

Gorkha Development Scheme

Health & Education in Gorkha, Nepal

Issue 4
November 2015

www.nepal.co.uk

Registered Charity
number: 1069611

Background to the Charity GDS

GDS was founded in 1988 by Joy Leighton with the aim of working with a community in the mid hills of Nepal known as Gorkha District. The charity works with our sister charity in the historic town of Gorkha and has been involved in many projects over the years, aiming to enhance health and education especially for the poorest people.

Today GDS is run by a small group of just six volunteer Trustees based in the South East of England, each with a love of Nepal and its people.

Nepal Earthquake Disaster Appeal

On 25th April 2015 an earthquake caused devastation throughout Nepal, the effects of which will undoubtedly last for many years.



Since this time, over £7,000 has been raised through kind donations made via paypal online, as well as through many fundraising events.

How the Money is Being Spent

This money has already allowed us to help the community in Gorkha in so many ways. Our committee is able to make the decisions and prioritise how to spend the money.

The money raised in the UK is then transferred directly to the Gorkha bank account for funding the agreed projects and so far £6,000 has been sent since April



School after the earthquake

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 several months, many children were in trauma, fear, and sleeping outside. Nearly all schools in the area were damaged.



When galvanize was available we were able to fund the purchase of enough bundles for temporary classrooms for 10 schools.

This means that literally hundreds of children are back in school due to Gorkha Development Scheme and the fundraising efforts made.



Solar Lamps – just £5,00



With such limited power supplies then money for solar lamps were requested to help families and enable children to do schoolwork. Firstly children we sponsor received lamps, The headmaster Laxman confirmed that 23 out of the 30 children had lost their homes!

Since then 200 lamps were delivered to a rural school and another 300 are about to be distributed, It might not seem much, but it is making such a different to so many families.

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

Volunteers

Two volunteers Olivia and Zoe spent 6 weeks in Gorkha Jan -March teaching and helping with a wonderful hygiene project which has run in many schools over a number of years and which GDS have funded.



We do hope this programme might begin again soon as health risks increase in these difficult times.

In August Zoe completed her travels in Asia and was determined to return to Gorkha to visit her host family after the disaster.



Donations and Fundraising

If you would like to know more, sponsor a child (just £30.00 a year) help us with fundraising, donate or even volunteer we would love to hear from you.

Please visit our website www.nepal.co.uk here, you will also see all the above stories in full

To contact us, email info@nepal.co.uk

Thank you.

Linda Blunt