

Gorkha Development Scheme

Health & Education in Gorkha, Nepal

Issue 6
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Joy Leighton, founder of GDS celebrated her 90th birthday becomes Patron after nearly 30 years as chair

Hygiene Programme Success

The Hygiene programme in schools is now an established programme with the latest being held in the remote Village of Ghachok. Sarita ran the programme over two days for the students of the school, with teachers and parents also getting involved. Hygiene is very poor in these villages and so giving them the knowledge of proper sanitation and also simple things like how to brush their teeth properly can make a massive difference! At the end of the hygiene programme the children receive, tooth brushes, soap, clothes soap, comb, nail clippers and the school receives bins, sweepers and other hygiene related items.



Winter Jumpers for younger children



In early December we received a request from Gorkha to fund 200 jumpers for the younger children at Mahendra Jyoti and Bal Mandir Schools. The supplier also kindly gave another 25 jumpers for free! Laxman and Sarita told us 'the children were so happy to get the jumpers and we hope that it will give them warmth and love towards we/you people.' The local media was also present at the event, and they even had a small coverage in their local newspaper.



These jumpers are essential for the poorer school children as the winters in Gorkha are very cold and there is no heating so again, a little is making such a difference.

GDS update - We are thrilled to announce that former volunteers Olivia Power and Zoe Dallow have now been made Trustees!

Linda Blunt and Jan Raven are now Co-Chair, Lin remains Secretary and Amir Treasurer

If you would like to contact us, please visit our website or email info@nepal.co.uk

Fundraising Efforts

Lots of fundraising efforts have taken place since the issue 5 newsletter! Another successful gardens open day was held by **Viv and Claire** who opened their garden in Hastingwood. From their home made cake sales, raffle and crafts they donated over £450. Sales of plants grown by Jean and Lin raised a total of £969. A real effort made by so many people especially of course Viv and Claire who prepare an immaculate garden, make the cakes and provide a warm welcome for everyone. We thank them both for their continued support.

Trustees Linda and Olivia also attended an event known as SOUP at Chelmsford Library. Together they pitched to raise funds for a hygiene programme and though they did not win the money they had a brilliant time and it was great promotion for GDS. Thank you to Chelmsford Library for hosting such an innovative event.



Linda again made fresh Christmas wreaths on willow frames which were sold for the charity. Special thanks to Jacky Wright and her Art Classes who raised £250 of the total £400.

Lin is now confirmed as a WI speaker and has given presentations about Nepal and running a charity with all money donated to GDS.

Nick and Andy Sadler of Limes Farm Shop, Burnham on Crouch continue to be great supporters of the charity, selling plants raised by Lin as well as lots of money they raise through selling surplus bits and pieces as well as hosting a WI event in their garden. Their fundraising has now reached an incredible £814.00 for which we thank them SO much.



GDS Quiz 2017

After trustee Naomi's great success with her quiz last year, it was decided to hold another in 2017. The quiz was held on Sat 14th Jan in Writtle Scout Centre with nearly 90 people taking part. The evening was hosted by Olivia as Quiz Master, with Zoe, Naomi, Jan and Linda all helping on the night.



Trustees Geeta and Amir kindly making some delicious Nepali food which the attendees enjoyed on the night. It was a great evening with everybody thoroughly enjoying themselves. With the tickets to the quiz, true or false game money, Jan's delicious cake sales, the raffle and gift aid, we were able to raise over £1000 for the charity.

The GDS Facebook post about the quiz amassed a total of 1232 views!!! Please like and follow us on Facebook @gorkhadevelopmentscheme to keep up to date with all of our latest news

**We cannot emphasise enough how much your continued support to our small charity means to us. Funds raised have enabled us to provide some much needed help in the local community in Gorkha. If you are interested in donating for a specific reason e.g. school sponsorship then please contact us at info@nepal.co.uk
Website: nepal.co.uk**