



# nagarhope

giving a future to the children of Nepal



## Chairman's Address

2010 and 2011 have seen Nagarhope extend its reach to yet more schools and students in need of help. Over 250 students are now benefitting directly from assistance such as fees, uniforms, bags and textbooks, many of them by generous sponsors back in Ireland and beyond. Our SponsorKidz programme now has students in 20 government and private schools in the Nagarkot, Bhaktapur and Kathmandu areas. We regularly meet in schools with teachers and parents to assure the student's study and welfare is being taken care of.

Our hopes to start construction of our children's home have been delayed slightly by the process of buying land in Nagarkot, but we are delighted to say that step has now been taken. In July 2011, Nagarhope Nepal bought 12 Ropanis of land (1 1/2 acres) in Gurungaun / Sathikurya, about an hour's walk downhill from Nagarkot village. This land is under the name of Nagarhope Nepal and will be the site for our centre in the years to come.

In April, members of Nagarhope Ireland's Committee visited Nepal, some of them for the first time, and saw some of the projects and schools first hand. This always bolsters the work we do, creates awareness from a different point of view, and serves as a reminder to us in Nepal that the standards we set are always being questioned and scrutinised, and rightly so.

Our Kalimati Kidz Education Centre is now in its third year, and serves the needs of 35 children, 29 of whom go to Miniland School in the Teku area of Kathmandu. We said farewell to our teacher Divya in July, she had been teaching and organising the centre since its inception. Due to the success of this centre, we have established two other such centres, one in Bhaktapur in collaboration with Srisha Organisation, the other in Nagarkot, which doubles as Nagarhope Nepal's office.

Three rooms built in Shree Mahankali Secondary School in Nagarkot, 80% of which was sponsored by Nagarhope, were officially opened in April – members of both Nagarhope Nepal and Nagarhope Ireland attended. It was a great day of music, dancing and cutting ribbons and brought to a close a year's work of planning, construction and finishing. Work is ongoing to fit one of these rooms with ten computers and a library that will cater for about 500 children.

None of this work would be possible without the dedication of our Committee, fundraisers, sponsors, volunteers and donors. Nagarhope's aims and ideals would be nothing without this support, and I for one have seen the difference it has made in a developing country such as Nepal. I certainly have taken many things for granted throughout my life, but seeing the hardship people here have to suffer, I have been instilled with a greater hope for simple things like literacy, clean water, access to healthcare and electricity. Nagarhope will continue to provide assistance to those in need, only made possible by the many that have helped make this a reality. My humble thanks, once again, to one and all.

Mise le meas

Fachtna 'Doc' Clandillon 3rd October 2011





## Nagarhope – a History

In 2006, Doc, a 30 year old Dubliner, and Dhurba, a 40 year old Nepali met in the small Himalayan village of Nagarkot. What at first was an inconsequential meeting, turned out to be a pivotal period in both of their lives. Almost 6 years on, their relationship has defined the work that Nagarhope does, reaching out to those in need, mainly children, through education, community-based programmes and assistance. They have developed a solid friendship with each other and the local community which is the basis of the commitment that Nagarhope now instils through various projects and programmes. Their plan to construct and operate an 'orphanage' in Nagarkot has evolved to incorporate a community / social centre that will service the wider community's needs, and help to alleviate problems such as illiteracy, life and training skills, women's empowerment and social stigmas that very often have negative effects on the development of individuals and groups, especially low-caste and indigenous peoples.



## SponsorKidz

Nagarhope sponsors 55 children in Sunrise Lower Secondary School and 20 children in Kent Public Primary School in Nagarkot. For only €10 Euro a month, a child's schooling costs will be fully covered for one year. This sponsorship programme, and all our school scholarships run until the child finishes their School Leaving Certificate (SLC), which covers both their primary and secondary education. The majority of children we sponsor in these schools are from poor farming or peasant backgrounds. The predominant local Tamang caste in Nagarkot are sent to school, but many of the children drop out due to poor financial conditions or having to work the land to help feed their own families. We try to make visits every few months to the children's houses and twice a year we call on all parents to discuss any problems their children are having in school.



## Khwopring School

Since April 2011, we have been sponsoring 11 poor children in Bhaktapur in Khwopring Secondary School. Together with Srisha Organisation, we are also running a tuition centre for these children. Many of these children are from one-parent families and struggle to make ends meet. Work is scarce at the best of times, monthly wages can be as low as €30 per month for a mother trying to feed, clothe and educate her children. Another organisation, Sankar Project Belgium is doing similar work in the education field, and Nagarhope and Sankar Project have an agreement to work together on different projects including, at present, the establishment of a school library in Deep Jyoti Primary School in Bhaktapur.



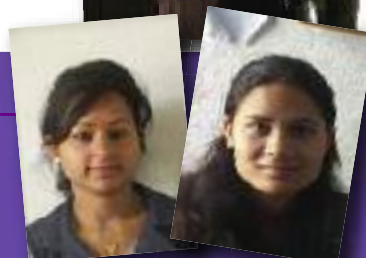
## Mahankali School

The Official Opening of Mahankali Secondary School's three new classrooms took place in April 2011 and was attended by Nagarhope Ireland Committee members. The rooms will serve Class 9 & 10 as well as accommodate a computer room and library. Nagarhope also sponsors 35 children in Mahankali and has a good relationship with the staff and management committee of the school. In some of the schools we provide volunteers from time to time, older Nepali students who have finished school and are waiting on SLC results with the hope of getting into college.



## College Students

When students finish their SLC, and move on to college level, Nagarhope assists them through preparation, full or half scholarships to ease financial restraints and choosing a suitable course. Nagarhope currently assists 14 college students at different levels, many of whom give back by volunteering as teachers in our projects or local schools.



## Teachers

Due to the lack of qualified teachers at primary and secondary level, many schools, both private and government, are running classes with unsuitable and under-qualified teachers. We try to find local qualified teachers and place them in government schools to try and combat this problem and give a boost to badly resourced schools.



## The Kalimati Kidz Project

Our project in Kalimati has been running for almost three years now. We have a full time teacher Manju Miss taking care of this centre. Altogether, 29 children are attending Miniland Secondary School, and another 5 attend Saraswoti Niketan Government School. This centre is used for tuition classes and homework as well as day classes for 6 children who have never attended school before. Children who attend the day classes will study in our centre for one year getting used to the routine of school life before being moved into regular school. This centre has been very successful thanks to our staff, college students and volunteers. It has been generously supported by Harry Coogan, the Chairman of Umbrella Ireland, and Dave Cutler, one of the founders of Umbrella Foundation Nepal. For more info on Umbrella, log onto [www.umbrellafoundationnepal.org](http://www.umbrellafoundationnepal.org).

## Government Schools Programmes

Nagarhope provides assistance to Government Schools in need of support. In Summer 2011, we provided four schools with ECD (Early Child Development) equipment which includes kitting out a nursery classroom with carpet, tables, cushions and whiteboards. Once a classroom has been fitted out, we then paint the Nepali and English Alphabets on the walls. We are currently training Raju Tamang, our full-time staff member and Saroj Tamang to do this work in other schools. Over the coming months and years we hope to assist many other poorly funded schools in this way. Also in the pipeline is a sports competition to involve children from 14 government and two private schools in the Nagarkot area. Shree Bhadrakali Secondary School has recently benefitted from Nagarhope's help in the form of a new four-room school building. Also investing in this project and the Mahankali School Computer Room and Library is The Smile Project.



## The Smile Project

In January 2011, a group of magicians, jugglers, clowns, and musicians travelled to Nepal and performed 35 magic shows in various schools, NGOs, orphanages and other organisations. This project is spearheaded by Pat Power, a Clare man. Nagarhope was heavily involved in the organisation of these shows and is delighted to learn that Pat and his merry bunch will return in early 2012. We saw first-hand the children and adults alike enjoying these shows and it really was a rare gift to the children of Nepal from The Smile Project. For more info on The Smile Project log onto [www.thesmileproject.ie](http://www.thesmileproject.ie).



# Buddha's House

Buddha BK was one of our first students in Sunrise School. His mother, Sunita, is alone in trying to bring up three children and struggles at times to feed and clothe them. Thanks to a couple of donations, Nagarhope was able to build a new house for Buddha and his family close to Mahankali School in Nagarkot in September 2011. It is a small, modest one-roomed house built from stones and clay and a tin roof. Their old house, built three years ago was destroyed in the monsoon rains this year.

Also, we have given her some pieces of furniture and a small desk for her kids to study and do their homework. As I write this, just coming into the most important Nepali festive season, Sunita is settling into her new home.



## Fundraising Events 2010/11

Fundraisers this year have included donations from Shane Faherty, the third Valentino concert in the SPA Hotel, two Hillcrest ladies running the Mini-Marathon, the World Cup draw, a fundraiser in the National College of Art, as well as the 4th Annual Halloween Fancy Dress. The Lucan Lions Club donated the proceeds of a raffle to Nagarhope for the third year running. The Deaf Club also raised a sum of money from a blanket auction.

Ciaran Nestor produced and recorded our 2nd CD called NAGARFOLK, and organised a concert in the SPA Hotel in Lucan to release it. A big thanks to the Gandhis, Morgan La Faye, Jed Pickett and Donal McConnon for playing at the gig and Ian Smith and Ciaran for their organisation. We hope to run more gigs like this in the near future.

This year's Halloween theme is Cartoon Characters. So if you're bored of Trick or Treatin', come on down to Lucan Sarsfield's GAA Club on Sunday October 30th. A big thanks to Tadhg and the girls for organising this once again. Tickets are €15. Contact Tadhg for more details on 087 9225103. Keep an eye out in the local Lucan Newsletter and Newspapers for upcoming fundraisers and events.



For anyone interested in sponsoring a child, a college student or a teacher, volunteering or organising a fundraiser, please use the contact details below.



## Contact Details

Sponsor a child (Niamh):  
Fundraising (Tadhg):  
Volunteering (Doc):

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bilijoni@hotmail.com

## Bank Account Details

**Nagarhope Ireland**  
Ulster Bank, Lucan Branch  
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