

AUSTRALIAN VOLUNTEERS - BUILDING ONE SCHOOL AT A TIME





The Anganwadi Project Annual Report 2014-15

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The Anganwadi Project



The Anganwadi Project is an Australian grassroots non-profit association, working in the urban slums of Gujarat, India. It was founded in Australia in 2007 by Jodie Fried and Jane Rothschild.

The Anganwadi Project (TAP) designs and builds 'anganwadi' or pre-schools in the slum areas of Ahmedabad, India. The existing schools are often located in tiny corrugated iron lean-tos with inadequate light and ventilation and are searing hot in the summer, making it impossible for the children to learn.

TAP recruits and trains Australian design professionals who volunteer their time to live and work in India for 4- 6 months to oversee the design and construction of these schools.

We work in partnership with Manav Sadhna, (an Indian NGO) who is based in Mahatma Gandhi's Ashram and who carries out Gandhi's work.

The anganwadis are constructed by local labourers and use largely re-cycled materials. TAP's focus is on design considerations such as better use of space, ventilation, hygiene and natural light.

Since The Anganwadi Project commenced in 2007, 13 anganwadi have been built with the help of over 22 volunteer Architects from Australia, giving the community, particularly the children, women and young girls, a space for their education needs. Simple, beautiful, sustainable and child-friendly designs have been built in close collaboration with the local community.





Vice-President's Message

The 2014-15 season was a rewarding and successful one for both TAP and for me personally. I was fortunate to spend a month in Gujarat in November and December with two groups visiting from Australia. The groups travelled to the remote desert area of Kutch and then to Ahmedabad where they visited the TAP anganwadis, ran workshops with anganwadi children and finished off with a day working at Bholu 6.

TAP also sent three skilled and experienced volunteers to India this season. The volunteers focused on renovations to Bholu 6 and a comprehensive schedule of repair works to Bholus 1-13 as well as the design of a new anganwadi, Bholu 14. Whilst designing and building the new anganwadis is an exciting and rewarding part of TAP's work, it is equally if not more important for TAP to revisit and repair all our previous schools to keep them beautiful and functional for the children and communities.

Another important development for TAP has been the continuing involvement of two CEPT University (Ahmedabad) architecture students over the last 4 years. TAP plans to formalize this relationship with CEPT University this coming season.

Jane Rothschild Vice-President





The Year in Review

The 2014/15 season for The Anganwadi Project really started mid-2013 when TAP joined forces with Inspired Adventures and embarked on a very worthwhile fund-raising exercise described elsewhere in this report.

Whilst the Steps for Schools trekkers were fund-raising and preparing for their adventure, in August 2014 Jane Rothschild, Caroline Kite (a previous volunteer) and I started interviewing architectural volunteers to head over to Ahmedabad to design Bholu 14.

The team selected 3 very impressive architects who arrived in Ahmedabad between December 2014 & January 2015. Gemma Pierce Cook and Nikki Holdsworth were primarily given the task of designing Bholu 14 and Scott Flett's mission was to do a maintenance audit of all the existing Bholus.

Several sites were investigated for Bholu 14, but eventually one was chosen in the Sabarmati Chowlk near the Motera Stadium. Gemma and Nikki worked tirelessly, with help as always engaging the local community from Neeta Jadev at Manav Sadhna, to design this Bholu. In consultation with a local engineering firm, they addressed the challenges of building on top of a local dump. Due to budgetary concerns, there was some redesign necessary once prices came back for the initial design, but Nikki and Gemma managed to rework the design and we now have documentation for Bholu 14.

Whilst Bholu 14 was being designed and documented, Scott Flett was doing a thorough audit of any maintenance work needed on the existing Bholu. From this audit he was able to prioritise which Bholus needed what work done, and then managed local tradespeople to see the work carried out. This process is testament to TAP's commitment to ensure that the buildings we design not only look good for the photos taken at the inauguration ceremony, but continue to provide beautiful and light-filled spaces for the children in these slum communities and their families for many years to come.

An invaluable team member in the 2014/15 season was Harshil Parekh Harshil, an architecture student from CEPT university in Ahmedabad, who started working with TAP in 2014, with Jo Waterhouse and Susanne Pollmann, on Bholu 13. Apart from helping the Australian volunteers with local knowledge and translation skills, he was a constant source of enthusiasm and energy, and became a much loved team member.

Jane Johnson
TAP Board Member/ Architectural Advisor



The Anganwadi Project Board



Jodie Fried President



Pru Wood Treasurer



Anne Skipper AOM Board Member/ Governance



Jane Rothschild Vice-President



Alice Skipper Secretary/ Legal Advisor



Sally Pottharst Board Member



Jane Johnson Board Member/ Architectural Advisor





Project Report 2014-15

BHOLU 6 - Renovatiion, Repair & Construction

Bholu 6 is situated within the Ramipir No Tekro next to Vadaj Circle and is close to Bholu's 1, 2 and 10. The B6 site was originally purchased and built in 2009. Several major issues were found in Bholu 6 regarding the roof structure and the failure of the Ganga recycled roof material after 5 monsoon seasons, as well as the inadequate ventilation and temperature control of the Bholu in the hotter months. The school had become became unusable and was in need of a major renovation. TAP volunteer Jo Waterhouse began structural renovation works in October of 2014 and volunteers Gemma Pierce Cooke and Nikki Holdsworth took over in November and December respectively to complete the internal finishes (painting and floor and wall mosaics) and inaugurate to beautiful new school. The exceptional new features of Bholu 6 are the katlo woven ceiling panels that support the ceiling insulation and animal mosaics designed and installed in part by visiting Australian design students and the Steps for Schools team in November and early December. The katlo ceiling panels are a beautiful design feature that could be retrofitted to other Bholu's and integrated into future Anganwadi designs.

LOCATION Ramipir No Tekro, Vadaj Circle

WORKS Major Renovation

October – December 2014

VOLUNTEERS Jo Waterhouse, Gemma Pierce Cooke and Nikki Holdsworth

CEPT VOLUNTEER Harshil Parekh MANAV SADHNA Neeta Jadav

DATE

TOTAL COST 190,000 INR / \$ 3,800 AUD











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Project Report 2014-15

BHOLU 14

SITE SELECTION, SKETCH DESIGN AND DOCUMENTATION

The Bholu 14 site is located in the Sabarmati Chowlk near the Motera Stadium. It is in the same community as Bholu's 5, 8 and 9. The local Anganwadi teacher, Maneshaben, and her class of 25 will be the children to move to B14 on completion. The Sabarmati slum is a very poor area and is located at the outer extremity of the slum, with very little infrastructure compared to the Tekro. The site was originally a dumping area, and as such the soil is very poor, composed of plastic waste and fly ash, which has caused delays in both pricing and engineering. The B14 school has been designed to suit the current site conditions and take advantage of existing trees and access to the site; a temporary boundary fence has been to secure the site as construction was not able to be commenced due to time constraints and the impending monsoon season. Construction of Bholu14 is intended to commence in October/November 2015 by a new team of volunteers.

LOCATION Sabarmati Chowlk, Motera Stadium

WORKS New Anganwadi

VOLUNTEERS Gemma Pierce Cooke and Nikki Holdsworth

CEPT VOLUNTEER Harshil Parekh MANAV SADHNA Neeta Jadav

COSTS SO FAR 12,000 INR / \$ 250 AUD





Volunteer Report - Bholu 14



Dec 14 – Apr 15:

I am incredibly grateful to have been selected as one of the TAP volunteers for the 14/15 season. I have looked forward to being involved for a long time, and it has been a pleasure slotting into the project, taking on challenges and learning a lot through working in a team. This is a particularly challenging environment, and it brings to the fore strength of character and commitment, which I think all volunteers this season demonstrated well. We had the joy of being partnered by CEPT architecture student Harshil Parekh, who helped to translate, negotiate and build, and he was literally the light to our days! Gemma, Scott and I feel indebted to Harshil's dedication to the community, his friendliness and companionship. It would not have been the same without him.

The Bholu 6 renovation project was a significant project in terms of finishes, and our highlight was the opportunity to do a suspended katlo ceiling with insulation. We had the help of Neeta to organise a local Kaka (uncle) to help with our Katlo weaving. This proved quite a challenge in communication, as Kaka is quite old, and did not really follow what we were asking for! He had also never heard of using katlo on a ceiling – was it that?



The Anganwadi Project - 2014-2015 - Annual Report



The mosaics for Bholu 6 were a joint effort between the students from Sydney, Inspired Adventures and the TAP volunteers. During the days just Gemma and I were working we would often be joined by members of the communityThe teacher of Bholu 6, Arunaben, has been an absolute delight, and we have regularly dropped into Bholu 6 to check on everything in the following months after the inauguration. A lovely connection has been made with the kids, mums, teachers and locals, and we cannot turn up without 'Didi! Didi!' ringing out from the Bholu.

Bholu 14 has been a long journey, but as a team, we are particularly passionate about the B14 build in the Sabarmati community, as this specific area desperately needs a well-designed Anganwadi, and an injection of all the related services and benefits that come with such a project. Our CEPT volunteer, Harshil, has been a dedicated 'bhai' to all those surrounding the site. We are particularly close to the family next door, one member of which is a young girl called Pooja, who after an infection when a baby was left without her hearing.

It has been very rewarding and fulfilling to have been involved on such projects, and eye-opening to the ways of working in the Community Development sector, and for NGO's. As things went on, I felt less like an architect and more like social worker, community liaison, financial planner, cost consultant, banana-wallah, painter, cement-mixer and CAD monkey. It was a vastly different experience to what I had imagined, and challenged me in my views on poverty, community and service. I think volunteering is one of the best experiences that you can undertake.

The difference that The Anganwadi Project is making in the community is the joy and reason we are here. The beautiful environments of the Anganwadi are impacting lives of little ones, and I hope this legacy of design continues to work in the slums of Ahmedabad for many more years to come.

Nikki Holdsworth Volunteer





Project Report 2014-15

BHOLU 1 - 13 - RECTIFICATION WORKS

LOCATION Tekra, Sabramati, Motera

VOLUNTEER Scott Flett
CEPT VOLUNTEER Harshil Parekh
MANAV SADHNA Neeta Jadev

COST \$4620.

A dedicated volunteer, Scott Flett, undertook extensive rectification and repair works this season in Bholus 1-13. Years of intensive use, a challenging slum environment and heavy monsoon rains had taken their toll on the condition of the earlier schools. Bholus 1,2,3,8 received new metal roofs, Bholus 3,4,5, and 7 had the installation of new doors and windows, Bholu 9 had the installation of a new security fence and Bholus 1, 3 and 10 received new interior coats of paint. Other minor repairs were carried out to rectify damage to shelving units, outdoor steps and minor interior cracking. The works were completed in April of 2015 with all of TAP's schools now looking bright, clean and well- cared for.





Volunteer Report - Renovations & Repairs





My service in Ahmedabad was from the beginning of January 2015 to the beginning of April 2015. My scope of works changed almost as soon as I arrived. My original MOU was for general maintenance & to investigate the product failure of Daman Ganga, a recycled tetra pak roofing sheet used on several of our schools. After visiting the schools I observed there were more pressing concerns, and started compiling a draft dilapidation report.

At the end of January I issued a draft dilapidation report and triaged my scope of works along the following lines: structural concerns, suspected asbestos, Daman Ganga rectification, roof preparation for the coming monsoon & rectification works to Bholu's that have low investment risk. The 'investment risk' was decided after researching the leasing arrangements between our partner NGO Manav Sadhna and the local communities.

My original nominated budget was 3K AUD. Prior to commencing works I requested an increase to my bud- get to 5K AUD. The primary reason for this was the costing to remove the suspected presence of asbestos on four of our sites. In February I submitted an estimated cost of 219,639 INR with final costing by the end of March totalling 225,425 INR (\$4,620 @1AUD =48.79 INR). Removal & treatment of asbestos at Bholu: 1, 2, 3 & 8 using two different contractors totalled 135,346 INR or 60% of the nominated budget.

January: Orientation & assessment of existing schools including drafting a dilapidation report. February: Confirming a scope of works, aligning this within the nominated budget, scheduling & program ming within my tenure, construction design detailing, preparing (and translating) tender documents, tendering, obtaining community approval, obtaining local NGO partner approval & obtaining the approval of Australian directors.

March: Execution of scope of works.

Scott Flett Volunteer









Fundraising Report - Inspired Adventures



The Anganwadi Project partnered with Inspired Adventures in 2013 with the intention of creating a successful charity challenge portfolio to raise funds and awareness, and engage new and existing supporters, volunteers and staff in overseas adventures.

The Steps for Schools Cycle was the first partnership adventure between The Anganwadi Project and Inspired Adventures. The challenge concept was developed with a third party local operator, Discovery Journeys. The destination was chosen as Western Gujarat in order to incorporate time at The Anganwadi Project's schools in Ahmedabad.

The Steps for Schools Campaign was incredibly sucessful. 10 people raised \$50,745, an average of \$5,074 per person. The Anganwadi Project experienced a return of \$36,385 based on an investment of \$14,360. This is an ROI of 2.5:1. Based on the results, we feel we could run adventures every 14-18 months.



























Participant's Report #1 - Inspired Adventures



In early November 2014, I led a group of 12 design students from Design Centre Enmore (through a grant from TAFE NSW) to spend 2 days with TAP, running an art workshop with the children in Bholu 13 and designing and making wall mosaics in Bholu 6. This was the first time a student trip of this nature had been undertaken with TAP.

In late November and early December, I was fortunate to be the TAP representative on the Steps for Schools trip to Gujarat for 2 weeks. I had always wanted to visit the remote desert areas of Kutch and this was a wonderful opportunity.

During the first week of the trip, the group visited Bhuj (the main centre of Kutch) and also spent a day in the remote craft village of Ludiya. Ludiya had been destroyed by the 2001 earthquake and rebuilt with the assistance of Manav Sadhna. Representatives of Manav Sadhna travelled down to Kutch and spent the day with the group. We spent a memorable day with the women and men in the village showing us their elaborate traditional embroidery and their intricate woodworking craftsmanship.

The group then spent 5 days trekking through the wild and barren landscapes of the Gujarati desert and camping near tribal villages. We saw a huge variety of bird and animal life (including flamingos, a multitude of other birds, wild boar and wild asses), which were pointed out by our resident naturalist guide, Aditya Roy.

The highlights of the trek were meeting the beautiful local people in our afternoon village and school visits, and the impromptu invitations to village religious ceremonies and the traditional campfire dancing at night.

The last 3 days of the trip were spent in Ahmedabad visiting Manav Sadhna

(our Indian Project Partner) in the Gandhi Ashram and learning about MS's many slum programs. The group then spent a long day working at Bholu 6, installing mosaics, painting doors and windows, and meeting and drinking chai with the local community. After an extraordinary trip, the group agreed that the day spent at Bholu 6 in the slums and getting to know the community they had raised funds for, was the most rewarding and special part of the journey.

Jane Rothschild TAP Representative









inspired adventures



Participant's Report #2 - Inspired Adventures









Inspired Adventures, Participant, Jackie Jardine and Inspired Adventures Team Leader Kate Young

In December 2014, Armadillo&Co's Jackie Jardine joined The Anganwadi Project's Steps For Schools fundraiser, a trek through the spectacular desert landscapes of Western Gujarat in India.

Jackie and her husband personally raised \$10,500 for the privilege of joining the 5-day adventure. Each step brought the participants closer to their goal of building a new anganwadi (preschool) in the Tekra slums of Ahmedabad.

At the trek's end, they visited Anganwadi #11 and Jackie, who has a background in art therapy, conducted a workshop with the children using coloured paper.

The artworks will then be developed into rugs to be auctioned later in 2015 as a fundraiser.





This is Jackie's account of her experience...

It's rare that you get an instant desire to take part in something that you know very little about. That was the case for me as soon as I saw the email looking for fundraisers to take part in the Steps for Schools project. I said "yes" instantly and read the details later.

The hard part was the fundraising, but in the end that turned out to be a blessing. I was out of my comfort zone and it all worked out better than I could have hoped for; it was the perfect metaphor for the trip.

Arriving in India and spending five days trekking through the desert with the group was a perfect lead-in to arriving at the urban slums of Ahmedabad. The time trekking with our guides meant we arrived with a better understanding of Indian culture. I also arrived happier and more



Inspired Adventures, Participant, Jackie Jardine and TAP Vice-President Jane Rothschild

Walking into Anganwadi #11 for the first time was special. We were greeted with so many smiles and a few scared faces. I was aware of how our group of big, white people must have looked to these gorgeous little faces. A few songs and some dancing quickly made us a lot of little friends. My overwhelming memory is of smiles... the teacher, the helpers, the children... so many smiles. The workshop at Anganwadi #11 was one of the last days we spent in India and a highlight. I had no expectations – the children were all young. I had asked the other trekkers in the group to fold sheets of paper for me Origami-style. I got a lot of paper airplanes and a crane or two. Armed with paper and coloured markers in we went. More dancing and singing, hand clapping and hip wiggling seem to be universally fun thankfully. There were six of us from the trek group and we sat down, made our own little groups, unfolded paper, threw some planes and coloured in. I could have stayed all day. Everyone was so engaged. I had forgotten how much fun paper and pens could be. The children were so proud of their work; I am sure each of us closely inspected about 50 artworks. I was on such a high being called "teacher teacher".

As part of the trip, we were lucky enough to help the volunteers doing restoration works on one of the earlier anganwadis. I was struck by the sense of community and family spirit after working closely with the local families on the day. It was really special to see that everyone involved in the Anganwadi project honours and respects the community: there is no barging in, building what they believe is needed and handing it over at the end. Ladders and tools are happily loaned from surrounding homes and skills are shared. The day was a constant flow of faces and being introduced to sisters, cousins, mothers and aunties. We were invited into cricket games, taught how to mix mortar properly and drowned in Chai. I felt sad that at home, as a culture, we aren't as openly loving to our extended families, or as open to strangers.

I had no idea what to expect from this trip. I do know that it was probably the best holiday I have experienced as an adult.

I discovered that circumstance might see people living in a slum, but that a slum is full of homes and families doing the best they can with what they have.

I was honoured to meet and spend time with the people of Manav Sahdna, who continue to run programs that give these families opportunities for everything from health to education. It was amazing to walk the tight winding streets of the slum and come to a big set of doors that opened up to an oasis of swings, classrooms and kids playing volleyball... And it made me think of all the people I know who have so much but never seem to be happy.



Sponsorship - Villa Eugenie

Villa Eugenie became a primary sponsor of The Anganwadi Project in late 2014 by donating 10,000 Euros towards the next building season. We are extremely grateful for this sizable donation and support from this great organization. With much gratitude and thanks!

villa eugénie













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Enter

Villa Eugénie is an events company that develops any kind of creative vision into a sensory and tangible reality, offering both conceptual and directional strategies as well as all-round production expertise. Founded in 1996 in Belgium, villa eugénie is internationally acclaimed for its accomplishments in the world of fashion but is equally involved in all the sectors of luxury and art, high jewellery and fragrance.

villa eugénie today has clients with the most prestigious names, from Dries Van Noten to Chanel, from Hermès to Dior Homme, from Miu Miu to Lanvin, from Kenzo to Thom Browne. Based in Brussels, it operates today in the whole world: in Paris, New York and Milan on a regular basis, as well as in any city where an event calls for it, such as Berlin, Barcelona, Venice, Mexico, Hong Kong, Tokyo, Shanghai and Beijing amongst others. villa eugénie also has a permanent office in the United States.

Founder Etienne Russo's personal motivation in a sustainable planet as well as education and healthcare led Villa Eugénie to be involved in charity initiatives for several years now. The traditional end-of-year gifts to clients and suppliers has been replaced by supporting organisations such as The Anganwadi Project.





The Anganwadi Project Financials 2014-15

THE ANGANWADI PROJECT INCORPORATED ABN 12 314 134 057

PROFIT AND LOSS STATEMENT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2015

	Note	2015 \$	2014 \$
SALES			
Donation - General		16,665.93	23,225.64
Donation - Periodic		12,500.00	12,375.00
Fundraising		65,374.14	22,932.70
Association Membership		280.00	280.00
		94,820.07	58,813.34
LESS: COST OF CONSTRUCTION			
Project - Bholu 13			6,144.00
Project - Bholu 6 renovations		2,700.00	
Repairs & Maintenance Bholus 1-13		5,500.00	
•		8,200.00	6,144.00
GROSS PROFIT		86,620.07	52,669.34
OTHER INCOME			
Interest received	_	184.83	84.31
		86,804.90	52,753.65
EXPENSES			
Admin and Stationery		167.20	-
Bank charges		34.25	77.24
Insurance - Liability		1,608.75	1,608.75
Insurance - General Liability		1,302.62	1,302.62
Insurance - Corporate Travel		3,045.45	2,876.50
Promotion			504.90
Subscriptions		2,860.00	11,830.00
Web Hosting and Internet		1,280.70	1,012.36
	_	10,298.97	19,212.37
Profit before income tax		76,505.93	33,541.28



THE ANGANWADI PROJECT INCORPORATED ABN 12 314 134 057

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 30 JUNE 2015

	2015		2014
	Note	\$	\$
ASSETS			
CURRENT ASSETS			
Cash and cash equivalents	2	118,920.78	42,414.85
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS		118,920.78	42,414.85
TOTAL ASSETS		118,920.78	42,414.85
LIABLITIES			
TOTAL LIABILITIES			
NET ASSETS		118,920.78	42,414.85
	_		
EQUITY			
Retained Earnings	3	118,920.78	42,414.85
TOTAL EQUITY	_	118,920.78	42,414.85
	_		





THE ANGANWADI PROJECT INCORPORATED ABN 12 314 134 057

PROFIT AND LOSS STATEMENT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2015

		2015	2014
	Note	\$	\$
Profit before income tax		76,505.93	33,541.28
Income tax expense			
Profit after income tax		76,505.93	33,541.28
Retained earnings beginning of financial year		42,414.85	8,873.57
Total available for appropriation		118,920.78	42,414.85
Retained earnings end of financial year		118,920.78	42,414.85



Treasurer's Summary

The financial position of the Anganwadi Project has improved during the 2015 year, with an annual surplus from activities of \$76,505.93 (2014 \$33,541.28)

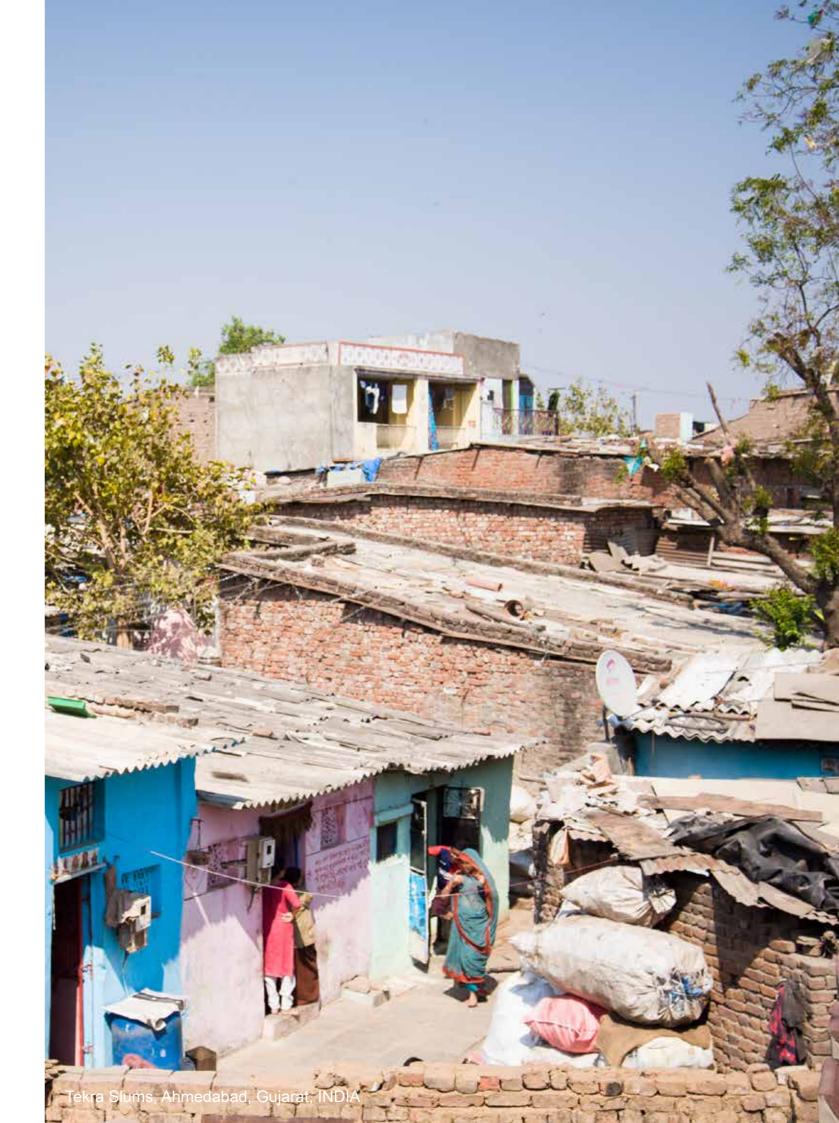
The increase in surplus is mainly due to an increase in fundraising, particularly from the "Steps for Schools" volunteer project run in December 2014. In addition, construction expenses were minimal, with building of new sites effectively put on hold for the year due to site and weather problems.

The cost of maintenance of existing sites has increased as the older sites require ongoing repairs and maintenance. There was little change in the recurring operating expenses.

The accumulated surplus at the end of the 2015 year is \$118,920.78, which puts the Association in a very strong financial position at the start of the new year to commence building work on the new site.

Pru Wood Treasurer





Looking to the future



The Anganwadi Project is currently planning for our 2015-16 building season and recruiting new volunteers.

TAP's aim for the next season continues to be the design and build more preschools in order to create brighter futures for the slum children.

In 2015-16 we will design and build Bholu 14, and continue the maintenance of the earlier Bholus, to ensure their long-term sustainability. We will continue and expand our eight year close relationship with Manav Sadhna and the community.

Whilst we continue to grow and become a fundamentally stronger organization, our long term sustainability relies solely on donations from private individuals and companies for our funding. Our volunteers fund their own way to India and donate their time to the project free of charge.

We invite you to become a member of The Anganwadi Project by giving a small or generous donation (www.anganwadiproject.com).

Thank you!



