

Dear Trustees,

I am writing to say a massive thank you for the £1000 The Kintore Trust donated towards my year away with Project Trust in Nepal. I was away from August 2017 until June 2018. Over the ten months I stayed in the village of Arnakot and became accustomed to the rural Nepalese lifestyle. I learnt a lot of new skills whilst I was away, and I am now clearer on my future career goals; I definitely wanting to pursue a career in education.

This experience away improved my leadership and communication skills. I was teaching full time six days a week and had to overcome many difficulties with both students and staff. I worked a lot with the charity KarmaFlights and became their representative for the Arnakot region. With their help I created a new computer suite and library for my school. I was also a translator for the village in my later months, translating English to Nepali for both Swiss volunteers building a health post and UK nurses during a large health camp that helped treat 652 people. During the year my language skills improved massively, and I gained lots of respect from my village.

My resilience was tested throughout my year with many hurdles I had to overcome. My partner got sent home with appendicitis and I was without him in project for four months in total. Although this was extremely sad, it gave me the opportunity to truly immerse myself in my community, making me realise how much time we spent together and not with locals in the first few months. Just after Marc left, I found out my mum was terminally ill. This was a very hard time for me. It made me question whether I should be home or carry on in project. I stayed in regular contact with home and decided to stay. In the end I think my personal drive to not dwell on this and stay positive is the reason I managed to achieve so much. I used all the mini projects I did for the school and community as a kind of distraction from everything bad happening at home.

The year away taught me a lot, far more than I can explain in a short letter. I will cherish my year forever and I am so grateful for this amazing opportunity. This year was definitely a challenging one, but I wouldn't have changed it for the world. If you wish to read more about my time away there are further details at [www.calluminnepal.wordpress.com](http://www.calluminnepal.wordpress.com).

Many thanks,  
Callum



