Amarok Society
2014
This year was another highly troubled year for Bangladesh. The opposition party boycotted sparking months of violence, blockades, protests and the general elections sparking blockades, strikes, and violence including persecution for those who are judged to be speaking against Islam, or just being atheist, and attacking and burning Hindu villages to the ground. Most of this was reported in the west.

Against this backdrop of growing conservatism and intolerance, Amarok Society managed to expand its schools from 16 to 20 schools. Two of these new schools, sponsored by the Abbotsford-Sumas Rotary Club, are located very close to one another. One is attended by Muslim mothers who teach neighbourhood children and one is attended by Hindu mothers who teach their neighbourhood children. Until now, the two communities have not ventured into one another’s areas and the new schools bring a great opportunity for these mothers and families to get to know one another.

Our Staff

This year, two of our mothers because teachers in our AS schools. As in the beginning when mothers join the AS schools, some of these mothers who became full-fledged teachers with a salary meet initially with resistance from
family or neighbours, but overcome it.

Our Country Director Kuntal Mondal, working with the Executive Directors, has worked closely with the teachers and city co-ordinators continuing to bring improvements to teaching and reporting. This has brought continued improvements to the quality of teaching.

Deepening Relationships

In Dhaka, Dr. Tanyss and Gem Munro were joined by Rotarian and Board Member Bernard Lalibertie in Dhaka to meet with our host club, the Rotary Club of Mid-Town Dhaka. Our time together allowed us to deepen relationships with our host club who are working with the Canadian partner club for AS, the Rotary Club of Belleville Ontario in application for the Rotary International Grant.

In North America, Gem Munro has expanded the AS book-speaking tour into the United States speaking to Rotary Clubs and a few book clubs in about a dozen states as well as a couple of Rotary clubs in London, England.

Our continued operations depend upon the many individuals who adopt mothers, neighbourhoods and schools. Many of these people have supported a mother or school for a number of years and have developed deeper relationships with some of those sponsored
We were pleased to revive many generous donations from individuals, Rotary Clubs, companies and individual Rotarians worldwide.