

Glenn Gazette

Weekly News Report from the GLENN FAMILY FOUNDATION

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Special points of interest:

- Owen & James return to India!
- Alana Nicol volunteering in the hills...
- Where is GFF working in India?
- More online visit: www.glennfamilyfoundation.org

Owen & James return to India...

It was only a year ago when Owen Glenn, Founder & Chairman of Glenn Family Foundation was tackling the windy and bumpy three hour drive from Bagdogra Airport to the astounding Darjeeling Hills—but nothing stands in the way of this determined man who knows the importance of personally visiting the local people and area he is helping to change for the better.

Accompanied by good friend and fellow Glenn Foundation associate, James Keir and his trusty Assistant Julie Smith the team led by Owen will attend meetings, review progress and help set in place the goals and vision for the area in 2008.

The 10 day visit is organised by local man Saom Tshering Namchu who oversees the day to day running of regional projects associated with GFF and who provides that vital link to the people to gain their trust, as GFF is here to listen and act on their needs, work with them and offer fundamental “hand-up’s” not “hand-out’s”.

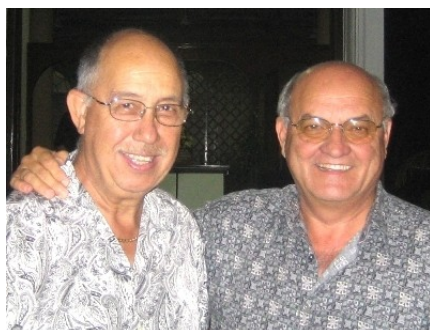
The agenda covers many different aspects from planning Medical Camps with Rotary, implanting methods to allow

Self Help Groups their own funding, reviewing potential expansion of the highly successful Model Village Project and a plethora of other topics discussed with the local Cluny Sisters of St. Josephs Convent.

From discovering the beauty of the area and people, to learning their beliefs and way of life, GFF has immensely enjoyed building a successful relationship in a very short time over 12 months.

This is only the beginning! Owen has many hopes and ideas to integrate and quickly expand his philosophy to further benefit the people and guarantee they are self-sufficient for future generations.

Watch this space for updates on their trip and follow up stories.



James Keir & Owen Glenn

An Unexpected Journey



Alana Nicol is just 24 years old but that doesn't stop the keen and enthusiastic Australian jumping at the opportunity to spend six months volunteering in the Darjeeling Hills of India, starting Feb 08!

She will work under the direction of the Cluny Sisters of St. Joseph. Daily tasks will involve working with the Glenn Foundation “Model Village Project” to see the completion of Chibbo, Pong and Bong Busty; assisting with English teaching at the many schools in the area and supporting the local hospitals with various Medical Camps and education.

Alana will be submitting a weekly blog on her activities and experiences which the GFF team will be posting online, so stay tuned to the website for updates!

Good luck Alana, we are cheering for you!

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We're on the web!
www.glennfamilyfoundation.org

Weekly News Report from the GLENN
FAMILY FOUNDATION

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- Glenn Family Foundation Mission -

*To give hope where there is despair
To teach the hungry how to feed themselves
To educate those that want to learn
To provide medical resources to the sick
To nurture spiritual enhancement & faith
To develop self esteem and pride
To provide a self supporting life style
To encourage family to become the base
of a community*

Q? Where is GFF working in India. A: KALIMPONG!

The GFF "Model Village Project" is taking place in an India town called "Kalimpong".

Kalimpong is a hill town nestled on the lower side of the Himalayas between Siliguri and Gangtok in the Indian state of West Bengal.

The nearest airport is Bagdogra which is located 80km from Kalimpong, however due to road conditions the standard driving time is just over 3 hours with the average elevation of the area being 1,247m. The excursion is one of the most scenic routes in this part of the nation though and the swift flowing Teesta river runs by the side of the road adding to the beauty of the scenery.

The last India census of the area recorded a population of 42,980 and the well known local educational institutions such as Dr. Graham's Homes (co-ed, existing for more than 100 years) St. Augustine School (only for boys) and St. Joseph Convent (only for girls) assists in sustaining residents.

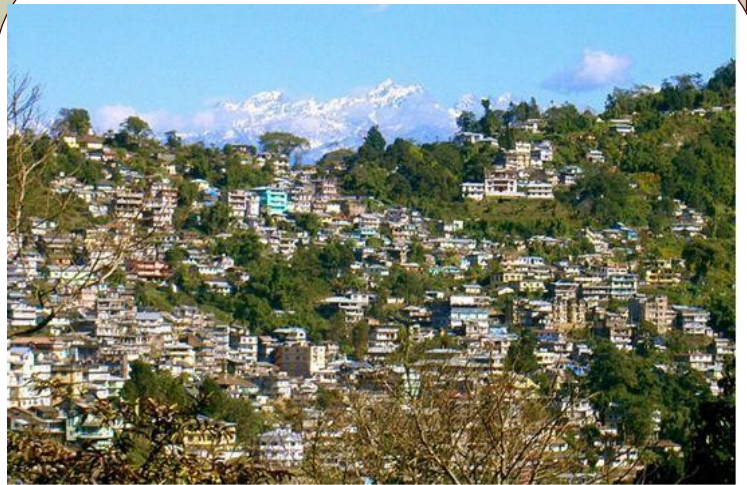
The name, Kalimpong, has three different origins. One, it means the place where the local tribesmen gathered to organize field sports, second, it takes it's name from the Bhutanese king's minister's stronghold and thirdly, it is named after Kaulim, a fibrous plant found in abundance in this region.

Next week we will focus on one of the villages within Kalimpong that GFF is working with.

For further information on Kalimpong please visit either of these websites -

<http://www.kalimpong.info/> OR

<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kalimpong>



A sunny day looking at the Kalimpong Hills