



## Trustees inaugural visit to Labasa

It was a lovely Wednesday morning on the 16<sup>th</sup> April 2011. The flight from Nausori to Labasa was somewhat delayed but we landed safely at Waiqele airport around 8.20am.

The Labasa Almoner, Satishwar Chand, and Committee member, Sakim Mohammed, welcomed the JP Bayly Trust Board members; Chairman Joe Singh, Deputy Chairman/Trustee Malcolm Paterson, Trustees Albert Queet and Digby Bossley and Accountant/Manager Nilkant Lal.

This was indeed a historic day as it was the first time that the full Board of the JP Bayly Trust had visited Labasa since they first opened their doors in late 1997. Unfortunately, Trustee Sharan Lateef could not join the other Trustees.

During the course of the day, the Trustees visited some of its registered families residing in Vunimoli. They also visited the Principal/Head Teacher and some of the children of these registered families at Waiqele Bharatiya Primary School and All Saints Secondary School. Four of the students of All Saints Secondary School were a bit uncomfortable

when they were first called to the Staff room to meet with the Board of Trustees but were soon interacting quite freely.

After visiting Vunimoli and the two schools, the Welfare Labasa Committee

be adopted to meet the needs of the poor and needy in Labasa.

The Trustees then visited Dr. Kishor Kumar (Dentist). Dr. Kumar has been kindly providing dental services to the registered families at Bayly Welfare Labasa at no cost for some years now. He treats our families like all his other patients and maintains a separate record for each patient. Dr. Kumar together with his wife was kind enough to provide the Trustees with refreshments.

“We very much appreciate the excellent work that the Committee and the Labasa staff are undertaking in alleviating the needs of the poor and needy in Labasa and thus fulfilling the aims and objectives of the JP Bayly Trust.

The families identified for our visit indeed give us a better appreciation and insight of the families that the Labasa Committee has to manage” Chairman Singh said.

We wish to also take this opportunity to thank the North Pole Hotel who very generously provided an 8 seater van for the transport needs of the Board.



*From Left: Vice Principal, Principal and students of All Saints Secondary School*

formally welcomed the Trustees and then hosted them to morning tea. Ms. Selina Lee (Social worker) and Mr. Mohammed Yakub (representing the Lions Club) were also present at this inaugural visit. They shared their experiences and views of the work of the Bayly Welfare Labasa and discussed ways in which an integrated approach could

## Mr. Richard Naidu to lead Bayly Welfare/Education Suva

Richard Naidu a partner with Munro Leys in Suva, was recently appointed as the Chairperson of Bayly Welfare & Education Suva Committee.

On his appointment Mr. Naidu said that “I sincerely appreciate the opportunity to chair the Suva Welfare Committee. It is quite inspiring to work with people who have, for many years, been committed to improve the lives of the less fortunate. I have a lot to learn from the Trust, its staff and its stakeholders about some of the most important issues in our community. Thousands of people have lived better lives because of the assistance that the Trust has

given them over more than 50 years”.

Mr. Naidu replaces Mr. Jed Peterson. Mr. Peterson was the Deputy Chairman/Committee member for Bayly Welfare & Education Lautoka Committee for 18 years and Chairman for Bayly Welfare & Education Suva from May 2010 to May 2011.

The Suva Bayly Welfare & Education Committee comprises of: **Shanta Lakhani** as Deputy Chairperson, **Marie Lee** as Secretary and **Nilkant Lal** as Treasurer. Committee members are **Jed Peterson, Asina Sahu Khan, Susan Knynenburg, Delywn Jenkins** with Senior Almoner **Michael Chandra** as ex-officio.

## Sonam's success dedicated to Mum

Once again, the JP Bayly Trust has awarded a Commemorative Certificate and a cash award of \$250 and this year it has been awarded to Sonam Kumar who successfully completed her Form 6 at Mahatma Gandhi Memorial High School in 2010. Sonam received the award from the JP Bayly Trust for achieving the highest mark in English (96 out of 100) and 373/400 for Fiji School Leaving Certificate in 2010.

Deputy Chairman Malcolm Paterson presented the award to Sonam at the JP Bayly Trust office on 13<sup>th</sup> April 2011 and said "The Trust has always placed great emphasis on the value of education and 15 years ago decided to make an annual award available to the student who gained the highest English marks in the School Leaving examination. Therefore, on behalf of the Chairman, who apologises for his absence today, and the Board of the JP Bayly Trust it gives us much pleasure in recognising the fine effort made by

Sonam by presenting this award to her. We understand she is continuing her studies and



*Sonam with her Dad*

we wish her all the very best in her future endeavours".

"I'm really honoured to have received this award from the JP Bayly Trust and my hearty thanks goes out to the organisation. This achievement has been possible through

a lot of hard work and the support of so many people in my life" Sonam said.

"I lost my mum in August 2010 and studying for exams and knowing that she wasn't around was very hard, but my family has been very supportive. We were there for each other the whole time and I count myself lucky to have them around me. My dad has always done his best to make sure his girls get the love of both parents and he hasn't given us any chance to complain" she said.

Sonam dedicated all her success to her mum and dad, her two sisters, her English teacher Mrs Gayathri Prasad and all her friends.

"I know my mother is watching and guiding me all the time. If it wasn't for the support of all these people, I wouldn't have achieved the success that I have today."

Sonam is currently enrolled in Foundation in Social Science at The University of the South Pacific and is still yet to decide what degree course she will enrol in next year.

## Bayly children assisted with their education needs



*Senior Almoner Michael Chandra distributing school supplies*

Bayly Education Suva is currently assisting 4 children in Kindergarten and 122 children from Class One to Form

Seven in various schools around Suva for 2011.

The JP Bayly Trust fully funds the Bayly Education Centres in Suva, Lautoka and Labasa by paying school fees and supplying other school requirements such as: sandals, bags, uniforms, stationery, text books and other items to children of families that are on the Bayly register.

By educating their children, the poverty cycle can be broken to allow the children to seek an education and better prepare themselves to find

employment after having left school. This in turn will then help their families to become self sufficient, and so no longer require the assistance of the JP Bayly Trust.

Our education officer in Suva, Ms. Manorma Chandra, is responsible in ensuring that these children's academic progress is monitored and provide counseling to the parents and children where necessary. Manorma comes from a teaching background and has successfully completed a Pre-School Course from The University of the South Pacific. She also was given the opportunity by the JP Bayly Trust to attend an Early Childhood Care International conference in Malaysia in 2009.

## EASTER DELIGHT

It was an extremely exciting day for one of our elderly recipients - Chin Sami of Lovu Settlement, Lautoka. On the day of his review, as he went out of my office to collect his food parcel from Tracey, he was filled with delight, looking at all the extras he had been given.

Tracey started explaining to him that apart from his usual monthly food ration these were extras for EASTER. He was touching each and everything from the festive bag not believing his good fortune. These extra festive packs were distributed at all Bayly Welfare centres in Suva, Lautoka and Labasa.

We see big smiles on everyone's faces

and everyone talking away to each other and showing each other their bag of goodies. We feel so proud when we see them so happy and we feel like they are a second family to all of us.

Most of our families were thanking Tracey whilst others knocking and coming back into the office just to say- 'Thank you'. Some asked whether they would continue receiving these extras all the time but I had to tell them that 'goodies are only for festivities'... So I know they will be counting down to DIWALI !! and so will we.

Once again a big THANK YOU & VINAKA VAKALEVU to the JP Bayly Trust and also to our so very generous donors for putting a little joy into the lives of our less fortunate brothers and sisters.



*by: Mrs Sarojni Michael*

## Education assistance for Sweta



Sunita Singh approached the Bayly Welfare Suva in 2008 when her husband passed away. After her husband's death she no longer had a source of income. Sunita suffers from diabetes and has had her right toe amputated. She has been unable to send her daughter to school due to financial constraints.

The Senior Almoner, Michael Chandra, interviewed and visited her at Khalsa Road, Tamavua. Sunita had bigger problems – not just being unable to put food on the table. Their home at Khalsa Road Squatter area was about to be demolished by the Housing Authority and they would have no place to live.

After completing their investigations, Sunita was brought onto the register of the Bayly Welfare, qualifying for food ration assistance whilst her daughter Sweta was placed on the Bayly Education register for educational assistance.

Bayly Education Suva were fortunate enough to have enrolled Sweta (Class 4) at Narere Primary School. Now that Sweta's school had been arranged, the Senior Almoner then arranged to relocate the family to Narere Hart.

The family's application to the Social Welfare Department for family assistance and food voucher was approved. Sunita receives \$75 per month for Family Assistance Allowance and \$30 per month for purchase of food under the Food Voucher system.

Life was now a bit more stable for Sunita and Sweta but there was another hurdle ahead of them. Sunita was being shifted from Narere Hart to Nakasi Hart. Whilst relocating to Nakasi was not an issue for the family, Sweta's schooling was, as now her bus fare was costing \$2/day.

The team at Bayly Education Suva again made arrangements for Sweta to enroll at a school nearby to her home, Bhawani Dayal Primary School. We now hope that Sweta will adjust to her new school environment and will go on to do well in her studies.

## Sisters Dreams Accomplished

*“To complete a journey, it is better to have someone along than to complete it alone.”*

These were the words from two sisters; Riteshni has successfully completed her studies (Certificate in Office Administration) from the Fiji Institute of Technology (now FNU) and is now employed at Tabia College as a Librarian (the school she attended as a student) and Shaleshni who graduated from Fiji National University in 2010 with a Diploma in Business Studies. Shaleshni is now employed by Kinis Allied Furniture as a Clerical Officer.

The family of four from Tabia in Labasa thanked Bayly Welfare & Education Labasa who has assisted the family since 1998.

The Labasa Centre provided food rations and education assistance from 1998 to date.

“It is with great pleasure and pride to say that Bayly Education paid for my school fees and all requirements to complete Form 7 education” said Shaleshni. “My brother is in Form 7 this year and Bayly Education has provided him with all necessary school items.”



**Senior Almoner Michael Chandra with Mr. Dharmendra Parmal**

## Shoes from Deluxe Footwear

“Let us share and care” is the motto of Deluxe Footwear Managing Director, Mr. Dharmendra Parmal who has sighted his father's success from a small shoe shop to several shoe shops in Suva.

Deluxe Footwear has recently donated 400 pairs of new children's school sandals (worth of \$8,000) to Bayly Education Suva. Bayly Education Suva has been long associated with Deluxe Footwear and these sandals will also be shared with our Bayly Education Centers in Lautoka and Labasa.

We are delighted with these donations as funds that have been set aside for purchase of school sandals, can now be diverted for other costs associated with Bayly Education.

During the handover of the school sandals, Dharmendra said that “I won't take any wealth with me when I die, I will only leave my name behind like my father did so I must share whatever we can afford”.

# Vinaka Trevor & Fay Hopf

Bayly Welfare/Education Lautoka wishes to extend heartfelt gratitude to Fay Hopf Friends of Fiji Group and Rotary Club of Wynyard Australia for the generous donations and sponsorships since 2004 towards the education assistance to the children registered at Bayly Education Lautoka. They have been providing financial and assistance in-kind not only for the school supplies but also during the annual prize giving ceremonies.

It is caring people like Fay whose

donations make lives of our less fortunate families a lot better. Their generosity and kind hearted gestures are truly appreciated. The morning tea and get togethers we have during their visits to our Centre are remembered and we always look forward to such visits. Our staff and volunteers cannot forget the day when these lovely ladies turned up in their Indian outfits during Diwali morning tea.

May the one who blesses us with the gift of life; bless them and their families. Once

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again thank you all very much for your continued assistance.



*Mr & Mrs Hopf with Swastika and Sandhika Priya*

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