation than any of our indoor cooking spaces). It's now a very welcoming space and we look forward to the continued traffic, meetings and memories it will continue to hold.

**APRIL**



**GANESH, OUR RESIDENT CARPENTER**

## POWER OF GANESH

One of our many blessings here on the farm is having our own carpenter (Ganesh) with us on our campus. With the many jobs (big and small) which come up on a regular basis, having a person we love and trust (who is also skilled in his trade) is an absolute asset to our farm and helps keep our work moving in a timely fashion. One of the biggest projects for him this year was the fabrication of six cupboards for the girls' hostel. The cupboards turned out beautiful and, of course, the kids loved them!

Another big part of Ganesh's role is the day to day maintenance of the property. If there is something which needs to be fixed, Ganesh is on the job - and usually with a big smile on his face!

**ALL YEAR ROUND**



**NEW CUPBOARDS FOR OUR GIRLS HOSTEL**



**TILED FLOORS, NEW ELECTRICS AND FRESH PAINT MADE OUR ADMINISTRATION BUILDING SHINE!**



**WORKING ON A NEW CUPBOARD FOR THE OFFICE**



**A NEWLY BORN CALF BEING CARRIED OFF TO THE DAIRY BY NARAYAN, ONE OF OUR WORKERS. MAMA COW IS THERE TO MAKE SURE BABY IS HAPPY.**

## TANAKPUR FLOODING

Our state of Uttarakhand was on "red alert" for flooding during the end of the monsoon season this last year. After two days of torrential rain which flooded buildings, cities and overwhelmed our state, the official death toll in our area was 70 and the damage substantial. While the effect on our Mission was minor, many homes just 10 minutes north of us in the town of Tanakpur (which lies just on the edge of the massive Sharda River) were overcome by the swollen flood waters with little available resources to help them recover.

Around 20 boys and men of our Mission headed off to assist the families affected by the flood, mainly focusing their efforts on cleaning out houses and recovering what items could be saved. The boys got straight to work digging 8-10 inches of mud from the floors of bedrooms and dining rooms as well as forming a human chain to move that mud back to the riverbed. Hour upon hour they bucketed muck and murky waters, tirelessly shifting debris out of homes and back into the river bed until late into the night. They worked until the job was done, with rooms clean and ready to dry out and families able to occupy their beloved homes once again. We were all inspired, not just by their hard work, but also their willingness to help their fellow man. We are proud of each and every one of them.

OCTOBER



THE FLOOD LEFT OVER A FOOT OF STICKY SILT



BUCKETING WATER OUT OF A BEDROOM



THE SLOPPY MESS



IT WAS TOUGH WORK SHIFTING ALL THE MUD OUT



POST-CLEAN UP PHOTO WITH FAMILIES SERVED



PLANTING A MANGO TREE ON HARELA

## HARELA!

Harela is a local festival celebrated here to commemorate the new harvest season in our region. It typically begins with the monsoon and is one of the biggest festivals in our area. This year, our school celebrated the occasion with our students bringing trees, flowers and shrubs for planting around the campus. This not only beautifies our school but helps the kids learn about various plants and how to grow them in the ground. The farm kids (as they are colloquially known) raided our gardens for saplings, seedlings and plants to take and plant at the school. Unfortunately, the survival rate for most of these plants is rather dismal but it's a good lesson for the kids in learning to harvest and take care of our planet - and the ones that do survive tend to thrive.

NOVEMBER

## CHILDREN'S DAY

The very first Prime Minister of India was a man named Jawaharlal Nehru. Nehru Ji, as he is fondly known, is remembered in reverence by our country as one of the "founding fathers" of the nation. He was a big advocate for educating children so each year on his birthday we (as a nation) celebrate a day in his honor called, Children's Day. Although playtime happens every single day around here and we never need an excuse or encouragement to play games, we have always made it a point of celebrating this day every year. While normally held at our school, we held extra activities at home this year and the kids loved engaging in all kinds of frivolous fun including races, cornhole, ring toss and the like.

ALL YEAR ROUND



SACK RACES MADE UP JUST SOME OF THE FUN OF OUR CHILDREN'S DAY CELEBRATIONS



SWEETS FROM THE SWEETEST

## DIWALI!

The festival of Diwali is one of the most important events on the Hindu calendar. The Festival of Lights - which gets its name from the rows of clay lamps traditionally placed outside homes - brings families together and (much like Christmas in the West) is a special time of reflection for us all. Homes throughout every district are decorated with small oil lamps (called diyas) which burn peacefully and fireworks explode late into the night (something not enjoyed by the neighborhood dogs). Throughout the Diwali week this year, we were visited by friends from Banbasa and nearby towns who brought boxes of sweets for our kids as a traditional part of the celebrations.

NOVEMBER

## EASTER

Easter is always a special time for us and this year's celebrations on the Farm were truly lovely. One highlight was a super fun egg hunt for the children. No mass produced commercial chocolate eggs were used here - we do things the old school way with hardboiled eggs (which most of the kids love to eat anyway). Our many faithful chickens were able to supply all our needs in this regard and the kids loved decorating them in imaginative designs and colourful combinations - and that was before the hunt even began! After the frenzied search, the kids dug into their eggs where a surprise awaited - the food colouring had a beautiful effect on the crack lines of the egg leaving a pretty marbled look.

APRIL



EASTER EGGS AFTER A SUCCESSFUL "HUNT"

# CHRISTMAS SEASON CELEBRATIONS

They say it's the most wonderful time of the year and we would certainly agree! Christmas is made special for us, not only for the fact that it celebrates the birth of Jesus, but also because it brings old family members back to the farm and begins a series of traditions which grow more special with each passing year.

Familiar events like our Christmas Eve service and our special Christmas Eve dinner are both a wonderful time of nostalgic celebration for us. Come Christmas morning, there are stockings waiting eagerly for our littlest ones in the Nursery. Each child on the Mission also receives a present when they wake up and our kids, staff, visitors and guests also receive a gift during the delicious brunch we share together in the Dining Room. The rest of the day... in fact... the rest of the week - right up to New Years, is filled with picnics, bonfires, discos, fireworks and enough Christmas cake to turn any Grinch into a Christmas believer!

**DECEMBER**





**INSPIRED BY ALL OF THE HOLI COLOR OUT IN THE MARKET, WE CELEBRATED CLIFTON'S BIRTHDAY ON APRIL FOOLS DAY IN PURE STYLE. AFTER THE COLOR FIGHT (AND A SWIM IN THE POOL/SHOWER), THE DAY WAS CONCLUDED WITH A DELICIOUS MEAL.**

# TIME TO PARTY!

Tremendous effort goes into making sure that birthday parties here on the Mission are celebrated to their absolute fullest! This year, the competition was fierce for the "Party of the Year" with Clifton celebrating in a colourful way (see last page), Kamal having an incredible burger BBQ party, Jyoti heading off to a fancy restaurant dinner and then finishing with boating at a nearby lake, Lisa camping with all of the girls in the jungle, Rajesh celebrating his 18th birthday in our swimming pool with a movie projector strung out over the water and finally Malika celebrating her 16th with a breathtaking candlelit dinner by the riverside in the jungle (see next page). And that is just mentioning a few! Of course, no one is really competing for the best party, because every party this year has been amazing in its own very special way! We want to say a huge thank you to our sponsors who make these parties even more special with video calls, presents, cards, letters, video messages and so much love - we could not have done this without you!

**ALL YEAR ROUND**





WHEN MALIKA TURNED 16 THIS YEAR WE KNEW WE NEEDED TO DO SOMETHING SPECIAL. WHAT BETTER WAY TO CELEBRATE A MILESTONE BIRTHDAY THAN WITH A CANDLELIT DINNER UNDER THE STARRY JUNGLE SKY? THE LAPPING SOUNDS OF THE NEARBY RIVER PERFECTLY COMPLEMENTED THE SOUND OF LAUGHTER FROM TWO DOZEN FRIENDS ENJOYING A DELICIOUS MEAL.



**ANOKE, OUR TANAKPUR PROPERTY CARETAKER, & HIS GRANDCHILDREN HAPPY FOR THE RENOVATIONS**

**TANAKPUR RENOVATION**

The Mission has long maintained a piece of land in Tanakpur, some 10 km from our main campus overlooking the Sarada River. The property contains a very dilapidated building as well as a basic caretaker's accommodation. There are many possibilities for the land in the future, but for now - it simply needs a watchful eye for security. As is common, snakes and other "nasties" have been invading the caretaker's accommodation, which has also generally become run-down over time. Members of the Mission team (including our carpenter, Ganesh) spent some time and effort on these renovations making the building much safer with new windows, plastered walls, electrical wiring, and improvements to the kitchen.

**OCTOBER**

**STRONG FARM XI**

Cricket is an absolute obsession throughout India and participation in the game, attempting to emulate their sporting idols, is a serious business for our boys. Our mission's team is named, Strong Farm XI (Strong Farm is the name we are known by locally as Maxton Strong was the founder of our Mission). The first match was on a mild Saturday afternoon against a team named YCC Faghpur. Faghpur was all out for 102 runs and our boys managed to overtake their score with 6 wickets still in hand. (If you don't know what that means ... you're on the wrong continent!) Sadly for the boys, they only just missed out on the finals - winning two more games but going down in two others. They will certainly take the experience into next year's tournament.

**DECEMBER**



**OUR 'STRONG FARM XI' CRICKET TEAM**

**NORTH FIELD FENCE PROJECT**

To secure our fields from animals, protect our land from encroachment and keep everyone safe from intruders, we set about fencing the Northern half of our campus, which is no small feat considering the fact that this covers a distance of over 1.1 km.

Completed with the generous support of many donors, as much work as possible was done by our own amazing staff and boys. Every post was crafted out of 50mm angle iron in our workshop and secured in the ground with concrete. The fence itself is a high quality galvanized chain link fence supported by three straight support wires. Finally, the top of the fence was adorned with three independent galvanized barbed wires. In the future it will be possible to run electrical wire along the top for additional security.

This project was absolutely massive in scale and scope. Imagine digging fence posts, every few meters for over 1 kilometer! After that, we ensured the poles were level, mixed and poured concrete and waited for it to dry. Once dry and stable, we ran our wire mesh across (a welcome replacement of our previous barbed wire fencing) and secured it at each fence post.

Of course, around here - we never let anything go to waste - so any old fencing which remained after this project was used on the western boundary of our fields. We arranged it loosely to deter elephants (yes, elephants) from entering our property. A traditional wire fence is useless against these beasts who simply push it over so this new installation will definitely help protect our property in the years to come.

**DECEMBER**



**BUNDLES OF FENCING WIRE BEING DELIVERED**



**INSTALLING THE 6FT HIGH CHAIN-LINK FENCE**

**COVID-19 VACCINATIONS**

Around September, we were able to get everyone on our campus (over 18) fully double vaccinated against COVID-19. In January, when the age requirement for the vaccine was lowered, our school also arranged a vaccine drive for our kids (aged 15-18) to receive COVAXIN, India's first indigenous Covid vaccine. It was a great opportunity for our school to serve the community as Omicron was beginning to rear its ugly head in our area. Some of our kids took their shots without even a flinch, others... well... others braved the scary poke and lived to tell about it. We are happy to play a small part in reducing COVID infection rates in our area and will continue to work to protect our precious family and our surrounding community.

**SEPTEMBER & JANUARY**



**HEADING OFF TO GET VACCINATED**



**PREPARING FOR A SECOND SHOT**



**NO FEAR IN GETTING BOOSTER SHOTS**



**CONVERSATIONS AT THE QUARANTINE WINDOW**

**QUARANTINE**

It is a true a joy for us when past children return home, even if it is due to a lockdown. We had a good system in place for many months which included several days of quarantine to ensure no symptoms arose. However, unfortunately, many of our kids were forced to return home as schools shut down again throughout our area over the holidays. Despite pretty strict isolation and sanitation protocols in place, COVID still hit our entire family as (one-by-one) we all came down with symptoms during the OMICRON wave. We set up a quarantine area for those who tested positive with meals delivered outside their doors. We all eventually got through it okay... just as we usually do with challenges that come our way.

**JANUARY**

**CUTS, SCRAPES & BRUISES**

With as many children as we have (and as active as our kids are!) you can imagine the amount of cuts, scrapes and bruises we see around here on a regular basis. Thankfully, we managed to "scrape by" (pun intended!) with minimal damage this year. We have a medicine cabinet in our administration building, where we handle the daily medical needs of some of our children who have more serious requirements as well as the inevitable accidents which happen year round. For anything which is too much for our own capacity, we have a great hospital nearby with amazing staff who all take very good care of us. For the most part, however, we are equipped and experienced enough to handle our own general medical care.

**ALL YEAR ROUND**



**DAY-TO-DAY MEDICAL NEEDS HANDLED AT HOME**

# MAXTON STRONG SCHOOL

Since its inception, our vision for our school was to create a space where students from all economic backgrounds could receive a first-rate education. This year we worked harder than ever towards this goal. Not only did we manage to avoid increasing our tuition fees (as so many schools in our area do each year) we also opened our gates to more than 70 new pupils.

Academically speaking our students continue to perform very well, their capabilities are best identified in their performance when they leave our school and move on to Senior Secondary or college level studies. We couldn't be more proud when we hear our alumni are topping their classes at national level universities!

Our teachers have fully adopted and adapted to the online teaching environment that has become necessary through the pandemic and can seamlessly integrate online classes with their offline counterparts as the need arises (such as closures for bad weather conditions during the monsoon season).

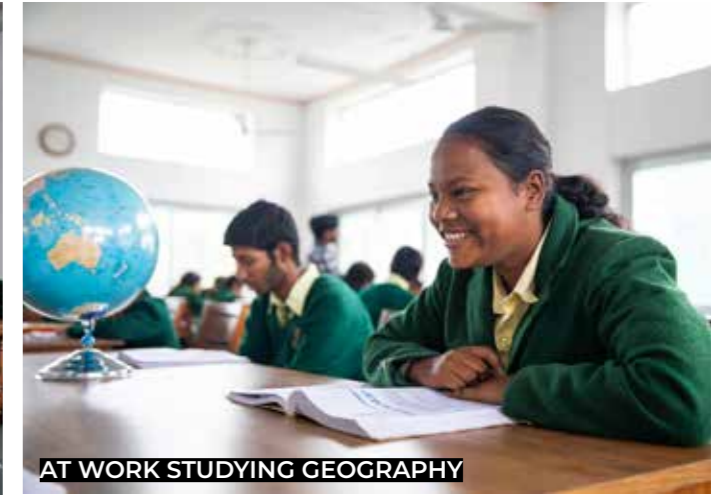
While academics are important, activities are often the space that makes learning fun; capturing the hearts and minds of our students. In this area our school has much to offer. Inter-school competitions connect us with other school communities while in-house programs bolster relationships within our own student body. Some of the stand out events this year included a plethora of arts & crafts, a science fair, magicians, hair-style activities, cricket matches, soccer tournaments and, of course, our famous school fair!

The school benefits from the many visitors who come to the Mission, often presenting their various professions, travel experiences and unique skill sets to the students, helping to expand their world a bit further each time.

Our goal at every turn is enrichment, not simply the common rote memorization and focus on testing that is the opposite type of critical thinking and creativity that we hope to foster. In a changing, competitive world our children are counting on us for that.



OUR LIBRARY READING ROOM



AT WORK STUDYING GEOGRAPHY



POURING IN THE CONCRETE



SETTLING IN THE CONCRETE FOOTING



OUR PRINCIPAL, DAVID CHIRAG DIN, RETIRED AT THE END OF THIS YEAR



THE JUNIOR READING ROOM IN THE LIBRARY



COMPUTER CLASSES ARE IMPORTANT



THE LIBRARY STACKS WITH THOUSANDS OF BOOKS



OUR SCHOOL IS AN ENGLISH MEDIUM SCHOOL



EXTRA CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES ARE IMPORTANT



OUR COMPUTER LAB HAS 35+ MACHINES



OUR 'LEAVERS PARTY' UNDERWAY

# KINDERGARTEN CONSTRUCTION

Over many years we have developed and refined a comprehensive Master Plan for our campus, setting out our dreams for the future for the facilities we can construct to continue and expand the work we do across the whole community. Our goal is to be an asset to our community, ensuring we serve the people we call neighbors in the best ways that we can. The next big step in realizing this Master Plan commenced this year when we began construction of the Kindergarten building. With the amazing support of the Samartha Saxena Foundation, TURBOCAM India and key supporters in the USA and Australia we are finally turning this dream into reality. We expect construction to take 18-24 months to complete.

With any big construction project like this comes breaking ground. We were able to complete our excavations however substantial rain slowed down our construction work quite a bit. Thankfully, through the efforts of our incredibly building team we still managed to make significant progress. At the end of March, the majority of the many, many footings – designed to take two stories – were in place and the main support columns for the building were poured with concrete. We reinforced it with truckloads of iron, ensuring a safe and secure building for all.

We did have another hiccup in our progress which halted construction for about a month as we ran into power lines which were in the way and needed to be rerouted. Once that was completed, we regularly had 10-15 men on site getting back to it and working hard each and every day. The next steps will be the major above ground structures of vertical columns and the laying of thousands upon thousands of bricks; work that will continue well into 2022/23 - no doubt to be heavily featured in our next Annual Report!



# NOT SO SPRING CLEANING

Instead of the more traditional “spring clean” (favored in many parts of the world), the Mission had something of a “monsoon clean” this year. The first big target on our list was our carpentry shop. Nearly 50 years old, this simple shed has been the fabrication center of thousands upon thousands of pieces of furniture. With the structural supports of the roof now caving in and the floors also cracked and broken up by the roots of nearby trees, it definitely needed a good clean. In addition to the structural issues, termites had also begun to attack some wood we’ve been storing, a hole in our roof meant our stock of plywood was getting damp and the surrounding leaves, dust and debris littered the floor. We’ve somewhat ignored doing repairs to the carpentry shop over the years as we were planning to have replaced it by now. However, as things in construction often go - our plans have not quite gone accordingly and it’s currently top of our list of projects for 2022.

After our carpentry shop came our long retired Old Small Girls’ Hostel. This building has been used as a storage facility over the last 5-10 years for various items around here: Christmas decorations, office archives, winter clothes/ bedding, prams/strollers, a broken exercise bike, spare books, uniforms... the list goes on. It’s a dilapidated old building - unsuitable for living - but just good enough for storage... or at least it was. At some point during this monsoon, the roof of that building decided to crack in dozens of places which allowed a torrent of water to flood all of the stored items we had in there - and we only discovered several weeks after it had happened! As you can imagine, absolutely everything was severely soaked through, however (thankfully!) the damage was minimal. We got in there and salvaged all that we could and cleaned out the remaining debris. (We’ll just keep a better eye on it in the years to come when the torrential rains beat down.)

Our attention then turned to the main pathway to the school which was also a slippery mess - monsoon rain and a lack of foot traffic over the months amounted to a treacherous road for all. Thankfully, Job was there (with the help of a few of our Junior Boys) to power wash the entire thing. It took a few days but the path is now as good as new!

With these larger projects tackled, our monsoon clean also included weeding and cleaning out our garden beds, cleaning the water tank (which required us to fully drain it while a handful of boys spent a few hours scrubbing almost two years of sediment off its sides. Obviously a job we also forgot about - lesson learned! And, lastly, everyone pitched in for a massive general pickup of trash around our campus. This place is back to its former glory and we can rest a bit easier... that is, until the next monsoon clean!

**AUGUST**



**CLEANING UP IN THE OLD HOSTEL**



**SCRUBBING THE OLD WATER TANK**



**THAT WALL LOOKS LIKE A PIECE OF ART!**



**CLEANING UP THE OLD CARPENTRY SHOP**



**MOVING HEAVY FURNITURE IS A TEAM EFFORT**



**OLD WINDOW FRAMES, A DOOR, A BROKEN TV...**



**SWEEPING LEAVES OFF THE WALKWAY ROOF**



**HANGING OUT WET ITEMS TO DRY...**



**...WE EVENTUALLY RAN OUT OF CLOTHES LINES!**



**POST-MONSOON WEEDING IS A BIG JOB!**



**TRASH COLLECTED FROM AROUND THE CAMPUS**

WALKS TO THE JUNGLE ARE A REGULAR PART OF LIFE HERE ON THE MISSION. ON SOME TRIPS WE TAKE SNACKS TO EAT, COOK MEALS, SWIM IN THE RIVERS OR VISIT FRIENDS IN THE REMOTE VILLAGES - NO MATTER WHAT WE DO IT ALWAYS ENDS UP BEING A GREAT ADVENTURE!



# 8<sup>TH</sup> SUMMER GAMES

Our annual Summer Games program was a huge success yet again. This 40 day program (held over the school summer holidays) is a great way to keep our kids (and staff) entertained, promote healthy sportsmanship, encourage a sense of adventure and grow leadership skills within our body. Our Summer Games Committee did an awesome job (as per usual!) of running daily programs, games, challenges, activities and events - it certainly was a whole lot of fun! The team names this year (always an important selection by each team) were: Venom, Basilisk, Hyenas and Spider, with their corresponding colors.



JULY



# AGRICULTURAL WORK

Blessed with an abundance of land and the skills to work it, we once again managed to put the “Agriculture” into the Good Shepherd Agricultural Mission. Our major crops this year have been wheat (which we use for bread, roti, cakes and even porridge), rice (a staple with every lunch) and mustard (which we grind/press for cooking oil). We harvested far more than we needed this past year, allowing us to sell the excess as usual. We have also tried our hand at sugarcane this year; something we are not experienced in growing. Our first crop of cane should be giving its yield early next year.

Our 50+ cows in our dairy continued to produce all the milk our kids growing bodies need throughout the year. We don't sell any of our milk, instead using any excess to make paneer (cottage cheese), lassi and curd for our children.

We've also turned our hand to vegetable gardening a little this year too - some unutilized land at our old school was tilled and transformed into a “veggie patch”. We've already enjoyed some delicious harvests including sweet corn, raddish, corriander, okra, potatoes and garlic! We've still had to buy the majority of our vegetables; this garden is more of a hobby for a few of our staff.

Ask any farmer and they'll tell you: farming is hard work, and this is certainly true on the Mission. Preparing the fields, planting, watering, tending, harvesting, selling. All of it is labor intensive and often done either in the hot sun or high humidity...or both. But this work is not a for-profit venture, and so the work becomes truly a labor of love. In partnership with nature, literally with God Himself, we plant seeds for our children and then do our best to help them develop.



HARVESTING OUR RICE PADDY BY COMBINE



FILLING THE TRAILER WITH RICE PADDY



EUGENE CHECKING IN WITH KALLU



KUNLI & RAJU MILKING OUR COWS



HARVESTING A HUGE LOAD OF GARLIC



"MOOOOOOO!"



PARWAT AND KALLU ON THE TRACTOR



LOADING GRAIN THAT HAS BEEN SOLD TO THE MILL



FRESH CORN FROM OUR GARDEN



UNCLE ANIL LOOKING AFTER THE GRAIN



PLANTING OUR FIRST CROP OF SUGARCANE



THIS MUSTARD WILL BE USED FOR COOKING OIL

## FRESH FRUIT & VEGETABLES

Being The Good Shepherd "Agricultural" Mission means far more than just our big rice and wheat fields or our dairy - it also includes our own smaller vegetable patches, gardens and orchards. We had an excellent corn crop this year and also grew coriander, chili, okra (lady fingers), garlic and potatoes - which we all agree are delicious! Higher above the ground, our trees bear fruits in their various seasons. The dry heat is when we normally have our lychee crops, the monsoon is mango season and winter is the best time for our guavas to show off their sweet bounty! All these crops considered, they are not even remotely close to the end of our fruit and vegetable list. We also grow: lemons, peaches, mulberries, bananas, karonda, tamarind, pineapple, tomato, capsicum, pumpkin, gourds, jack fruit, amla, gooseberry-apples, pomegranates, grapefruit, passionfruit, jamoon, karela, raddish, bero, star-apple and papaya! (Bonus points if you know each one of those... or even half of them, for that matter!) Our gardens help keep us busy throughout the year (ensuring a good harvest when the various seasons call for it), help us teach each other how to toil the land and also fill our bellies throughout the year - most notably in the warm summer months. We have also become quite adept at bottling, preserving, drying and pickling to keep the sweetness all throughout the year! Enjoy a few highlights from around our gardens!

### ALL YEAR ROUND



LYCHEE ARE AN ABSOLUTE FAVORITE



PLANTING THE GARLIC IS A BIG JOB



JOEY DOES AN AMAZING JOB IN OUR GARDENS



HAVE YOU EVER TASTED JAMOON?



HOME GROWN POTATOES!



PICKING PUMPKINS FROM THE PATCH



BELIEVE IT OR NOT BUT THIS IS ACTUALLY A SMALL JACKFRUIT! THEY CAN BE CURRIED WHEN THEY ARE RAW OR EATEN FRESH WHEN THEY ARE RIPE - THEY CAN EVEN BE PICKLED!

**FISH PONDS**

They may just look like two big holes of muddy water, but below the surface, our fish ponds are abundantly teeming with life. Each year we seed the ponds with baby fish which we grow exclusively for our own consumption. We catch them in a number of ways, sometimes making simple bamboo poles for the kids, attaching hooks and small sticks that act as bobbers. We also throw efficient casting nets that can bring in a dozen or more keepers all at once. Primarily we grow a few varieties of carp - they may not be as tasty as other fish but they are hardy, easy to raise and simple to catch. When you look at the ponds it's easy to doubt there are fish. You can't see them, the water is too murky, but they're down there, growing bigger by the day.

**ALL YEAR ROUND**



**OUR YOUNG BOYS LOVE TO SWIM IN THE TANKS**



**A SACK OF BABY FISH READY TO SEED THE POND...**



**...SOON THESE LITTLE GUYS WILL BE A LOT BIGGER!**



**MASSIVE FLAMES AS THE JUNGLE BURNS**

**FIRE IN THE JUNGLE!**

We had a major, and potentially devastating, incident when a forest fire took hold in the jungle behind our tinder-dry wheat fields which were ready for harvest. A strong westerly wind whirled the fire into a frenzy and (for a time) there was a very real risk that the wheat crop itself would be lost.

Our staff, senior boys and hired laborers jumped into action; quickly cutting several lines of the wheat closest to the jungle and moving the cut stalks back around 50m from the fence line. Our senior boys grabbed sticks to use as makeshift brooms, crossed the fence into the jungle and "swept" dry leaves and sticks back in toward the jungle. A line of control was established to try to slow the fire's reach (at the very least) and give us time to fight it/put it out (at the very best). Simultaneously, a back-burning operation was undertaken to establish a second fire-line much closer to the blaze.

Within fifteen minutes our tractor spray tanker full of water was on site, proving invaluable to controlling the flames. With the tractor spewing water at the base of the fire, we (thankfully!) quickly gained control of the whole situation and were relieved that no damage was done to either our fields or to the fields belonging to our neighbours. It was a valuable lesson to us all in the importance of teamwork, diligence and fighting with a combination of skills, prior experience, and teamwork.

**DECEMBER**



**SWEEPING LEAVES TO MAKE A CONTROL LINE**

**KITCHEN MAGIC**

Our kitchen is far more than you might imagine - it is a place for our amazing staff to whip up all kinds of culinary creations - without fail - every single day. Breakfast remains the same day-by-day (our staple of fresh bread and porridge) and lunches/dinners rotate between mission favorites like curries, subjis, dhal, pasta, stew, chapatis and the like. Our kitchen staff also ensures that each and every person on this mission has a birthday cake and dinner to celebrate their big day and they have certainly come up with some amazing and inventive cakes over the years! Our kitchen, in general, tends to be the center of this place where we all gather 'round, slow down and enjoy each other's company - as well as all of the delicious meals.

**ALL YEAR ROUND**



**ROASTING CORN FOR AN AFTERNOON SNACK**



**FRESHLY BAKED BREAD FROM OUR BIO-GAS OVEN**



**OUR STAFF CLEANING LENTILS IN THE KITCHEN**

**QUITE A PICKLE**

Yet again, we managed to produce a delicious batch of pickles this year including over 300kg of mango pickle alone! Pickling this much is a team effort for sure: our boys pick and wash the mangoes (while they are still unripe) then our girls chop them and remove their seeds. Salt and turmeric is added and then the fruit is sun-dried (for a few days) before more spices, oil and chili is combined with the mango in large drums. This is then left in the sun to "cook" for a few months before being ready to serve. It's not just mango that we pickled though - we also made mixed vegetable, garlic, lemon, chili and bero pickle (a type of wild berry found in our jungle). Each pickle is made in a slightly different manner and flavor to maximize tastiness.

**ALL YEAR ROUND**



**CHOPPED MANGO READY FOR PICKLING**



**BEROS (WILD BERRIES) BEING MADE INTO PICKLE**



**DRYING MANGO IN THE SUN FOR PICKLE**

WE'RE SO HAPPY TO BE ABLE TO REPORT THAT OUR CHILDREN ARE ALL HAPPY, HEALTHY AND GROWING WELL. WE HAVE MADE MASSIVE STRIDES IN THE LAST FEW YEARS TO IMPROVE THE EDUCATION QUALITY WE OFFER OUR KIDS - PARTICULARLY THROUGH OUR MISSION UNIVERSITY PROGRAM. THE LEADERS OF TOMORROW TRULY LIVE WITHIN OUR GATES!



# MISSION UNIVERSITY

Our Mission University program continues to move forward in leaps and bounds through the incredible support of so many amazing sponsors and supporters around the globe! This year, five new students joined our MU program. We also had our very first graduate with Eddu (also known around here as, Eshika), our program's torchbearer, completing her M.B.A. at the very top of her class! We're so proud of the way she conducted herself throughout her whole program and are excited to see that she has already secured an excellent job in the corporate sector! By the end of this year another six of our students will have completed their degree programs and we are excited for what the future has in store for them. A huge thank you to John Marshall and TeachHer.org for their support in keeping this program thriving!

Name	Degree Program	University / Location	Current Year
Eshika George	Business Administration	Graphic Era Hill, Bhimtal	Graduated!
Basanti Ram	General Nursing	Swastik School of Nursing, Khatema	3 / 3
Chandini Prakash	Hotel Management	Dev Bhoomi, Dehradun	2 / 4
Clifford Chand	Biotechnology	Uttaranchal University, Dehradun	3 / 3
Coreena Singh	Hotel Management	Dev Bhoomi, Dehradun	2 / 4
Jackie Singh	International Finance	Graphic Era Hill, Dehradun	2 / 3
Jessica Singh	Journalism	Graphic Era Hill, Dehradun	3 / 3
Job Prasad	Political Science	Ewing Christian College, Allahabad	3 / 3
Kamal Bahadur	Sports Education	Jaspal Rana Institute, Dehradun	3 / 3
Maya Ram	English	Dehradun Institute of Technology	2 / 3
Reeva Bisht	Tourism & Travel	Himgiri Zee University, Dehradun	3 / 4
Rosey Singh	English	Dehradun Institute of Technology	2 / 3
Sonia Singh	Social Work	Himgiri Zee University, Dehradun	3 / 3
Sunny Kumar	Architecture	Dev Bhoomi, Dehradun	3 / 4
Kelly Bahadur	Law	Uttaranchal University, Dehradun	1 / 5
Jimika Singh	Law	Uttaranchal University, Dehradun	1 / 5
Sawatri Saini	Arts	Himgiri Zee University, Dehradun	1 / 3
Trudy Sunar	Business	Graphic Era Hill, Dehradun	1 / 3
Gordon Ram	Computer Science	Graphic Era Hill, Bhimtal	1 / 3



IN PARTNERSHIP WITH SOME AMAZING SPONSORS, OUR MISSION UNIVERSITY PROGRAM IS PROVIDING OUR CHILDREN WITH COLLEGE DEGREES IN TOP-TIER INSTITUTES ACROSS INDIA.



# ANIMAL RESCUE

When you live on the edge of both a river and a jungle - you are bound to come across quite a bit of what nature has to offer in terms of wildlife! Some of them harmlessly stroll through while others find themselves in need of extra assistance. Over the last few decades we have helped to rescue and support many of the latter animals including snakes, crocodiles, monitor lizards, deer, leopards and even elephants. This year, however, we stepped up our game and (in partnership with the local Forestry Department officials) managed to capture and release over 50 venomous snakes and countless other animals from the local market/community. The most notable ones were a 17ft python (which surprised a local farmer in his field), a family of five elephants wandering in our fields, as well as a few crocodiles that came out from the rivers in search of food in the market. No matter the animal, no matter the size, we think it is important to understand that these creatures, while often dangerous, are not “out to hurt us” and deserve to be protected and safe.

**ALL YEAR ROUND**





## HOW YOU CAN GET INVOLVED...



### **VOLUNTEER** | [www.indianorphanage.com/volunteer](http://www.indianorphanage.com/volunteer)

Although our Volunteer Program is currently on hold due to COVID-19 restrictions, we will be opening again at some point in the future. You may receive an updated status of our program from our website. Volunteers can help out in a variety of practical ways - from painting and teaching to gardening and running workshops for our children - whatever your skillset, we can probably put it to use!



### **FUNDRAISING** | [www.globalgiving.org/projects/indianorphanage](http://www.globalgiving.org/projects/indianorphanage)

We need champions for our cause! There are always projects going on at the Good Shepherd Agricultural Mission and we need your help to find people willing to support them. Whether you'd like to help gather supporters to achieve a big idea or perhaps a smaller more personal connection sounds better to you - just let us know.



### **DONATE** | [www.globalgiving.org/projects/indianorphanage](http://www.globalgiving.org/projects/indianorphanage)

While we strive for as much self-sufficiency as possible, it takes a large family of supporters to keep the Mission running. Consider sponsoring us on a monthly basis at a level that feels comfortable or perhaps make a one time donation to honor someone you love. Whatever you do, we promise to be accountable and forthright with your hard-earned money.



### **SPONSOR** | [www.globalgiving.org/projects/indianorphanage](http://www.globalgiving.org/projects/indianorphanage)

We are so fortunate to have an amazing group of people sponsoring our children. We are happy to report that every single child on our mission has a sponsor! That being said, we are always looking for people who would be happy to sponsor a monthly meal, regular maintenance, school supplies or tuition fees for our older students. Contact us to learn more about how you can become a sponsor.



### **SUBSCRIBE** | [www.indianorphanage.com/subscribe](http://www.indianorphanage.com/subscribe)

We produce a weekly newsletter full of beautiful photographs and updates from the field. If you've ever wondered what it takes to run an organization like ours, sign up and take a look! We try to keep them light and fun, so look for it every weekend - we promise it will be a bright spot in your week. You can also follow us on Instagram, YouTube and Facebook - the links are below:



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