

# Gorkha Development Scheme

Health & Education in Gorkha, Nepal

Issue 3  
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[www.nepal.co.uk](http://www.nepal.co.uk)

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## Welcome to Issue 3 - Some better news and updates following the tragedy of the Earthquake

### Money Raised since April

On behalf of the Trustees of Gorkha Development Scheme, we would like to thank everyone for their kind and generous donations made via paypal online, as well as through the many fundraising events held. Our total raised since the massive earthquake in Nepal in April is now over **£6,000** which is truly amazing and with Gift Aid this sum should increase significantly.

This money will enable us to help the community in Gorkha in so many ways and the Gorkha community cannot thank you enough for your thoughts and support at this unbelievably difficult time for them.

### Current Situation

Nepal is undoubtedly a beautiful country and so are its people, but this disaster is just devastating for the already impoverished country. Many of the houses trustees and volunteers have stayed in during visits, have either been destroyed, or are unlivable and are being demolished with little money for owners to rebuild.



Though no longer in our news, tremors continue almost daily, and only now after 3 months are the thousands of people affected in Gorkha starting to sleep inside if their houses are livable, others live in tents and small shacks using galvanized sheets. It is now monsoon season so conditions are worsening and there is risk of landslides.

### How the Money is Being Spent

Though there is much aid being given to the country at this time, our direct connection with the local community means our committee in Gorkha can make the decisions and prioritise how to spend the money, which is key. The money raised is then transferred directly to their bank account for funding the agreed projects and so far £4,000 has been sent since April .

The initial programme after the earthquake was to purchase tarpaulin, enough for 100 families. Next, it was agreed to try to get the children back to school for some normality as with continuous tremors for weeks, many children were in trauma, fear, and sleeping outside. Nearly all schools in the area were damaged.



We initially bought galvanize sheets for classrooms for 4 schools and then another 6 schools when additional money was sent.



This means that literally hundreds of children are back in school due to Gorkha Development Scheme.

## Sponsored Children

Our 30 sponsored children have been supplied with books and uniforms as well as solar lamps for study. The headmaster Laxman confirmed that 23 out of the 30 children had lost their homes!



We are likely to spend more money on further lamps for families living in shelters as power is unreliable at the best of times but now so limited.

## Fundraising

Well, its amazing how much can be raised through selling plants, teas, cakes and mushrooms!

Linda and Darren Blunt with neighbours Bill and Roz Harris opened their gardens in Great Baddow on a sunny Saturday afternoon in June. A total of £1,400 was raised and included raffle prizes from Provender Nurseries, Yasmin, Lathcoats, Abercorn, and Chelmsford Equestrian. Strawberries from Tiptree, cakes from friends, plants grown by Lin and carved mushrooms by Darren, and of course lots of tea and help from many friends made it a great success and picture in the local paper.



Another plant stall at Writtle Garden opens raised £200 and then several days at Viv and Claires Chipperfields garden near Harlow where plant sales raised another £700, donations and superb cakes made by Viv and Claire made £800 so many thanks to both and to Sarah amazing singing.

## Olivia's Volunteering Report

In February and March this year Olivia Power from Writtle spent 7 weeks volunteering in Gorkha for GDS. "Living as part of a Nepalese community was amazing. They do so much together and are very family orientated. I volunteered in a variety of different schools, and worked with children from 4 to 18 years old. I enjoyed the teaching very much and tried to make the lessons as fun and creative as possible. I also volunteered with the Gorkha Women's Association who do charitable deeds throughout the community, and run the charity's Hygiene Program which I also had the privilege of participating in. I made friends for life in Nepal and cannot wait to go back there one day."



## Zoe's Return to Gorkha

After volunteering in January, Zoe Dallow went travelling in Asia and in July returned to Gorkha



'The main things to convey to you are their thanks and appreciation of your help during this awful, awful time' 'I visited rural farmers, had tea with them and they were still happy even though living in bamboo huts as their clay houses are damaged'

## Donations and Fundraising

If you would like to donate or help us with fundraising we would love to hear from you

To contact us, please visit our website and also see all the above stories in full [www.nepal.co.uk](http://www.nepal.co.uk) or email [info@nepal.co.uk](mailto:info@nepal.co.uk)

Thank you. Trustees and friends of GDS

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