



E-News March 2013

TREKS FOR 2013

Our Trek-to-Build programme is one of the Nepal Trust's bedrock activities; allowing supporters and friends to explore the Hidden Himalayas, while also making a positive contribution to our work and finances.

This year (2013) we are planning two treks. One will be to trek up the Karnali Valley visiting some of the NT clinics and projects en route to the Tibetan border. Once in Tibet the team will travel to Kailash and "walk the holy

mountain" before returning by four wheel drive through Tibet to Kathmandu. The final itinerary and cost is to be confirmed but will be for circa 3 weeks starting mid-September. Already 7 or 8 volunteers are showing firm interest in this trip.

The second will be for circa 5 weeks. It will trek up the Karnali valley to the Tibetan border but will then cut back through the Limi valley, down to Dojam and back to Simikot. Chairman, Mike Love, is

planning to take this trip and will be visiting projects and clinics en route prior to engaging in community liaison at Dojam with respect to the plans to build a new micro hydro scheme there. Mike is beginning to think that he might be on his own for this trip, so if you know somebody who might be up for it or part of it please make contact!

Anna can send you the full itineraries if you are interested, her email is annaclutterbuck@gmail.com.



Limi Valley



Mt Kailash



Dojam Village

AGM REPORT & APPEAL

The AGM was held at the Royal Scots Club in Edinburgh at the end of November 2012. John Armstrong, representing the Kailash Humla Children's Home, joined us. Jeroen gave an update on the achievements made in 2012 and on the issues and challenges being faced by the

Trust going forward. Rod Lowcock presented the financial report for 2012, noting that general income was marginally behind and general costs were slightly ahead of budget. Overall the Trust accounts remain in surplus. The meeting approved the statutory financial statements for the

previous year (2011), reappointed the directors and then debated the plans and programmes for 2013.

It is clear that the biggest challenge going forward will be that of maintaining focus and drive across our field activities. It would be very desirable to find a western

volunteer willing to spend serious time in Simikot helping with the monitoring and administration of our work. So we are today appealing to all of our members and friends that if you know of anybody who might be up for the challenge and a bit of adventure, please put us in touch.

EXTENDING OUR HEALTHCARE PROGRAMME

In 2012 we made big strides forward with a trek-to-build team helping and supporting the construction at Bargaun, our first birthing centre. For 2013 a substantial challenge will be getting this centre into routine operation. The Bargaun centre will also provide support to the rapidly expanding village of Thehe.

We are also raising our sights and, with the support of a number of Rotary clubs and Rotary Districts, are now

planning to construct two more birthing centres. One will be alongside our clinic at Sarkegad. The other will see the construction of a new clinic at Yari with a fully incorporated birthing centre.

At the centres we plan to recruit, train and deploy midwives providing a more hygienic and safer environment for pre-natal, anti-natal and in-labour care. Our overall objective is to

progressively reduce the appalling statistics in Humla for infant and in-labour mortality.

Our thanks go to many Rotary clubs and individual Rotarians for supporting this programme and in particular to the Rotary Clubs of Sturminster Newton, Misbourne Matins, Kathmandu and Kathmandu North for acting as the lead clubs in applications to the Rotary Foundation for grant support.



Thehe Village

EDUCATION CORNER

While our healthcare and renewable energy programmes have tended to

dominate the headlines, we have also been substantially involved over the years in

supporting educational activities in Humla.

Our support of the Kailash Children's Home project at Muchu has been written about in previous editions of e-news. In this edition we have included a picture of the children who have enrolled into the programme.

Last month we received the news that Stichting Nepal (Holland) is to fund the rebuilding of the Thehe school, with the Nepal Trust engaged to be its delivery partner. Thehe is a Hindu community close to Bargaun

and Torpa. The first funds have already been received in Nepal and the Thehe School Committee/ Community has been signed.

The collaboration contract, between the NT and SN is for an initial 5-years, which means that the available donor funds from SN will be channelled through the NTS INGO/ NTN NGO for the upcoming 5 years. All in all, this is a great achievement and positive opportunity for the Nepal Trust to further expand its activities in the education sector.



Teacher and children at KHCH

HARROGATE CONFERENCE

The Nepal Trust will have a stand at the RIBI conference friendship village in Harrogate 12th April through to 14th April.

Can we appeal to all of our Rotary supporters to prompt their district officers to pop round to see us and explore the opportunities to work with us in making a difference in one of the poorest and most remote corners of the world?

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