

Drukpa Trust Annual Report, 2012-13

When *Druk White Lotus School* opened in 2001, there were 88 students - today, there are 705 students.

Drukpa Trust (DT) has supported the project since the very beginning and is now responsible for the planning, design and oversight of the capital programme; a landscape programme ('Dragon Garden'); and a child sponsorship programme.

DT also advises on building & infrastructure operation & maintenance, and income generation at a Visitor Centre located on the campus.

Throughout 2012-13, we worked closely with our strategic partner, the Druk Padma Karpo Educational Society (DPKES). Here you see our colleagues:

- Dr Ishey Namgyal (left) – Deputy Chair, School Managing Committee
- Mme Sarla Chhewang – Child Sponsorship Co-ordinator and Treasurer
- Sonam Angdus – Construction Manager



It's all about the kids ...



One of our main tasks is the management of a child sponsorship programme: Wendy Cornwell coordinates 110 sponsors from various countries. Here you see Wendy in handing over gifts from sponsors. Drukpa Trust representatives made four visits to the school in 2012-13.

Drukpa Trust raised £135,000 for the school in 2012-13, and needs to raise a further £138,000 to complete the capital programme. The Trust also project-managed capital grants totalling US\$281,000 mobilised by Live to Love Hong Kong.



Drukpa Trust, UK charity no. 1014948 • Patron: H.H. The 14th Dalai Lama • Founder Director: H.H. The Gyalwang Drukpa • Druk White Lotus School Patrons: Rt. Hon. The Dowager Countess Cawdor, The Viscount Cowdray, The Viscountess Cowdray, Richard Gere, Joanna Lumley • Trustees: Philip Cornwell, Michael Kern, Jonathan Rose (Chair), Annie Smith • Officers: Diana Cook (Treasurer), Rachel Glynn (Secretary) • June 2013 • www.dwls.org e: info@dwls.org t: +44 (0)20 8468 1339

Construction

Mudslide Defences

After the devastation of the 2010 mudslide, we vowed to protect the school against any further mudslide events.

We have built a 1 km defence structure, 3m high, along the eastern and northern boundaries of the campus. This was a huge undertaking.



Classrooms

Construction Manager Angdus completed two secondary classrooms in 2012 and is scheduled to complete two IT-enabled classrooms in 2013.



Residence 4

Residence 4 will accommodate 88 students from remote areas.

The North block was occupied towards the end of 2012, and the South block is due to be completed in summer 2013.





The project was honoured by several awards in 2012-13. In September 2012, we won The Emirates Glass LEAF Award for 'Best Sustainable Development' (photo top left). This followed an award from the British Council for School Environments in the 'Test of Time: Environment' category (photo bottom centre). In 2013, the project received an award in Italy for 'International Award, Architecture in Stone'.

In the photo top right you see Sean Macintosh, Arup Associates Design Team Leader, holding a model of a Ventilated Improved Pit latrine. Sean leads a team of about a dozen volunteers who give their time and expertise to plan and design the school buildings and infrastructure.

Each year Arup Associates assigns a young Resident Engineer (RE) or Architect to work alongside Construction Manager Angdus for 3-4 months on site. Rob Baldock was the RE in 2012 (photos above, bottom right) and Richard Boyd the RE in 2013 (photo in centre).

The Design Team is busy designing a major extension to the Dining Hall & Kitchen, which will be built in 2013-14. Fundraising continues to enable us to complete the capital programme by the end of 2014.

We expanded the solar energy system in 2013, adding photovoltaic panels and battery capacity. The new panels were placed on the roof of the Energy Centre. Thanks to Marcus Weyler, Arup Associates electrical engineer, for overseeing installation on site. The equipment was funded by carbon-offset payments from Mountain Kingdoms and Nomadic Thoughts travellers via Beyond Carbon.



The photo below shows a Ventilated Improved Pit latrine under construction for Residence 4. Black sheeting absorbs solar energy and air behind it rises and carries away odours and flies. We have just one more latrine block to build.



Dragon Garden *at Druk White Lotus School, Ladakh*

Seeing the impact of the 2010 mudslide, we resolved to transform the devastation into a magnificent and lush learning environment. Drukpa Trust sought landscape and gardening help from the University of Greenwich and signed a Memorandum of Understanding in November 2012 (photo right: Professor Neil Spiller, Dean, School of Architecture, Design and Construction and Dr Philip Cornwell, Development Director, Drukpa Trust).



Volunteer Resident Landscape Architects Yiannis Baltaggianis and Simon Brown initiated the landscape work in 2012, supported by Tom Turner. We retained Simon over the winter to draft a Landscape & Gardens Master Plan, and Simon returned to Ladakh in March 2013 to continue the work. Other volunteers are helping the new local landscape team on site.

After clearing parts of the site, the first task was to create our own plant nursery to provide stock for future planting (photo below).



The students participate enthusiastically, including in garden competitions (photo bottom left). The adventure playground is taking shape (photo below centre). Simon Brown and Yiannis Baltaggianis, volunteer Resident Landscape Architects (photo below right).

