



# Trustee conferred an Honour

By Joel Sahai

Trustee Barry Whiteside was conferred a Companion of the Order of Fiji (CF) by His Excellency the President Major-General (Ret'd) Joji Konrote, CF, OF (Mil), MC, SBS, J, MSD, OMRI, NOC. The Order recognizes eminent achievement and merit of the highest degree in service to Fiji or to humanity at large.

Mr. Whiteside was appointed to the Board of the JP Bayly Trust in April 2018. He joined what was then known as the Central Monetary Authority of Fiji in 1977 and has the distinction of being the first staff to have achieved a milestone of serving the institution for 40 years, finally as its Governor for just over six years and retired in 2017.

Prior to his appointment as Governor, he was Deputy Governor and also had earlier served as Chief Manager in all major areas



*Trustee Barry Whiteside being congratulated by His Excellency the President.*



*From left are Trustee Whiteside's daughters Georgia and Andra, the First Lady Madam Sarote Konrote, Margaret Whiteside, H.E. the President Joji Konrote, Trustee Whiteside and daughter Karyn at the State House.*

of the Bank, including Financial Markets, Currency & Corporate Services, Financial Institutions and Economics. In addition, he has served on a number of internal and external Committees as Chairman.

Mr. Whiteside was awarded a Bachelor of Arts degree from the University of the South Pacific in 1976, majoring in Economics and Administration and was the top scholar in Administration. Later, while on study leave from the Bank, he attended Simon Fraser University in Vancouver, Canada as a Commonwealth Scholar and gained his Master of Arts degree in Economics in 1988.

A Fellow of the Australian Institute of Company Directors and the Fiji Institute of Bankers, he is also President of Fiji Badminton Association, a sport in which he represented Fiji and also in Hockey.

He managed the Fiji Badminton teams to two Commonwealth Games including the April 2018 Games on Australia's Gold Coast, two Pacific Games and three Oceania Championships.

With fishing, snorkeling, golf, watching all sports, reading, gardening and shell collecting as his main interests, Mr. Whiteside is married to Margaret and they have four daughters.

When asked how he felt after receiving the Honour he stated, "It was a truly humbling experience to be selected from many for this award. Recognition by your country is amazing and I thank HE the President and College of Honours".

Heartiest congratulations to Trustee Whiteside from fellow Trustees, Management, staff, committee members and volunteers.

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**Board of Trustees:**

**Digby Bossley** (Chairman), **Waqa Bauleka**, **Joel Sahai**, **Viti Whippy** and **Barry Whiteside**.

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# Life is indeed tough Journey

By Dr. Sneha Krishna

*“Our deepest fear is that we are powerful beyond measure. It is our light, not our darkness that most frighten us. Go forward and let your light shine”.*

I am the only daughter in my family, brought up by my mother and would like to share some moments of my life.

A few kilometers away from Labasa town is where I spent my hard school days and seeing my mother struggle for all our needs.

She had the responsibility both of a mum and a dad and this inspired me to study hard and never let my mother struggle in the later part of her life.

Although the Social Welfare department provided some assistance it was not sufficient and I kept saying that one day I will earn a decent living for us.



**Dr. Sneha Krishna**

I managed to complete my primary education and then Bayly Welfare and Education came to our rescue by providing food packs and all educational materials until I passed Form 7 with 342 marks out of 400.

We were assisted from 2008 and till today, we are still receiving food. I was given a TELS scholarship and

completed my Bachelor of Dental Surgery from the Fiji College of Medicine & Health Sciences last year.

I am currently at home helping my mother and will start my internship in April this year at the Labasa Hospital. Once in full employment I would then visit the Manager Northern, Mr. Satishwar Chand and ask him to stop our food assistance.

This charitable organization has not only helped me but so many others who I do not know. Moreover, the entire Bayly Welfare team is doing a wonderful work as it is able to give children the gift of education which is so, so precious in life.

At this juncture, I salute the Bayly team which has been a definite blessing in helping put a bright smile and raising dreams for a better future for all less fortunate ones who are

well looked after by this great organization. Once again a big *Vinaka Vakalevu*. Thank you and may God bless you all.

## Counselling for mothers

By Manorma Chandra,  
Manager Central.

Thirty mothers between the ages of 25 to 50 years will be attending a days programme on March 4<sup>th</sup> 2020 on “Sexual Gender Based Violence and Child Protection,” facilitated by Empower Pacific which specializes in Counselling & Social Services.

The mothers are all registered Bayly Welfare and Education cases and the session will be hosted at its Center in Suva. Empower Pacific will be providing its services at no cost and will focus on the Types of Violence and also Human Rights and International Legal Framework.

Included in the session are also topics on Child Protection in Fiji, Types of Child Abuse and why are they abused, as well as the Risk Factors and Child Protection law. The Department of Social Welfare will also make its presentation on Child Protection Services.

The Trust strongly believes that abuse in this area is very prevalent in Fiji and has decided to provide counselling to mothers in all its Centers in Lautoka, Suva and Labasa.

Lautoka has already completed a two day session on Positive Parenting in 2019 and will embark on further programmes this year. Labasa Bayly Welfare and Education will be having a similar session in due course.

breakfast items to the less fortunate and needy students.

“On behalf of Management, Staff, Parents and students of this rural College thank you once again for looking after our needs in the Northern Division”, he concluded.

## Breakfast for rural students

By Satishwar Chand, Manager Northern.



**Bayly Welfare Manager Northern, Satishwar Chand 3<sup>rd</sup> from left and College Principal Masuf Ali 5<sup>th</sup> from left with a staff and students.**

After successfully completing projects for 2019 the Labasa Bayly Welfare & Education Committee embarked on more projects this year and without any delay, decided to continue with breakfast assistance to Ahmadiyya Muslim College students.

This time double packs have been provided for around 25 students who wake up at 4 o'clock in the mornings and leave home at 5.00 am each day to catch their transport to the College which lies about 65 kilometers south of Labasa town.

All these students come

from below average families who depend on sea food and casual work as their only means of income. They are both male and female students who want to excel in their studies and become better citizens of our country.

They received breakfast goodies consisting Biscuits, Weetbix, Rewa Life milk, Sugar, Tea, Margarine and Rolled Oats which would energize them before commencing classes in the mornings. The funds were raised by the Labasa Committee Chairman Bhupendra Sharma and his troops during the 2019 Northern Duavata Crime

Prevention Carnival.

Mr. Sharma believes that some funds should be given back to the community since they come in numbers to spend money at the weeklong Carnival. “Without their spending we would not have succeeded in our collection”.

While receiving the items the Principal Mr. Masuf Ali said, “The College is proud to again receive help from the Labasa Bayly Welfare. Some miss their breakfast and this supply will boost their energy levels in the mornings”.

He wholeheartedly thanked all those involved in donating

# Counselling for Parents & Children

By Sarojani Michael, Manager Western

The issue in Matawalu village in Lautoka was the children's overall poor performance in school for which two group sessions were held in the village.

I wasn't happy with the children's performance so asked the Counselor Kelera Batibasaga to have a session with the parents and also the children. There was a big turnout but unfortunately, male parents were unable to attend due to work commitments.

Sessions with the parents and care givers was on *the importance of supporting their children in their school*

*work; the importance of giving their time and having quality family time together; and the importance of using positive communications.*

Sessions with the children were on topics which included *the importance of going through their school work each day; speaking up; identifying your weakness and explore what you can do about it; and having a Study Buddy.*

The issues identified by the children and parents which contributed to their slow performance included *Time Management and Communications breakdown.*

At the end of the sessions, children felt empowered and excited about the new plan in place which will help them to overcome the problems at hand.

The parents felt supported and agreed to look into how to work things out in order to assist their children.

Follow up sessions included monitoring of the plan in place and to have training on "Basic Skills for Positive Parenting" for parents of the children.

This training will help parents to better understand the development stages of their children and the role they have in their children's life.



*Matawalu village mothers with their children in Lautoka attend a counseling session with Kelera Batibasaga.*

## Tertiary scholarships for 2020

Six students from the Western and Central Divisions have been awarded scholarships to pursue Diploma and Degree courses from this year.

Riya Prasad will undertake a Bachelor of Commerce degree course while Catherine Sikuri and Rishita Kajal will both pursue a Bachelor of Education course, all from the University of the South Pacific in Lautoka.

Anamaria Cokanasiga will pursue a Bachelor of Commerce degree while Marewe Bernadette will undertake a Diploma in Customs. Namrata Kumar will pursue a Preliminary course.

They are all from the Central Division and have been awarded funding from the Jaycees Scholarship Fund. The students from the Western Division are assisted through the Arthur Jennings Scholarship Fund.

Others who were assisted in 2019 and have successfully completed the first year of studies will continue their courses this year and funded by the respective Scholarship Funds.

## Primary students assisted

By Satishwar Chand – Manager Northern, Bayly Welfare

About 40 kilometers from Savusavu town near to the coastal area is Nabua Primary School where, according to the Head Teacher Mr. Bal Sanju Reddy, hardly any donation of any kind had been received before.

"This is the first time that any organization has come forward to help these children who are from single parent families", he said. Mr. Reddy met me during the 2019 Northern Duavata Crime Prevention Carnival in Labasa and requested for assistance.

A written proposal was received and the Labasa Bayly Welfare committee decided to assist the 14 students with the provision of school bags as well as stationery, which included pens, rulers and pencils etc. worth \$628.00, for the start of the new School year and was handed over during their Awards Day.

Fund raising is always a top agenda

item for the Labasa committee and this also shows the level of commitment of our members. It was only possible through the Carnival Committee which has been giving us a free stall each year.

At this time we have a balance of \$4,400.00 and we hope to double this in



*Students of Nabua Primary School with the bags and stationery provided by the Labasa Bayly Welfare. On the left are the Head Teacher Bal Sanju Reddy and the Manager Northern, Satishwar Chand.*

2020. Thanks to the board of Trustees for endorsing community projects with whatever funds raised by the respective committees.

Part of the funds raised at the Carnival was also used to top up the three festive food packs for last year and a little help will always encourage us to do better and we hope to continue the same in future years.

God will surely bless the hard work of all. *Vinaka vakalevu* and cheers for 2020.

# Shagufta successfully completes year one

Shagufta Nikhat Ali, who was assisted by the Labasa Welfare & Education Centre from year 1 to year 13 and was awarded a Toppers scholarship to undertake a MBBS degree at the Fiji National University this year, was successful in her first year of the course.

She and her two sisters were assisted with food packs and all their schooling needs from Primary to Secondary level. Labasa Bayly Welfare Manager Satishwar Chand said that Shagufta was the only



Shagufta Nikhat Ali

student of 2018 to be offered a scholarship to pursue a MBBS degree course. She achieved 88.3% in her final year thirteen examination. Congratulations and best wishes to Shagufta Ali.

## Donors can receive a Tax benefit.

If a Fiji registered company makes a donation to us it is entitled to use this as a legitimate expense to reduce its tax liability. The Bayly Welfare is an approved charitable organization with the Fiji Revenue & Customs Service for tax purposes.

We welcome your comments or suggestions on any of the articles published in this Newsletter. Please send these by email to [gm@baylytrust.org](mailto:gm@baylytrust.org)

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# Festive goodies for Labasa families

By Akata Davi – Bayly Welfare Assistant, Labasa

Christmas is all about happiness and joy that brings love from all surrounding us. As families get together with their loved ones, they never look back to see the less fortunate who also need to have that happiness as this is the festive season and is celebrated by all of us. We tend to enjoy ourselves.

But Bayly Welfare Labasa team geared up to share their happiness by providing them with Xmas gifts which included canned fruit, mutton, cakes, biscuits, eggs, juice and sauce.

65 packs were made and the egg supplier Ram Sami & Sons also joined hands in advancement of this festive



Parents, guardians and children with their gifts and Akata Davi (with the Santa Claus hat) at the Labasa Welfare Center on distribution day.

project. On the day, parents and guardians came to the Center with their children who were asking if it was really for them.

These were children who

were looking forward to the day since Christmas is just about receiving gifts, eating, merry making and enjoying.

Many parents were saying that without Bayly Welfare they

sign of relief.

The Bayly Trust also provides Easter and Diwali goodies and since it is a well managed Trust in the history books of Fiji, we request

did not know where they would be right now and cheering their children. Blessings flew around the distribution area and the smiling faces showed some

more corporate bodies to be associated with us in improving the lives of our beloved and less fortunate citizens of Fiji. May God bless you all.