

# Manipur News

June 2018



## Visit to Emmanuel School Haipi - 2018



As part of a period of Sabbatical leave this year, I visited Haipi village in February this year. I travelled out with Muriel, which caused some confusion at immigration in Manipur as they assumed that she and I were married. That Muriel is married to a local man seemed to be beyond the comprehension of the officer in charge and the problem was only settled when Muriel, the officer and myself went out to where Kai was waiting to collect us! In regard to climate, this is a great time to visit Manipur state as it is coming towards the end of winter yet before the temperature has started to heat up and the village was looking as lovely as ever. The school was preparing for a Socio- Cultural Day, under the leadership of Joanne Kipgen and one of the teachers.

The predominant cultures at the school are Meitei, Kuki and Nepali, but there are now a number of Kachin students from Myanmar.

The SC Day was a great opportunity to see the young people performing traditional dances in their national dress.

I was well looked after by Kai's sister and her family – although they had no control over the pesky cockerel that seemed to enjoy crowing right outside my window at an unearthly hour. This was a fairly short trip – I was in Manipur for just five days – but it was a memorable one.

Simon Carver



***If you would like to know more about the activities and further information of the Trust.  
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### **Chairman's Remarks**

In the International News over the past year there has been reports of some charity workers abusing vulnerable children and adults and because of this Charities have been reviewing their operations with regards their Safeguarding Policies.

The Manipur Trust members are committed to promoting the welfare of children, young people and adults. So how does safeguarding work in practice for the Trust as our responsibility is for fund raising, making grants to Emmanuel School Society for building work and the sponsorship of some needy children. As the Trust Committee members do not work 'on the ground' directly with the beneficiaries we recognise that our partners working in the community are best placed to address the risks. Although Emmanuel School is a private school, the Emmanuel School Society and the Headmaster follow Section 17 of the Indian Government Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education Act 2009 which states: Section 17(I) No child shall be subject to physical punishment or mental harassment. Whoever contravenes the subsection (I) will be liable to disciplinary action applicable to such person.

As we look to the future, maybe we should provide direct training of staff, students and parents from teachers qualified in this field. We will also regularly review the way we operate as a Trust.

It is sad that within all societies individuals are abused. Please pray for protection of the students, staff and parents in Haipi.

God bless you  
Keith

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***"Train up a child in the way that he should go and when he is old, he will not depart from it" (Proverbs 22:6)***

***Please pray for:***

- ***The registartionof Emmanuel School to a Higher Secondary status***
- ***The student sponsorship scheme***
- ***Safety of the staff and students***
- ***The fund raising activities***
- ***The Trust Committee members***



### **MCSP SUMMER BARBECUE**

Please come and join us on  
**SATURDAY, 14 JULY 2018**  
From 12noon – 3pm at  
12 Worcester Rd., Hatfield  
for an afternoon of food, fun and fellowship  
**WE WOULD VALUE YOUR SUPPORT !**



### ***Changing Times***

For the many supporters I haven't yet met, a brief introduction. My name is Linda Jesuadian and I've recently joined the Committee of the Manipur Trust. My late husband and I have supported the school for over 15 years, having initially met Kai and Muriel when we were members of Panshanger Church in Welwyn Garden City. I now worship at Herts International Church, also in WGC.

Being the newest member of the Committee, it was interesting to be asked to write a short piece about a long standing supporter of Emmanuel School, Edna Weir, who died peacefully on the 1st May this year. I had only met Edna on a few occasions, but a Godly connection exists – her late husband, Alan, was the Baptist Representative at my Confirmation Service at Panshanger Church back in 1987!

Edna was an enthusiastic supporter of the school ever since Alan joined the Manipur Trust in 1989. She will be lovingly remembered by many for that enthusiasm and the encouragement she was to Kai, Muriel and the Committee over the years. Indeed, many of the school's most loyal supporters came as a direct result of Edna sharing the vision for the school with friends and relatives.

Interestingly, part of Edna's vision had always included Joanne, Kai and Muriel's daughter, playing an active role in the life of the school, something that she and Joanne were able to discuss before her death. She was very happy to hear of Joanne's future plans to spend part of her year in Haipi at Emmanuel School. God's timing is always perfect, and I'm sure it was no coincidence that Joanne was able to share her plans with Edna before she died. Edna will be much missed, but we can rejoice that she is now spending eternity with our heavenly Father.

**Linda Jesuadian**

### ***A dream for the future of Emmanuel School***

Earlier this year in January, I returned to India – the first time in nearly ten years! I spent the first three weeks in Delhi with different relatives, but mostly in discussion with Neijou – a cousin of mine who has been living, studying and working in the city and who has recently completed her Ph. D in Japanese studies. Our discussions were centred around Emmanuel School and its future. The more we talked, the more we realised a shared dream and vision for what the school has the potential to become. We brought this dream before God in prayer and are continuing to do so.

Since its opening academic year in 1996 the school has seen five Principals from a variety of backgrounds at the helm. This coming December will see the current Principal, Hengam, leave as the Indian academic year draws to a close. This fact has led Neijou and myself to step up with a shared vision, some skills we have acquired on our individual life journeys, and most importantly – help and guidance from God.

What is our vision? - you may be wondering! At the heart of it is a passion to see every student recognise their value in the eyes of Father God – to know that they have a unique purpose on this earth. We want Emmanuel School to be a place where each pupil is able to explore and develop talents and interests in a plethora of areas and ultimately be equipped for adult life. We want to see pupils excited to learn and inspired in a variety of ways – whether through surrounding natural beauty, visiting speakers, trips to local organic farms, inter-school sports and arts, or creating awe and wonder in the classroom.

**Joanne Kipgen**



### ***Kai's Report***

My visit to Manipur was carefully worked out to fit in with the prior engagements that I had, leaving London on 7 February and returning on 5 April. Among other things, much of my time was taken up supervising repair work both in the Boys and Girls Hostels, especially in the wash areas – due to years of neglect and oversight. In order to cure the problem, I made a rule for the two Wardens that they should keep a close eye on the activities of the boarders, and if they break anything, it should be reported to the school authority. If they fail to do so, the cost of replacement will be borne from their Warden Allowances! Also there is a serious problem in the double-storey teaching block caused by a midget bats infestation, ruining much of the ceiling. Because of the corrugated Iron sheet roofing, the wood panels cannot shield the holes of the metal sheets! At least the problem appears to be confined to that particular building. It was also necessary to fix extra GCI sheets on the roof of the Assembly Hall to prevent further leakage, which has ruined a number of ceiling blocks. The Site Superintendent has been given instructions that he must carry out timely maintenance and repairs with the budget provision earmarked for the same or else maintenance and repair will be contracted out! This will mean making him redundant!

We held a one day Seminar entitled '*Haipi in 2050*' involving the whole village. The object of the exercise was to let them see ahead the picture of the village with its limited space and natural resources vis-à-vis the population growth – past experience shows that the population is doubled every twenty years! This means they have to take great care of the forest and find ways and means of increasing their agriculture yield to keep themselves alive. Also, how Emmanuel School fits into their quest for better life opportunities, especially as it concerns the younger generation in an increasingly competitive world. As a result they now have a conscious awareness of the fact that if they want Emmanuel School to be one of the better schools in Manipur, the tuition fees they are paying should be increased to attract qualified and good teachers to the School.

Unfortunately, not much could be done with regard to gathering materials for construction of the Primary School building as the money transferred from HSBC, Hatfield, in early January to Vijaya Bank, Imphal was blocked at the Regional Bank in Kolkata. After a good deal of deliberation, they were able to access the money at the end of March! We have since transferred more money to meet the initial cost of the materials. As the picture above shows, we have now been told that construction of the Primary School has started in earnest, having gathered the building materials – tubular truss, steel rods, cement, sand, timber and bamboo for scaffolding.

I am pleased to present a much better report on Emmanuel School HSLC Exam results for 2018, which were declared a few days ago. Of the 90 students who sat at the examination, 9 passed in First Division, 67 in Second Division, 6 in Third Division and 8 failed. This accounts for the pass percentage @ 91%. More importantly, five of them have crossed, for the first time, in the school's history the magic 400 marks out of the total 600. Further, a Nepali student at Emmanuel School scored the highest mark of the whole Board in the Nepali Vernacular. Another piece of good news is that following the suggestion of one of the teachers, we invited the Additional Director of the IT Department of the District as Chief Guest at the Founding Day celebrations. In answer to our application, he has included Emmanuel School as one of the Computer Training centres. This means Emmanuel School students of Class IX onwards can pursue a ten week course conducted by the IT Department – the department will supply the Teacher and more computers. *This comes with greetings and best wishes to all our supporters for a very enjoyable summer.*