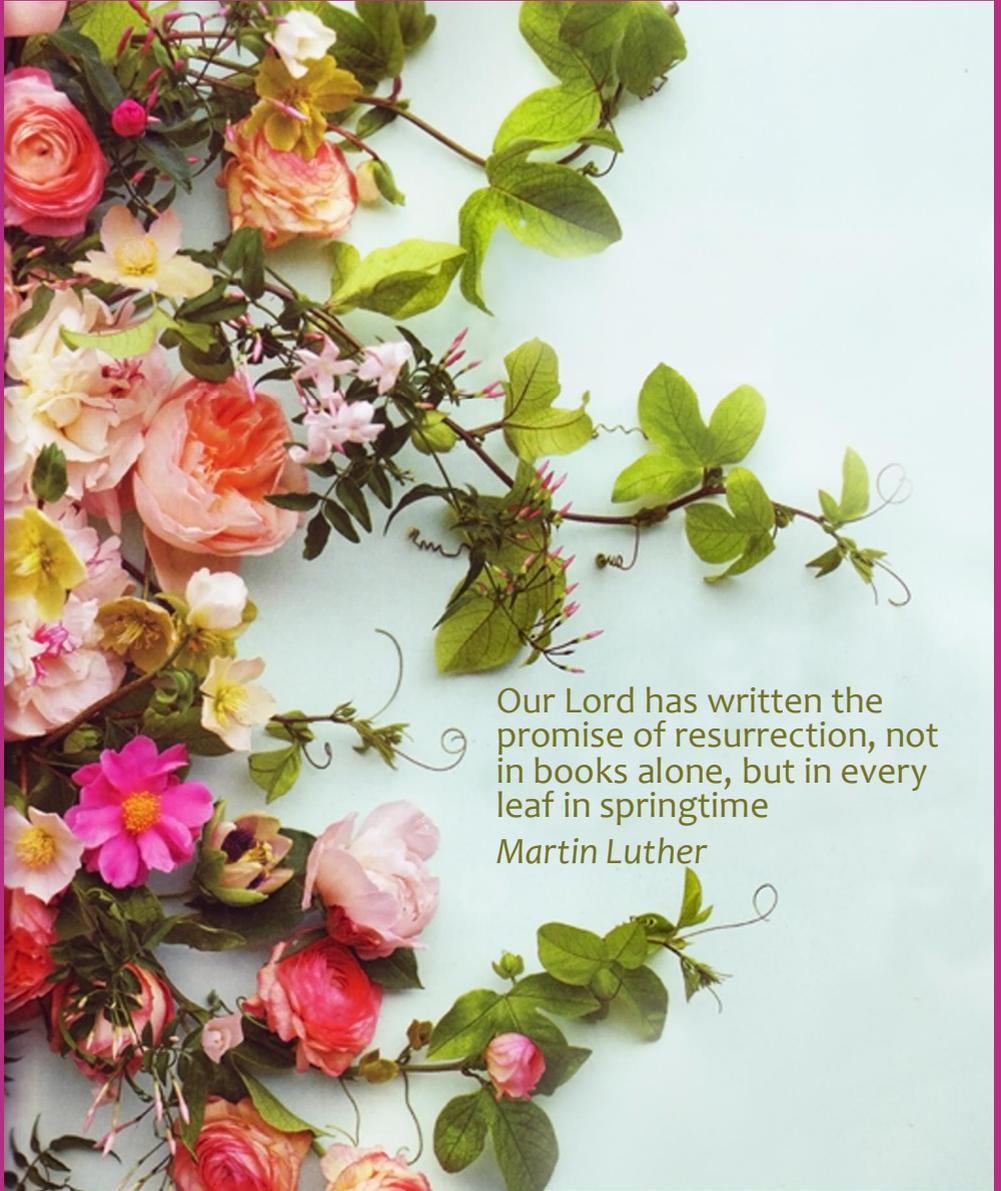




Kalimpong Association UK

Spring 2016



Our Lord has written the
promise of resurrection, not
in books alone, but in every
leaf in springtime

Martin Luther

A NEW BEGINNING FOR THE HOMES

At an extraordinary Meeting of the Board of Management on 4 March 2016, Dr Gillian Hart was elected as the new Chairperson of Dr Graham's Homes.

Her appointment follows the resignation of Lt. General Johnnie Mukherjee. We are delighted with this appointment which we feel gives the Homes a fighting chance of a bright future.

Gillian's appointment ends a period of uncertainty following the abrupt departure of the recently appointed Chief Executive, Dr John Abrahams and his wife, Minnie. We are sorry to see them both go but their position became untenable for various reasons which we do not think it appropriate to discuss on these pages at this time.

Gillian is a supporter of the greater involvement of the many supporters the Homes has around the world and welcomes ideas and suggestions.

As is to be expected, some board members have taken this opportunity to resign and new eminent board members have been appointed. We feel there is every cause for optimism and we wish Gillian every strength in her new appointment.

Dr Hart is the first lady Chairperson of the Homes and is very well qualified for this demanding role. She is the Principal of Welland Gouldsmith School, Calcutta and the Director of Education, CEO and Honorary Secretary of the Welland Gouldsmith Educational & Charitable Society.



Gillian is also a former Member of the Legislative Assembly of West Bengal and has represented the Anglo-Indian community. She has also served on the Council for the Indian School Certificate Examinations where she represented the All India Association of Anglo-Indian Schools in India.

We congratulate Gillian on her appointment and wish her every success in bringing change and improvement to the Homes.

Margaretta Purtill

The Homes has a new headmaster

Henry Simon writes:

We arrived in Kalimpong on 20 February to witness the departure of Dr. and Mrs. Abraham rather prematurely. The Abraham's brought with them, much ideas and experience as they fitted into the DGH family, fairly easily. We wish them good tidings.

We also will be losing Mr. S. L. Banerjee, who serves as Headmaster till the 31st March, when he retires after a reasonable stint at DGH.

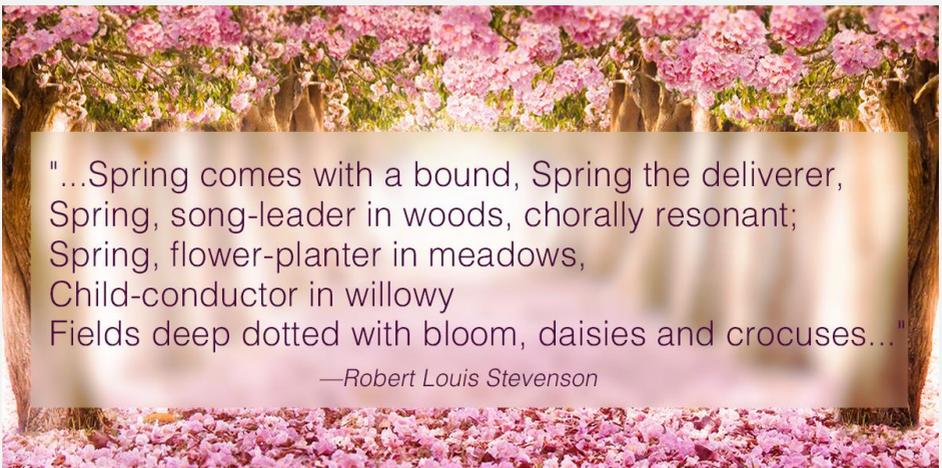
We have a new Headmaster, who will be inducted at a ceremony on the 1st of April. This young man grew up on the compound and is an OGB. He is the son of Terence Monteiro and the younger brother of Richard Monteiro, who was Headmaster for a while, before he left for Dubai. He is a member of the Local Advisory Committee and President of the Kalimpong Grahamite Association.



Our new headmaster is Mr. Neil Monteiro. We wish him well as he takes up office on the 1st of April.

Long live Dr Graham's Homes,
The Children's City!

Henry Simon



McCabe Pilgrimage to the Holy Land Jan 2016



Dear OGBs & Friends of Dr Graham's Homes.



I cannot believe that we are now in the month of April. After what seems like the longest, windiest, wettest winter and spring, it finally feels like we are coming into some good weather. March is the gateway to Summer, clocks go forward, evenings get longer, and people begin to look healthier after months of suffering from vitamin D deficiency — and social life lives pick-up.

I would like to update you on “Life in the Purtil Household”. I am pleased to say that Vincent is now in remission of his cancer. We are, however, not out of the woods as other complications have occurred but we are ever hopeful and we do see light at the end of the tunnel. We are so grateful for each day that God gives us and I give thanks to all the many people around the world who have been praying and have given us their support.

To happier thoughts!

In January, I had the privilege of being one of ninety supporters of the McCabe Educational Trust to participate in a pilgrimage to the Holy Land.



The highlight was a Sponsored Walk around the Sea of Galilee, in which we raised £60,000 to enable the McCabe Educational Trust to continue supporting Christian institutions in the Holy Land such as the Al Shurooq Blind School in Bethlehem and the Jeel Amal Boys Home in Jerusalem. We are grateful to the Trust for sponsoring five children at the Homes.

Our walk took us for 8 miles around the shore of the Sea of Galilee. We started at the mount of Beatitudes (Jesus once fed 5,000 hungry pilgrims on the lake side with loaves and fishes). We sang together at Capernaum (where Jairus' daughter was raised from the dead) and our walk ended where the Jordan river enters the sea.

To complete a memorable day, we set sail across the Sea of Galilee dropping anchor in the middle of the lake for a time of worship and thanksgiving.

The following day, we drove through the Jordan valley to the Baptismal site of Jesus, lunching in a lovely garden restaurant in Jericho. We visited Qumran where the dead sea scrolls were found in caves that were hidden in jars for nearly two thousand years preserved as a result of the area's arid climate. We walked in the desert and saw how olive wood has been carved over centuries.





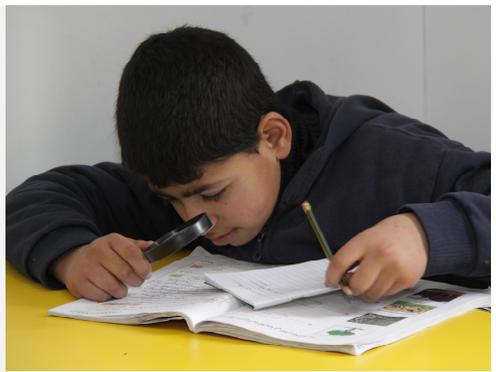
Al Shurooq School with MET Trustees

We stayed in Bethlehem for four nights.

We visited the Blind School that we had raised funds for. The School provides residential care and education for visually impaired children drawn from all over the Palestinian territories. The main purpose of this school is to help integrate the children back into their society with some independence.

On a visit to a Palestinian refugee camp, we were taught how to cook the local food. We then walked around the surrounding area and saw how difficult their lives are with a backdrop of barbed wire fencing and fortress-like walls. This a tumultuous region that is full of unresolved conflicts and contradictions .

We also visited the Basilica and grotto of the Nativity, where Jesus was born.



The Holy City of Jerusalem

We spent a day visiting the walled old city of Jerusalem. We walked the stations of the cross ending up at Golgotha known as the place of the skull where Jesus was crucified and saw the tomb where He rose from the dead.

Then to the wailing wall where I left my messages of prayer in the cracks of the wall for our dear school.

I can say that my prayers have been answered in that Lt Gen Mukherjee has resigned as the BOM Chairman and that Gillian Hart has taken over. I do so believe there is power in prayer. We wish Gillian and her team the very best in their endeavours to pull the school around and return it to the Dr Graham's Homes that we all love and remember.



Cooking with the Palestinians



In the Judean desert



with Nada's parents



with Natasha

The Golden Walls hotel, in Jerusalem is owned by the family of our editor!

Nada is the incredible lady who produces this newsletter for our Association. I met her parents, Fahmi and Marlene Nashashibi, who own McCabe's partner hotel in Jerusalem. They gave me the royal treatment!

I met the whole McCabe team in the Holy Land, a remarkable group of people led by Natasha Nahhas. I cannot say enough about this remarkable woman. If you ever get the chance to travel on a McCabe pilgrimage, take it. You will be well looked after. I made friends for life with Natasha and the other McCabe staff attending to all of our needs.

This was a remarkable and memorable journey not only enabling me to see the great work that Alistair and

his team are involved with BUT from a personal and spiritual prospect, visiting the actual gospel places brought the Bible alive in my mind enabling me to visualise events like Jesus being baptised in the River Jordan and the disciples afraid on the Sea of Galilee when Jesus held out his hand and stilled the storm.

Please do contact Alistair if you ever wish to visit the Holy Land. Full details on their excellent website.

www.mccabe-travel.co.uk



For the Canadian Graham's, equestrianism Runs in the family!



In Equestrian circles, the name Ewen (Pip) Graham is considered to be that of the Founding Father of Eventing in Canada. Pip was Daddy Graham's grandson and sadly passed away in 2007.

Pip's father was a tea planter, so Pip grew up in India not far from Kalimpong and after leaving India, settled in Alberta and started an import Saddle business. He also introduced "Eventing" to Canada: a three-day Equestrian Event where horse and rider compete in three disciplines.

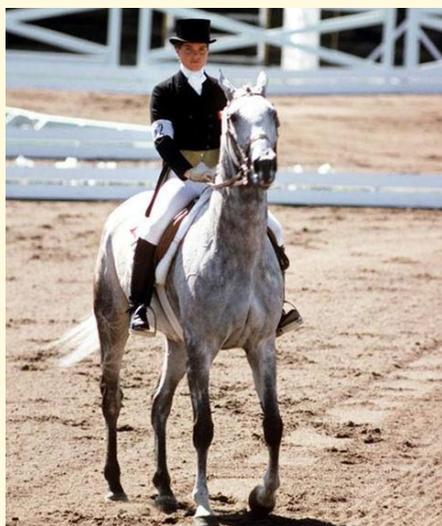
Pip went on to serve as Chief Equestrian Course Designer for many International Events including the Olympics. (We know his son Arifin well as he is still very active in Canada supporting the Homes)

Moving on a generation, Pip's daughter, Juliet Graham competed with Princess Anne in Equestrian Eventing at the 1976 Montreal Olympics, and riding Sumatra (a horse bred by her parents) represented Canada and won a Gold Medal at the 1978 World Games.

In 2009 in Toronto, both father and daughter were inaugurated into the Canadian Equestrian Eventing Hall of Fame.

In the early 1900's, a Canadian lady presented Daddy Graham with a horse, which he aptly named CANADA.

He would have been very proud of the achievements of his grand and great grand-children !



More equestrian notes from Kalimpong

In the Kalimpong of Dr Graham, traveling by horse was normal and equestrian stories abound.

In the early days Dr. Graham was still a full time Missionary and the Homes was only a part of his life. In the morning he would attend to the mission problems and in the afternoon, he would ride his horse up to the Homes to personally supervise the construction of the buildings.

Two American visitors to Kalimpong in 1938 write the following. “ We stopped at the Industries (Kalimpong Arts and Crafts started by Katherine Graham) and leaving the building we noticed Dr. Graham cantering down the road and looking good at seventy six years of age, but we could not catch up with him.”

Ten years later in 1949 another missionary, George Patterson made his epic equestrian winter journey across Tibet to bring a Tibetan plea for help to the rest of the world. He then stayed in Kalimpong where he met his wife Meg, a doctor, whom he got to know as he taught her to ride a horse from the Homes Farm.

They stayed with the Farm manager George McCabe and his wife Mollie (They are Editor, Alistair McCabe’s mother and father).



George McCabe, DGH Farm Manager, offers his horse “Paddy” a cup of tea!

Once when Meg was thrown off her horse, George just left her lying there and rode off after her horse, which made her furious, until he explained that in the Himalayas being without your horse could mean life or death.

I remember Peter Foning (David’s elder brother) bringing Tara, a horse stabled between Elliot and Lucia King, and riding all over the Homes compound.

We heard that OGB David Kettley, on leaving school, went to work looking after the horses of an Indian Raja.

An OGB remembers renting a pony for a Rupee in the Kalimpong market place to ride up to the Homes. Another time, taking farm horses on a picnic to Dalupchen, one of the horses bolted for home with the rider on its back. But it was smart enough to come to an abrupt stop just at the very edge of Sangshay Landslide!

A NEW TERM BEGINS AT THE HOMES

Some notes from Henry Simon,
our school chaplain



Return to school

The school year started as usual mid-January, after a much needed winter break. This year DGH made History by closing on the 22nd of December. We normally used to close on the 27th November, with a carol service that evening at 4pm. This was done keeping with the tradition, instituted by Daddy himself, where children who leave us, receive Bibles.

Ever since I took over as Chaplain here, a dear friend, Mr Terence Read, Chairman of The Irish Committee has been generously providing these Bibles. He has helped us give away almost two hundred Bibles each year since 2008. For the last eight years. I am deeply grateful to him.

Apart from the Class ten and twelve, sponsored kids who returned on the

second week of January for coaching classes, there was not much movement or noise around the campus over the Christmas break.

The compound came back to life on 12th February, when the first batch of children landed. They came lock stock and barrel. Life had come back once again! For the two months that went by earlier, the compound was so quiet. I went about trying to cycle around, to get into shape for The Bike Bengal event I participated in, organized by the UK Committee.

Bike Bengal

Come, 20th February, our group of determined cyclists, came up the hill, on Murray road. The children gave them a treat, with the school band, that marched them through town, to a standing ovation. I would say The Cyclists brought Kalimpong to a halt. It looked as if The Heroes had returned, victorious.

And they were! The journey from Kathmandu to Kalimpong was amazing. Apart from two punctures and a blown tube, not much trouble for the riders.

Mr. James Machardy, made sure the kids were not kept waiting at school. His planning got everyone into Kalimpong by 1.30pm. The fastest time so far, by any group of riders. When I told Kenny Hammond this, he said, “ Henry, are



you sure you all were on two wheels and not four?"

We were a mixed group but all became friends for life. Our patron and DGH stalwart, John Webster was our ever jovial talisman.

Michael Foreman's wit, kept us in high spirits. He was the only rider to have five gears, when all the others had from 21 to 27. What a rider! Tim Hughes, at 68, set the pace. I tried to catch up to him, but most often he was like lightening.

Caron Jhonson, Mr. Machardy's niece was our only lady and a calm but tough customer. Andrew, Mr Machardy's son, is a marine and a lovely young man. Bradley, one of our own, studied at DGH and became School Captain. He was

scientific and fantastic on the bends, especially going downhill.

I can only thank all of my fellow riders for your time, sacrifice, commitment and support that kept us going. The children and staff at DGH are extremely grateful not only for the £20,000 raised in sponsorship for the school but for your support and love for us.

God Bless Daddy and Mummy Graham, without whom, we would not be part of each other's lives.

Let us rise up lads and lassies!

God Bless us. Long live Dr. Graham's Homes, The Children's City!

from Henry Simon

Rajendra, our thoughts are with you



Many OGBS will remember Rajendra Chowdhuri as a former classmate in the 1960's or as a student in his art class at the Homes. His postcards and illustrated notelets of the Homes have become iconic.

Sadly, Rajendra is currently undergoing chemotherapy in Kolkata. His son, Rahul, would like to thank everyone who has asked after his father.

Ruth Glashan writes, "Rajendra is looking better after his last chemo and will be going back to Kolkata for the next phase at the end of April"

Rajendra would welcome contact from OGB's. You can email him on rajendra_chowdhuri@yahoo.com

We will remember Rajendra in our prayers

CAN YOU HELP ?

My name is James Stewart-Rattray and I live near Adelaide in South Australia.



My mother, **Aldyth Trousdell** taught at the Homes, firstly from 29 August 1939 until 19 August 1940. Her second appointment was from February 1942 and I have

no record of her finishing date or length of employment.

Throughout my life, my mother spoke fondly and often of the Homes and remained a member of various associations supporting the school for many years. She died, in Adelaide, South Australia in 1985.

I am currently researching my family history and her family tree and as there are no other living relatives of that generation I have quite a few blanks in her timeline.

I would be delighted to receive any information about my mother from anybody who may have shared her time at the Homes.

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Enquiries to and full details from:

John G Webster,

Planetree, King's Cross, Isle of Arran KA27 8RG
Tel: 01770 700747 Email: johnwebster@live.co.uk
(led & devised by John Webster, formerly on the staff of Dr. Graham's Homes)

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The India of the Maharajahs

In Israel Margareta met a regular McCabe traveller whose family connection with India dates back to 1844.

Jenny Jeapes writes:

“My family’s link to India started with my ancestor James Cleghorn who in 1844 was a pilot on the River Hooghly. Our family history has been intertwined with India ever since. I hope you will enjoy this letter from April 1913 addressed to my mother, while my father, Oliver Cleghorn (pictured here on his horse, Cromwell) was enjoying the hospitality of the local Maharajah”

Dear Dorothy

I am writing now while I have a minute to say all’s well. I have shot nothing but an enormous crocodile, which was swept away in the river. We have been treated most awfully well.

His Highness’s car came to meet us. A whole ripping bungalow (mosquito proof – all openings covered with wire net) at our sole disposal. A head butler, a second boy, a Goanese cook, a police guard, 4 punkah coolies, 2 bhistsis, 2 sweepers, are part of the staff. A pair horse and carriage with a coachman in white with red and gold tummy band of cord and a pale blue turban laced with gold, for us. A pair horse tonga for our following of shikaris. A pair bullock tonga (trotting bullocks) for our food and cook when we are out for the day.



The Chief Forest Officer, a very decent native gentleman is in constant attendance to arrange shoots and generally carries Powell’s second rifle. The Chief Forest Officer’s brother, a Native Officer in His Highness’s army is my shikari.

Whenever we halt for a meal we find a shady spot with cold drinks and fruit out of His Highnesses garden. Then in 10 minutes we have a 4 course hot lunch. Soup – game-joint – pudding – cheese and bread and jam, if we could eat it.

We have Arab horses to carry us (not ponies) wherever our pair horse carriage won’t go.

If back in time, we play tennis with His Highness at 6.0 pm and always dine with him at 8.30 pm.

Hors d’oeuvres, soup, fish, entree, joint, relevée, sweet, savoury, dessert. Drink whatever we like. His Highness was hurt one night because we only had whisky and soda when offered champagne, Hock, Burgundy or Graves.

Friday shot at crocodiles and fished. Saturday stalked sambhur and spotted deer. Got nothing as a d***'d tiger came and frightened the spotted deer away. I did pray the tiger would give me a shot, but all he did was to wander through the jungle just across the river opposite me. I heard him woof three times.

Once he missed a cheetal doe. I saw the doe and had been waiting for the buck to come along, and then suddenly the doe leapt in the air and turned in the air and bolted and there was a most angry and disappointed woof



exactly as they do in the Zoo when the food is being put in the next cage. He was d***'d angry and very hungry because he had a shot at a peacock, but only got its tail.

The Subhadur who was sitting about 50 yards away from me saw that and when we went I heard his call again. When I wanted to take him across the river, I was stopped because it appeared the Political Agent was trying for the tiger and the tiger was not to be disturbed. It's maddening to have been within a stone's throw of a tiger and only heard and not seen him.

Yesterday we had a beat – got nothing except Powell shot a female Nilghai for the table. In my machan I saw a lynx and a baby chinkara. The poor little chink was dead tired and very frightened and came and lay down under my machan. I was of course sitting dead still. I was very sorry for it. It eventually got up and went away.

The Army turned out to beat for us with drums and fifes! This morning we shot black partridge, (At least I got the only one), snipe, hare, and sand grouse. I was shooting fairly well and wiped Powell's eye for him though I must say, I had better chances.

The Maharajah was most, or said he was, disappointed that you are not here. The next time I come, he says, he hopes that I shall bring you and that you will shoot a tiger. He will have a special one for you.

Incidentally, later on, he said he hated ladies smoking, so you won't be able to have your cigarettes here, while I shall smoke the most expensive Havannas!



Tomorrow, we are after black buck and the last day will be stalking again. His Highness is a brick and one of the best chaps I have ever met.

**Much love dear,
your loving husband**

Oliver



K2K 2016

We thank Bradley Mawer for these reflections on a wonderful DGH event

Welcome Dinner Reception by Nepal OGB's

It was a great feeling to be welcomed by the Nepal OGB's when we arrived at Kathmandu. OGB's of different generations showed up to welcome us and provide us with plenty of food and drink before we set off on the K2K ride. The joy, pride, and love that they shared with us is proof of the strong bonds that OGB's share around the world and how appreciate we are of all that is done for the Homes.

THANK YOU NEPAL OGB'S FOR THE WARM WELCOME

K2K February 2016 Team

JAMES-Thank you for your leadership and organisation.

JOHN- Thank you for inspiring us

TIM- Thank you for leading the pack and giving us all the stats.

CARON – Thank you for setting the pace and making sure we were all ok

MICHAEL – Thank you for always keeping our spirits up with your wonderful sense of humour.

ANDREW – Thank you for always looking out for everyone.

HENRY – Thank you for encouraging us and making the ride seem easy.

BRADLEY – That's me! & I found the experience exhilarating and exhausting!



The reason I took part in the K2K ride was to give back to the Homes in my own little way for all the love, support, encouragement and joy I had received for the 12 years I spent at the Homes.

It was my way of saying thank you to my sponsor, the late Lily Murphy, my teachers, my house parents, my friends, and everyone who had a part to play in my life at the Homes.

Finally, it was my way of showing that OGB's around the world still care very much for the Homes and that we can be counted on to make a positive difference.

Kathmandu—Kalimpong Fundraising Bike Ride

The K2K ride began in Kathmandu and it was an up and down ride out of the Kathmandu valley and then uphill to Dhulikhel where we camped on the first day. The next two days were mainly uphill climbs, and they were uphill indeed! Just looking up at what lay ahead was daunting enough. However, it was just about focusing on one push at a time - whether on the pedal or walking and pushing the bike.

Being surrounded by beautiful mountains and clean fresh air, coupled with well-paved roads and minimum traffic did help make the first few days of uphill roads a lot bearable and manageable. We took regular breaks and had a wonderful team of support staff who were always there to help us.

What really helped during those difficult riding days was the great teamwork and camaraderie we had built up amongst ourselves. Despite needing all our energy to pedal up, each rider found the time and energy to encourage, support and be there for the rider beside him or her and that to me was the greatest secret of the K2K ride of February 2016.



We met for the first time in Kathmandu - at least most of us did. What was amazing to notice was how quickly we all bonded together. It was as if we had already realized that we were on a journey together and no one was going to make it without the support of the team.

Personally, I enjoyed meeting each of the riders and got to learn so much from each member. Each one came from a different background, with different experiences and with a different reason for doing the K2K. Yet, we were united in our cause - we were all heading to Kalimpong and we were all doing this for the children of Dr Graham's Homes.

A big thank you to John, James, Tim, Caron, Michael, Andrew and Henry for teaching me so much and making the ride so memorable.



We needed that break!!

We would start each day's ride at just after 6:30am and take a break every hour or so. Whether it was an uphill climb, or a scary downhill section, or riding through some crazy traffic, or just idyllic country roads, we all looked forward to the break

time where we could just relax in the shade in the middle of nowhere and enjoy tea, coffee, juice and some snacks.

During these breaks we would often discuss three things: 1. The things we saw on the way 2. Whether the next section was uphill or downhill and 3. How far until we camp for the day.



The Rev. John Webster

No words could ever express the love and adulation that we have for this great man. Without a doubt, John was the star of the K2K ride.

‘Bhajej’ as the locals often call him, has been an inspiration to so many and his courage, determination, sense of humour and his love for the Homes cannot be paralleled.

Come On Riders!!

James was the leader of the K2K ride and he made sure that we stuck to our schedules. Without his able guidance and constant reminders, we would not have made it to camp every day with enough time to relax. James did a wonderful job organizing the entire bike ride and always kept us informed about everything. His leadership was key to our success.

THANK YOU SIR.

1 Thank you to Alistair McCabe and the McCabe Educational Trust for helping with my fundraising campaign.

2 Thank you to all my donors for your generosity and your support and encouragement. You made my K2K ride possible.

3 Thank you Shweta for without your support, understanding and constant encouragement I would not have been able to do this.

A big thank you to OGB Binod Rai and his Insight Himalaya Team for the wonderful support and great grub.



Bradley with Rev John Webster

It was an honor and privilege for me to spend time in the company of John and I know that I have returned a better person for that experience.

John has set the gold standard for the rest of us to aspire to. In my opinion, the spirit that inspired Dr. John Anderson Graham lives on in Rev. John Webster.

THANK YOU SIR

Welcome to Kalimpong

The final lap of the K2K ride up to Kalimpong from the Teesta Bridge was undoubtedly the toughest part of the ride. Personally, I think I pushed my bike more than I actually rode it as I was both physically exhausted and mentally drained. So, it was a great joy to be welcomed in Kalimpong by the Kalimpong OGBs and members of the Board of Management. Thank you for the warm welcome. A big thank you to the School band for escorting us through the town. Finally, a big thank you to the staff and students for taking time out on a Saturday afternoon to welcome us. It was great to finally be Home.



Journey's end - beside the bust of Daddy Graham at DGH

The Sunday Service on the 21st was a wonderful way to bring our K2K journey to a close. For the whole experience and the wonderful friendships, I thank God for his providence and I know that DGH will always be a special place to all of us for the rest of our lives.

I believe that the Homes will survive and thrive for with God, nothing is impossible.

In God, let us trust.



Let us all aspire to inspire – Bradley Mawer, OGB



YOUR FEEDBACK MATTERS

Dear Vince and Margaretta

I thank you for the magazines that you send which keep us in touch with what is going on in the Homes. In this fast changing world of ours, I can appreciate how difficult it must be to keep Associations like yours going, especially the fund raising aspects.

I know how appreciative my mother was of being brought up in Kalimpong. She made so many friends, 'brothers and sisters' all over the world.

My hope for the future is that the younger generation that has gone through the Homes, if having done well for themselves, will remember where they came from and support the homes in their future – 'with thanks' - as you and your generation have done, and are still doing.

I can only HOPE!

Anita Lees, UK

Hi Margaretta

Thank you very much for another great newsletter. Our thanks also to Alistair and Nada. The Christmas 2015 Newsletter made very interesting reading indeed.

It was heart-breaking to read of the discontentment among the majority of the OGB's who were at that meeting re the proposal to build a teachers training college on the School Grounds.

The articles by Thuten, Jeannette Street, Beryl Richardson, Norman Freeman, Glynis Johnson, the GO Management Team, and from Rev Henry Simon, were excellent, as were the many photographs included in the Newsletter.

We are looking forward to catching up with Thuten and meeting Gwen in Auckland. Thuten was yet to migrate to New Zealand and I was about to join the British Merchant Navy in Calcutta when we last met, and that was a very long time ago.

Kind regards

John and Christine Dempster, Australia

Dear Margaretta

I am looking for contacts for the Wilkie family who were at the Homes with me. I would be so grateful if any of your readers can help or point me in the right direction. David Wilkie was a classmate.

Cheers

Errol Webber Australia

dghogbsc@just46.justhost.com

Dear Margaretta

A fortnight ago I received an email from Australia sharing with me that Aunty Peggy Marshall (Bobby's mother) passed to her rest October 28, 2015.

A number of my mother's contemporaries have passed to their rest and this always heightens my appreciation of the significant unrecorded Anglo Indian history that is slipping away.

A large electronic library drew my notice to a book on Calcutta by a Bengali author. In it, I was stuck by the vignettes common to Anglo Indian, Bengali, Muslim and all the other communities in this most fascinating of cities.

I have not yet discovered a comprehensive account, non-fiction or otherwise of life in Calcutta. Nor is there any mention of an Anglo Indian impress on intellectual or literary gems. Do your readers have any ideas ?

Christopher Fernandez , UK

Dear Margaretta

Dec 17th I received the KPG Association UK Christmas newsletter which I thank you for so much. Just yesterday evening I had a nice long chat with Jacqui, from the Canadian Council. She was giving me a run-down of what's going on at my beloved Homes. This truly breaks my heart.

I had a yearly Christmas card from my classmate **Donavan Oakley** who lives in Australia. He mention in his card he

was at the Homes for the September Anniversary Celebrations. He said I would be heart-broken as he saw the total run down state of the place. He mentioned lack of discipline and the Shabby conditions of the cottages. I am truly saddened.

Since leaving the Homes, I have never ever failed to support children and this marvellous institution and I am truly concerned about the future of the Homes. Ever since my mentor and dearest friend Bernard Brooks left the Homes, the Homes started on a skid.

Every year or so new principals and headmasters are appointed and seem to come and go. Obviously there is something fundamentally wrong. The Homes are supported by Sponsors and Overseas Committees amongst others, but there seems to be a lack of accountability of how these funds are being used. To read about these cottages being closed, kids being hungry, the Graham Chapel being closed is mind- blowing.

I do understand about the earthquake which had a dramatic effect on the Homes. I collected quite a bit of donations which I sent to Jacqui for the earthquake building relief fund. I am sorry to say I believe a lot of these funds have been miss-used.

Jacqui said that Arifin Graham would be getting in touch with me some time soon. I have ordered Bernard's Book and can't wait to read it.

Please convey my warmest wishes to all at the UK Association. I wish you and the Homes the very best in 2016.

Tyrone Ledlie, Washington DC

**Your monthly news from the
UK Committee for Dr Graham's homes**



**Your invitation to join the UK
Committee for lunch in
Edinburgh**

We would like to invite all interested in the work of Dr Graham's Homes in Kalimpong to come and have lunch with the UK Committee in Edinburgh.

This will be an opportunity to meet our intrepid bike riders and hear the latest news from the Homes.

As well as a lunch of curry and all the usual accompaniments we plan a raffle, an auction and guest speaker who will entertain us with tales of all the ups and downs of our recent Sponsored Bike Ride from Kathmandu to Kalimpong which raised the magnificent sum of **£20,000** to help support our sponsored children.



We need to know numbers, so please book in advance with our secretary, Anne Hoggan

Tel: 01334 656992 or Email: lochmorn@aol.com

Date: Wednesday 18May

Venue: RoyalOverseas League

Address: 101 Princes Street, Edinburgh.

opposite the castle & beside Boots the chemists.

Time: 1pm

Meet in the Dining Room for lunch at 1.15

Tickets: £10

Pre-lunch AGM 12 noon at the same venue

You are also invited to join us for our Annual General Meeting which will be held in the same venue before lunch
Reservation not required and all are welcome

Dr Graham's Homes Kalimpong, India | Tel: 0208 675 6828 | Email: Dr.Graham's.Homes.Committee

This email is a new initiative of our committee. We would like to send you information about Dr Graham's Homes but we have no wish to send anyone unwelcome emails. If you wish to unsubscribe, simply click Unsubscribe below.

Forthcoming Event

Final Birthday Celebrations

September 24th 2016

Methodist Church, Hinde Street, London W1

Doors open at 12noon

Meeting commences 1pm sharp
Room MUST be vacated by 5pm

Tube: Bond Street



The Jewish Feast of Purim involves fancy dress. Here Alistair McCabe, our editor, receives an award from Oranit, European Director & Malu, Sales Manager of EL AL Israel airlines!

NEW FEATURES FOR OUR NEWSLETTER

We are looking for some new features for our newsletter and need your help! Could you make some suggestions e.g. ðA day in the life of ...ö or snapshots, latest achievement or things your children or you have done which made you smile. We are looking for upbeat, heart warming, positive stories so if you have any please email Margareta: purtills@btinternet.com



Don't forget, you can find us on the web

www.kalimpong-association.co.uk



Kalimpong Association UK



www.twitter.com/kalimponguk

Many thanks for taking the time to read this newsletter.

If you would like to contribute to the next newsletter, please contact:

Mrs. Margareta Purtill: purtills@btinternet.com

Our sincere thanks to Alistair & Nada at McCabe Pilgrimages
for their help in producing this newsletter