

Newsletter of the Shimshal Trust, October 2016



Photo taken by Richard Matheson in Shimshal of himself and Abdul Hakim, who was a Shimshal Trust scholarship recipient in 2012.

“Abdul now works for a joint Pakistan-China government-funded scientific project near Skardu. They are studying glacial movements in the area; the technical details were over my head! He was pleased that he had been offered a great education and had studied geology at university/college in, I think, Islamabad.” Richard is a kiwi living in Leeds, UK. Thanks for this news!

1. Thanks to all our regular donors to the Trust. Because of your support we are able to continue funding educational scholarships in this remote corner of the world, and to build bridges with a country few of us have visited.



2. This year we have some new commitments, as well as our scholarships. Our friend Hussn Bibi, whom some of you may have met on our WOMAD stall in 2012, has taken on the education of five young orphan women from Shimshal who have no financial support. The

Kiwi Maddad group in Wellington have undertaken to fund their education and housing costs in Hussn's hostel, in Aliabad. The Trust channels this money for Kiwi Maddad and at the moment we are engaged in helping Hussn set up separate financial streams so that donors can see where their money is going.



Seema, Majida, Faiza and Shandana, four of the five orphans.

3. As well as helping the orphans, supporters of the Trust have helped Hussn set up her new girls' hostel in Aliabad. She needed solar panels, a washing machine, and a water tank. Two of our friends sent enough money to cover these expenses, and Hussn provided photos of the new installations.



4. We have a new Board member, Stephen Lee, who came to Shimshal with us in 2005. The photo shows Stephen in the Karavan Leaders' office, Lahore.



5. Scholarship time is upon us. Just a reminder: our scholarships are awarded to students in a very remote area where there is a newly developing cash economy. In our current financial position we'll be able to give 6 – 8 scholarships this year. This is considerably fewer than we normally give. If any supporters feel moved to help out, we know students who would be very grateful. Applications for our scholarships are improving in quality every year, and we now support young women doing higher level tertiary education as well as girls at high school. \$600 is the amount for one scholarship.

Our bank account number is
SHIMSHAL TRUST
38-9001-0596230-01

We also have a paypal account in the name of our Trust:

paypal@shimshaltrust.org.nz

If you deposit money please send us an email as well so we can reply with a receipt.

I'm going to have another crack at going to Shimshal next year, probably September. There is a steady trickle of tourists going to the Northern Areas now, and I'm keen to see my friends in the village. I feel the Hunza café in Karimabad calling, as well. Anyone interested?

Best wishes, Pam