

Elaine interviewing Glenn and Sylvie

Glenn: Hello, I'm, I'm Glenn. I'm 16 years old and I'm from the centre of Brittany and I'm studying in Pontivy. I'm in er, private school – St Jeanne d'Arc – in err, second class.

Elaine: Tell me about this project of going to Nepal. How did you find out about it?

Glenn: My friend Paul who is in, in my class in school tell me he go to a human, humanitarian project in Nepal and he asked me to go with him and I go. It's very long but it's very interested for me and it's a very good experience for a sixteen years old boy.

Elaine: Where will you be staying and for how long?

Glenn: I'm staying in the valley of Kathmandu, the capital city of Nepal for three weeks.

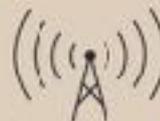
Elaine: And what will you be doing whilst you're there?

Glenn: I'm going to renovate a school and look after children. Children in the school.

Elaine: What ages are the children?

Glenn: Like primary school so 10, 12

Elaine: And I understand you're taking lots of books with you?



Glenn: Yes. A lot of English books. And we have a lot now on – if you want you can give some books but now we need some money for the extra luggage for weight..

Elaine: Of course- because books do weigh quite a lot..

Glenn: Yes. We have four suitcases and two of books.

Elaine: So you will be taking just a toothbrush for yourself?

Glenn. (Laughs) Yes.

Elaine: So, when do you go?

Glenn: I go from the 20 of July to the 10 of August.

Elaine: So how are you feeling about this forthcoming adventure?

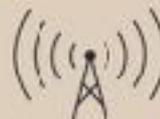
Glenn: Mmm – I'm very excited to start this project and go to Nepal for the first time. Some of my friends want to come with me next year if I start another humanitarian project.

Elaine: Well, thank you very much Glenn. I now have a question for Mama who's sitting over there. So, Sylvie, err, proud mother of this very inspirational...

Sylvie (interrupts): proud - a bit worried as well ...

Elaine: Worried, yes of course. It's a long way to go.

Sylvie: It is indeed...

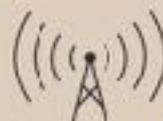


Elaine: But how do you feel about Glenn going on this trip?

Sylvie: Well, when he first talked about this trip to me my first move was to say 'No way!' Well, in the first place it's true, I was not surprised by the idea because Glenn as a small child, always has wanted to help children and help people so I wasn't at all surprised by the idea. I was just surprised that he asked it when he was fifteen. I was expecting to ask that when he was like twenty or twenty five years old. It came a bit early to me I would say. My husband straight away said 'yes' because maybe as a man he, he was more eager to let him go away from the nest, and um, but in the first place, um, I was just worried as any mother would I would imagine..

Elaine: Of course.

Sylvie: Glenn is a very determined young chap. He didn't think 'OK, it's going to be 'No', she'll never change her mind.' He just said to himself it's just not the right moment. Let's come back again and ask us a bit later. But he took him about a month to make me change my mind because in the first place, as I said, it's a very far away country. He is young and also the fact that he is going with a friend – ok, it's secure because he won't be on his own – but then again in the first place, I thought it was not his project. In a way he had to prove to me that he wanted to do that because it was also his project. Not just Paul's, his friend's, project. So, after doing lots of things he managed to convince me that it was also his project. He wants to go there to help children. He wants to live this experience and do a humanitarian trip. Since the moment he convinced me, I must say, I've been his first fan and I have helped him to prepare his things but I also always told him 'ok, I will help you. But I will not do everything for you. But, in the first thing, I will not pay for the trip for you because if you want to do this humanitarian trip I



feel that the first thing is that first you need to deserve it as well and you need to kind of earn the money to do it. Now I'm going to be very proud and impressed because he's been really, really good at finding sponsors, asking people it was before Christmas. Asking all the family not to give him presents but to give him money so he puts it aside to pay for the trip. And he's found lots of sponsors. They have virtually paid for the flight to Kathmandu which is quite some money. We are planning already to do a kind of - how do you say - exhibition and also I wanted to say 'Thank you' to all the Brits in the area who have already participated a lot because we have gathered about 36 or even more kilos of books in English. And thanks to Facebook we have met some Nepalese students studying in Rennes and we are in contact with them as well. And one of the suitcase which will be full of books, will be straight away from the airport delivered to the school in (Gomu?) that's about three hours away from Kathmandu. We know it's going to be in a school where kids will really, really appreciate having those books and they need them.

Elaine: Well thank you very much Sylvie

Sylvie: You're welcome

Elaine: And we'll catch up with you and Glenn when he returns.

Sylvie: With pleasure.