

FUTURE HOPE

UK Registered Charity No 1001769

www.futurehope.co.uk

NEWSLETTER

Twelfth Issue

Winter 2005/6

Giving Today's Street Children a Better Tomorrow



Future Hope Barrackpore Opens

The Future Hope Barrackpore village was opened on Saturday 5th November by Maya Mallick, the local Pradan (village head). The opening was attended by all of the Future Hope children, staff, and friends, and timed to coincide with a visit to Future Hope by Anthony Harrison – the Barrackpore architect – and his wife, Ski.



The village has been created using traditional Bengali construction methods and materials sourced from the local community where possible.

The village is the first step to independence for our successful youngsters who have good jobs in the city. They are entirely responsible for their own lives, but have the security of knowing that they still live within the spirit of Future Hope. Each youngster pays a nominal rent to Future Hope, a part of which goes towards saving for their own home later in life.

This new Future Hope venture has managed to create a peaceful, village atmosphere for the boys, just 30 miles outside of Calcutta's busy centre.

Sports Academy Update

Future Hope has bought ten acres of the new sports ground despite fierce competition from both business and housing developers. The location is the focus of the government's new economic drive and consequently extensive infrastructure has been provided for the land.

A Picnic, hosted by the local farmers, for all Future Hope staff and children was held on

Five youngsters move into their new home in the Barrackpore Village.

Sanjay who is a development officer with the Bengal Rugby Union and coaches the sport widely around India and overseas.

Kamal graduated in B.Com from The University of Calcutta. He works for Seagull Bookshop whilst studying for his MA.

Tamal is completing his degree and works in the film industry

Jeeban has just completed his class 12 and is a fitness trainer in a corporate gym.

Sukra recently returned from successfully completing his A2 Levels in Britain and is about to join an accountancy firm.

Our new website can be found at www.futurehope.net Please email Shirley if you would like regular email updates.

New Staff at Future Hope

Surajit Sen

Surajit Sen, worked with United Breweries as the Area Sales Manager East India for the past 9 years. He joins Future Hope as Director of Projects where his local contacts and knowledge of business practices will add considerable value.

Paul Walsh

Paul joins as Director of Future Hope after completing his tenure as Deputy Head of Mission at the British Deputy High Commission in Kolkata. Instead of accepting a posting to New Zealand he has elected to take a career break for two years and join Future Hope.

Dr. Mukdish Sarkar

Dr. Mukdish Sarkar has taken over from Erica as Medical Director. Mukdish visits Future Hope daily and runs Accident and Emergency at the Mission of Mercy Hospital.

Viraf Langrana

Viraf joined Future Hope in December 2004 as the medical administrator. Previously he worked as a senior operations supervisor with M.N.Dastur.

Jamie Elwes

Jamie joins Future Hope after graduating from Newcastle University with a first class honours in economics and business. He has been a frequent volunteer for the past 4 years and will help run the homes and create new activities for the children.

Future Hope Wins HSBC Indo – British Award

Future Hope and co-winner Vikram Seth were presented their award by Sir John Bond the chairman of HSBC last November in New Delhi.

Future Hope was given the Indo-British Award 2005 for giving a life of dignity and opportunity to the street children of Kolkata. The award came with a donation of 500,000 rupees, which will be used to upgrade the school to meet Central Board of Secondary Education standards.

Education

A major priority for the next year is upgrading our education. We intend to register Future Hope School with the Central Board of Secondary Education so as to provide better educational opportunities for our students. As Future Hope continues to grow it becomes impossible to place all of the children into good local schools. At the same time, with the standard rising in our own school, we believe the children should sit for government recognised board exams internally.

As a consequence Arindam Saha (Director of Education) and Iti Rakshit (Headmistress) will work closely together recruiting more teachers, setting a better infrastructure, and expanding the number of classrooms and laboratories in Future Hope School. One of the Rowland Road homes will be shifted to the new Ballygunge location (see below) thus freeing up space for the school. The number of children in Future Hope School has risen dramatically and is now at 158. The majority of our students (60%) are day scholars from the local slums giving the school a broader focus. The number of girls has risen to 40% of the school.

Academic Result List

The Following boys successfully passed their Class X from Future Hope School.

Ganesh, Sanjay, Ajay.

The Following boys successfully passed their Class XII from Future Hope School

Rajesh, Joydev, Jeeban and Abhijit.

A further six boys are currently sitting their Class XII exams and are awaiting their results.

12 boys and girls have been selected to be the first Future Hope School Boys to sit for their CBSE (Central Board of Secondary Education) Class X in 2007

The following boys and girls passed their Class X from external schools.

Bikash, Raju, Iqbal, Binod, Dola and Shefali. Shefali has been made a school captain at Loreto School Sealdah and wants to be a teacher.

Lakhi, Dildar and Augustine all completed their **Class XII**. Particular congratulations go to Dildar for obtaining a first class division in his exams.

Sujoy Roy and Kamal became the first Future Hope university graduates when they graduated in **B.Com from University of Calcutta.**

Dildar and Augustine are now studying a degree at the International Institute of Hotel Management in Kolkata.

Nizam and Amar are in their second year of a Bachelor of Commerce Degree at St Xaviers and are also working part-time for HSBC in the company's new Kolkata processing centre.

Kabir has completed his A2 Levels at the Oratory School in the UK successfully, and is taking a gap year teaching at Ashdown House School. He has been accepted into Northampton University to do a Human Geography and Sports Management Degree.

Dheeraj continues his second year at East London University studying a degree in Architecture. During his holiday he worked with BDP in London.

Tapas is working for one year at the Intercontinental Hotel in Geneva as work experience for his degree in International Hospitality and Tourist Management at London South Bank University in the UK.

Anwar, who left Future Hope eight years ago for a job as a chef at the Oberoi Bangalore now has a job as a chef on an American cruise liner operating out of Miami. He returned in August to buy a small flat for his father, a homeless rickshaw puller and family; he also arranged his own marriage.

Sanjay, Pintu, Rajesh and Yunus work with the ITC Sonar Bangla Hotel.

Pakistan Rugby Trip

Seven Future Hope boys represented India in the Asian Rugby Football Union Under-19 Tournament held in Lahore from 10-17 December. The boys won all their games including a match against neighbours Pakistan and were winners of the Second Division.

Rosslyn Park Sevens

The Richard Langhorn Trust and JP Morgan made it possible for Future Hope to compete in the Rosslyn Park Schools Sevens Tournament at U16 level. The boys played well in the



tournament and had a fantastic experience.

Football

Future Hope School's football team won the St. James's School five-a-side football tournament.

Five Future Hope boys have been chosen to join the "Oh Calcutta!" India Youth Training Programme sponsored by the Indian Football Association. Three boys from the programme will be chosen to go and train with Manchester United.

Cricket

Arun Lal, ex-Indian Cricketer, is now coaching six of our children at his academy. Sunny has been chosen to play in a demonstration match at Kolkata's Eden Gardens.

Girls Sport

Kuntala Ghosh Dastidar, previously a coach to the India women's football team, is coaching our girls three times a week in hockey, athletics, football and netball.

Art

Future Hope has recruited two new art teachers during the year. Under their guidance the work of the children has flourished, so much so that HSBC commissioned Future Hope to provide artwork for their new Kolkata Processing Centre. The star attraction was a painting on glass of a Bengali countryside scene unveiled by Sir Michael Arthur, the British High Commissioner, and Sri Buddhadeb Bhattacharjee, the Chief Minister of West Bengal.

Projects-Future Hope School

The new Future Hope School roof was completed in November 2004 and was opened by David Milliband, the then UK Secretary of State for Education. Four new classrooms have been constructed as well as a kitchen, extra storage space and two bathrooms.

There are sliding partitions between three of the classrooms allowing them to be opened up and turned into a perfect assembly hall. It has all been designed to create a light, open and friendly atmosphere that encourages learning.

Future Hope Computer Lab

The Future Hope, HP computer lab is now used extensively every day; in the morning by Future Hope school and in the afternoon by the boys and girls who go to external schools.



The computer lab has become an integral part of the Future Hope School curriculum. Specialised software is used to supplement the teaching of certain subjects such as, Maths and English, and a computer curriculum has been set that teaches children both the theory of computers and practical applications.

Gym

Ranadeep Moitra, coach to top Kolkata football team East Bengal and India A Cricket



Team, comes three times a week to supervise routines and to ensure that the boys use the gym both safely and effectively. David Bale, Andy's brother in law, officially opened the new The Future Hope Andy Waddington gym early in 2005.

New Future Hope Home

Future Hope purchased a new home in September 2005, this was generously funded by Stichting COR Nederland. It is located in Ballygunge. It is only a 10 minute walk to the main schools that the boys and girls attend, and is a similar distance away from the other homes. It is a traditional Bengali house with large, light rooms and a fantastic open roof area.

This home will soon be used to house the boys who vacate Downstairs Rowland Road making room for the expansion of the school.

Barik

Tragically Barik (17), a Bompas Road boy, died early on Sunday 5th February in the Mission



Barrick (left) with Basu of Mercy Hospital. He had been diagnosed with a brain stem tumour last March and despite a very bad prognosis fought very bravely right up to the last moment.

Having been referred by Sister Cyril of Loretto School Barik quickly settled in, becoming very much a part of the Future hope family; he took part in many activities particularly sport and played rugby and soccer well.

Barik was a bright, inquisitive student of St. Lawrence School who was due to sit his class 10 board exams. Over 200 people attended his funeral.

How to Contact Future Hope

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Future Hope Needs – new projects that need a sponsor.

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| 1. Redecorating Rashbehari home | GBP 4,000 |
| 2. Cricket kit | GBP 500 |
| 3. 150 school jumpers. | GBP 400 |
| 4. 80 school desks and chairs. | GBP 1,200 |
| 5. 10 tennis rackets. | GBP 300 |
| 6. Text books and uniforms for 2006. | GBP 1,000 |
| 7. Augustine & Dildar university fees for 4yrs | GBP 3,000 |
| 8. Remodelling new Ballygunge home. | GBP20,000 |
| 9. Upgrading & converting Rowland Road home into new school. Creating Library, science labs, art, music and classrooms, | GBP40,000 |
| 10. Rural skills centre in Barrackpore. | GBP 6,000 |
| 11. Future Hope Sports Academy. Many aspects of the academy need funding a detailed report is available on application. | |

Should you wish to sponsor any of the above please e-mail us on timgrandage@vsnl.net and we shall forward a detailed report to you.