

# Gorkha Development Scheme

Health & Education in Gorkha, Nepal

Issue 2  
April 2015

[www.nepal.co.uk](http://www.nepal.co.uk)

Registered Charity  
number: 1069611

Welcome to Issue 2 Special Appeal and Update of the GDS Newsletter

## Nepal Earthquake Disaster Appeal

On 25th April 2015 an earthquake caused devastation throughout Nepal, the effects of which will undoubtedly last for many years to come. For this small country already struggling as one of the poorest in the world, where its remote and rugged beauty and wonderful people leave a visitor overwhelmed with special memories, it is hard for us to imagine the tragedy unfolding. Our thoughts are with our friends and families in Kathmandu and Gorkha where we have worked for over 25 years and whom we have thankfully established are all safe and well.



Facebook has helped provide us with limited communication and a few photographs posted by one friend of the charity which show that the damage is not just in faraway Kathmandu.

From the limited information available to us, indications are that much of the rural area of the Gorkha District which was the epicentre for the quake, is damaged or destroyed as we are finding from friends whose family homes are gone leaving them homeless and living with neighbours.

## What happens next?

As a small charity already working with the community in Gorkha District for many years, this area will remain our focus. Until communications are repaired we really cannot assess with our team in Gorkha how we can make best use of our small contributions. However, help we will and of course the more you can help us the more we can help them.

## Fundraising

Just 6 days before the disaster we held a meeting to agree to fund 8 projects which had been proposed. These projects will now be on hold and money will be redirected as needed. However, with more money we can offer more help to those who had little and who now have nothing. This is where we ask if you would like to contribute to our effort please.

## How can you Help?

- See our website for links – [www.nepal.co.uk](http://www.nepal.co.uk)
- Donate through paypal click on the link on the front page of the website
- If you are on [facebook](https://www.facebook.com) then there is also a paypal link here – and get your friends to help too.
- Make a donation direct to our bank account in person at Barclays or by BACS transfer to Gorkha Development

If you would like to contact us, please visit our website or email [info@nepal.co.uk](mailto:info@nepal.co.uk)

Trustees: Mrs. Joy. Leighton, Mrs. Linda Blunt, Mrs. Geeta. Karmacharya, Mr. Amir Karmacharya, Jan Raven, Naomi Cairns.

Scheme sort code 20-19-95 and account number 10318302

- Do your online shopping through easyfundraising (see website for link).
- Gift Aid – complete our gift aid form (download from website) and send to us adding 25% to your donation
- Fundraising – yes we can all do a bit of fundraising and have fun from a simple coffee morning, car boot sales or a bigger ticket event of some kind if you feel adventurous.

Contact Lin Blunt at [info@nepal.co.uk](mailto:info@nepal.co.uk) for any more advice on the matter of fundraising and if you need any leaflets and posters – and even flags to borrow for an event.

### Some uplifting News

As reported in the first of our newsletters in September 2014, Gorkha Development Scheme made great efforts to re energise the charity and this has certainly happened. In the last 2 years the team of just 6 volunteer Trustees have managed to raise over £10,000 for the charity.

Last week we were preparing to write a newsletter, upbeat and full of wonderful news of our fundraising in the UK and our projects in Gorkha. We still wish to update you fully on what we have been doing and a summary is provided below, but at this time we need instead to prepare for whatever projects are prioritised by the people of Gorkha in the months to come. Suddenly painting the Mahendra Jyotii School to make it brighter and cleaner for the children and even extending the fantastic hygiene programme seem less of a focus especially when we do not even know if the school is still standing!

**Fundraising events** - Fundraising dinner with Harka at Everest Gorkha Restaurant in Chelmsford  
Lin Blunt visited Gorkha for 3 weeks in November and so redeveloped and strengthened links which will be key to future plans.

If you would like to contact us, please visit our website or email [info@nepal.co.uk](mailto:info@nepal.co.uk)

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Lin Blunt wreath making for Christmas raised another £500.

Zoe Dallow fundraising in, Herefordshire to help fund her 6 week volunteering in Gorkha.

Olivia Power from Writtle hit the news in Chelmsford both in Essex Chronicle and on BBC Essex as she raised £1,000 for the charity and her 6 week volunteering at the Wheatsheaf, Writtle which was superb. See Olivia's full report of her amazing experience on the website.

Charlotte is planning to go to Gorkha in August as a medical elective volunteer and is organising fundraising events at this time.

**Pictures of the devastation caused by the earthquake in and around Gorkha.**



### Donate

Just a final reminder and encouragement for all who can possibly make a donation. £1 is equivalent to 150 Nepalese Rupees, so even a small donation goes a long way out there.

Thank you. Trustees and friends of GDS