

2009



nagarhope

giving a future to the children of Nepal

Chairman's Address

2009 was a busy and successful year for Nagarhope in both Ireland and Nepal. Nagarhope Nepal is now registered with the Social Welfare Council, vital to continuing our work on the ground. This year saw a lot of community based programmes come to fruition, both in Nagarkot and Kathmandu.

Our plans to build a children's home in Nagarkot are well under way, we hope that 2010 will see us begin construction. There will be many factors to take into consideration and crucial planning involved.

Our work in schools has expanded and covers a sponsorship programme which now has over 80 children in several schools and colleges around Kathmandu valley. We have been able to create employment opportunities and offer support to many families from difficult backgrounds struggling to cope with life. Working with the staff and management committees of schools has been instrumental in providing extra curricular programmes of art and culture to students, teachers and parents alike.

Nagarhope's Kalimati Kidz project in Teku, Kathmandu, has been running 8 months now and assists the families of children who are affected by poor living standards. 25 of these children attend a local school and women's literacy classes are being provided to the mothers.

The work that we have been able to do in Nepal these last two years is a result of the dedication of a few and the help of many others. Constant fundraising in Ireland has meant that we can confidently move forward in the right direction. It doesn't take a lot to help others, but it takes effort and time to make a real difference to people's lives. I, for one, have seen the changes that our charity has made.

We will continue our work with hope and conviction on the back of the support we have received in the past. Humble thanks to one and all for this continued support.

Mise le meas

Fachtna 'Doc' Clandillon *January 4th 2010*



Nagarhope – a History

The concept of Nagarhope began when Doc, a 31 year old Dubliner and Dhurba, a 40 year old Nepali national, met in the small Himalayan village of Nagarkot in the summer of 2006. Both had similar wishes to help the many deprived and orphaned children in Nepal, both in the chaos and bustle of Kathmandu and in the rural villages around Nagarkot.

Sunrise School was the first to benefit from Nagarhope's work with four classrooms built in 2008, the school now houses over 200 children, up from 80 two years ago. Other local Nagarkot schools have benefitted from our work over the last few years. The largest government school in Nagarkot – Mahankali School played host to an all-school's quiz in Autumn 2009, bringing many schools and communities together.

Our dream of building a children's home has evolved a little, we would also like to incorporate a community / social centre that would benefit the wider community. Working directly with the locals has proved time and again that despite there being poverty and hardship in the lives of some, a concerted effort brings about positive results.

Nagarhope has been well-established in Nagarkot and Kathmandu and is literally reaching out to hundreds of families in some way, mainly through education and community based programmes.



Sun Rise School

Nagarhope currently sponsors 48 children in Sunrise School. For only €10 per month, a child's education for one year will be covered. Sunrise has benefitted greatly from Nagarhope's assistance since 2008, now taking in enough on sponsorships and fees to support itself and its endeavours. They are currently running computer classes with the students, art and music, as well as sports competitions and leagues.

As each year passes, like all other schools trying to improve facilities and teaching standards, Sunrise has shown capability and confidence from within due to good management and a proficient teaching staff as well as volunteers.

Mahankali School

As well as sponsoring 20 children in Mahankali School in Nagarkot, Nagarhope has arranged for local volunteers to give extra classes to exam year students.

Mahankali School and Nagarhope signed an agreement in 2009 that saw the construction of three much-needed classrooms begin. This work is due to finish in February – March 2010 and will eventually incorporate a library and computer room. We also supply stationery to students from very poor families in Mahankali School.



Shree Terse School Building



Nagarhope, along with Team Nepal in 2009, constructed a three classroom school building on the grounds of Shree Terse School, Talamarang. Since October 2009, these classrooms have accommodated the Nursery Class and Classes 1 and 2. This particular project made use of the local Village Development Council to obtain local materials - stone, sand and wood - in order to complete the building on a very low budget. It was an important step for Nagarhope and one in which a lot was learned with regard to using local labour, materials and know-how. This building has provided extra space for 180 students.

The Kalimati Kidz Project

Along the banks of the filthy Bagmati river live hundreds of families. Many of them live in slums or small cramped rooms, and come from the impoverished North Indian state of Bihar. In March 2009, Nagarhope along with Sushil, a 19 year old Nepali man, began working with about 20 such families. Nagarhope now sponsors 25 of these children in a local school. We have rented two small rooms in Teku, close to both their houses and Miniland School, where we offer support to the children and their families. This project has been running very successfully and has shown how a small space, committed volunteers and one full time staff can affect the lives of many. Our teacher in Teku, Divya, also teaches literacy classes to the mothers of the Kalimati kids and we also run a class getting children ready for the following school year. This project has been generously supported by Dave Cutler, one of the founders of Umbrella, a children's home housing over 320 children in Kathmandu. We hope to expand the Kalimati Kidz project in 2010 helping more families.



Umbrella Project



Nagarhope has provided volunteers and assistance to the Umbrella Foundation, an organisation based in Kimdol, Kathmandu. Umbrella currently houses over 320 children, many of whom have been abused, neglected, orphaned, trafficked or displaced due to a 15 year civil war in Nepal. Two of the founders, Viva Bell and Jacky Buk, who had been at the helm of Umbrella for over 5 years, vacated Nepal in Summer 2009, leaving a legacy behind them that will be hard to match. Nagarhope continues to work with Umbrella and support some of the children who have left. Amy Mulcahy, a Dublin girl who has helped Nagarhope, is now a director of Umbrella in Nepal along with Conor Fox and Stephen Jenkinson.

College Students

Nagarhope sponsors five college students since 2009. These students are boys and girls who have worked hard to get themselves through school. They come from poor families who are unable to support their college aspirations financially. Some of these students give back to Nagarhope in different ways.



Fundraising Events

Fundraising events in 2009 included a highly successful 'Elvis - The Way It Was' night in Westmanstown in January, the second annual Halloween Fancy Dress 'B' Party in Lucan Sarsfields, donations from students in Maynooth BNS and Marion School for Deaf Girls. Brendan Nestor and Bernie Stapleton ran a fantastic Dublin marathon to raise funds, and as ever, the Lucan Lions Club assisted Nagarhope with the takings from a raffle. Look out for more events in 2010.



For anyone interested in running an event or a fundraiser, please use the contact details below.



Some photos courtesy of Nicoletta Valdestino



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