



nagarhope

GIVING A FUTURE TO CHILDREN IN NEPAL



CHAIRMAN'S ADDRESS

Warm greetings from Nepal one and all. Writing this brochure has become a yearly staple. Since 2015, the brochure and its content were heavily diverted towards photos and stories post earthquake. Only this year can I safely say that we, as an organisation are back on track after the devastating events of April and May 2015.

Our government schools assistance programme, assisting over 80 schools in 9 of the worst affected districts has been a great success. Projects varied from TLC (Temporary Learning Centre) construction, toilets, septic tanks, water projects, furniture assistance and ECD (Early Childhood Development) Centres. This programme has benefitted over 5000 students.

Through Electric Aid Ireland, a grant for the rebuilding of Devi Primary School, in Bhirpani, Ramechhap District was obtained early in 2017. The three-roomed building was completed in July 2017 in co-ordination with the school management committee and District Education Office.

Our relocated Teku centre in Kathmandu is in operation for 7 years in total now, assisting the education of over 60 children from 4 local schools, as well as day classes for 10 children with little or no previous education. The centre is run by Rupa, our teacher, and Menuka, and caters to poor urban families, mostly migrants from rural villages living in Kathmandu to work and make ends meet.

Nagarhope's 2nd annual Blood Donation Programme on Baisakh 12th (April 25th), coincided with the 2nd anniversary of the earthquakes that hit central Nepal. Another amazingly successful event saw 164 people donate blood. Our 8th annual women's picnic was held, as ever, on 8th March (International Women's Day). This year over 110 women from 3 different villages in Kavre District were bussed to Dolaghat, Koshi Pahri for a fun-filled day.

Nagarhope Basic School, our flagship project, has grown from strength to strength since opening the doors in April 2014. From December 2016 to May 2017, 5 classrooms were constructed, a 2-roomed iron truss frame building with an activity hall/library, and a three-roomed reinforced stone building that includes a computer lab. Our own school, and the encouraging fact that 65 students now attend classes there, has become our main priority. Our focus is not only providing as best an education as we can, but doing so by incorporating extracurricular activities such as computer, art, sport, story time, library sessions, morning yoga and exercises.

As part of our school fundraising initiative, a group of cyclists will attempt a 1170 kilometre sponsored cycle from east to west Nepal commencing January 2018.

Things in Nepal have certainly changed over the years, though many constants remain. The political situation ebbs and flows endlessly creating history as it goes. We, as an organisation, change with the tides, but still hold dear to our original philosophy of providing education, uplifting the downtrodden and working with local communities to achieve our goals.

Sodha Gurung, a student we helped through school and then nursing college, has qualified as both a nurse and a policewoman, now working in the police hospital in Kathmandu. She is providing for both herself and her family as a result of the assistance which we were able to provide her with.

Another constant has been the support that allows us to function and assist those in need. Our sponsors, donors & well-wishers enable us to continue assisting people on the ground in whichever way we can. My humble thanks, once again to each and every one of you for your continued support.

Mise le Meas

Fachtna 'Doc' Clandillon October 26th, 2017



NAGARHOPE – A HISTORY:

In 2006, a chance meeting in Nagarkot, a small Himalayan village 2 hours from Kathmandu between Doc, from Dublin, Ireland and Dhurba, from Inaruwa, Nepal, was the catalyst for Nagarhope being born. More than a decade on, Nagarhope (Ireland and Nepal) continue to provide support and education to needy children and families both in rural Nagarkot and the urban areas of Bhaktapur and Teku, Kathmandu. Many of the students whom we initially assisted have gone on to higher education, have joined the workforce or seek employment abroad. The friendship and guidance of these two men has been the basis of the work that Nagarhope continues with. Since 2014, when Nagarhope Basic School opened its doors as a Pre-School, until now, as we upgrade to a Primary School, our focus has shifted entirely to being the providers of education, as opposed to the donors. Both the Nepali and Irish Committees, as well as countless volunteers and supporters, deserve the credit for keeping these organisations going, often in times of difficulty and stress.



NAGARHOPE BASIC SCHOOL:

Nagarhope Basic School is currently in its 4th year. From the initial 20 children in 2014, through the devastating earthquakes of 2015 and rebuilding in 2016-17, our school now accommodates 65 children in Pre-Primary and Primary levels.

From small beginnings, we have upgraded each year, the number of students and staff have increased, as well as the need for infrastructure such as buildings and toilets. In April 2017 two extra classes were added – Play Group (1st level of Pre-School), to accommodate the growing number of 2-4 year olds; and Class 1 (1st year of Primary School).

PRE-PRIMARY LEVEL:

4 years of Pre-Primary (Play Group, Nursery, Junior Kindergarten JKG & Senior Kindergarten SKG) are now being taught in Nagarhope's School. Along with running classes, we have run teacher training initiatives to bolster our staff capabilities. Our school is rural and finding experienced teachers is difficult, so training is vital. As well as the regular subjects of English, Nepali, Maths, children receive classes in Art, Sport, Song & dance, Music & Rhymes, 15 minutes circle time including yoga and exercises every morning.

PRIMARY LEVEL:

Well before the new school year started in April 2017, Nagarhope held a meeting with parents of our students to discuss running primary level classes, a big undertaking both organisationally and financially. The parents conveyed their wishes and demands, the main demand being to continue educating their children at Nagarhope Basic School in Sathikurya. An hour walk up the mountain to the next nearest school was not an option. To upgrade our school and run primary classes, a whole new set of guidelines was needed including a separate 'Constitution' for the school, an 'Education Management Committee' to run the school comprising Nagarhope members, parents and teachers. It adds more meetings to our workload, but these community meetings are shaping the futures of 65 children now, and hopefully many more to come. Along with upgrading classes and facilities, extra subjects have been introduced in line with the Education Curriculum of Nepal. From Classes 1-5, students will receive classes in Science, Social Studies, Moral Science, Grammar in English and Nepali, Computer Practical and Theory as well as Art, Music, Sport, Dance, Nature Walks and various other monthly programmes and competitions. Students in all classes use the library twice a week. Educating kids is an education in itself.



STAFF & STUDENTS:

Currently, 7 teaching staff and one caretaker look after the running of the school. Some teachers and students alike have to walk for up to two hours each morning and evening to reach the school. During the rainy season it gets more difficult. The road to the school is being widened at present, who knows, maybe one day we can have a school bus running up and down the mountain.



COMMUNITY ASSISTANCE:

Without the support of the local community, our school would not be possible to run. Parents and local teachers make up the management committee, as well as recruiting new students. They have also benefitted from Nagarhope's assistance. Not only have we built a school in their locality, over the years we have funded road and water projects, as well as providing food and clothing relief in the immediate aftermath of the earthquake.



LOCAL EMPOWERMENT:

Unlike a year ago, we now have the facilities available to assist in women's education classes and support other user groups (local co-op; local women's group; local electricity, water and road committees). As many of the group members are parents also, their child's school doubles up as a community centre of sorts. If you build it, they will come . . .



SODHA GURUNG:

Assisting the education of Sodha Gurung has been an education in itself. Nagarhope, together with a handful of extra sponsors who answered an email 5 years ago, coupled with the drive and determination of Sodha herself, have seen her rise from being a shy teenager to a qualified nurse in the Nepal Police. Sodha supports both her own living costs as well as a younger sister's education. It has been a privilege to watch her succeed in what she set out to do. Success comes to those who strive for it.

WOMEN'S PICNIC:

The 8th Annual Nagarhope International Women's Day Picnic 2017 took place, as ever, on March 8th. This year saw over 110 older women from 3 different villages in Kavre district head to Koshi Pahri, Dolalghat for a fun-filled day. Thanks to all involved in the organisation of a great day, from cooks to drivers to games organisers, and to the sponsors of the event. Biggest thanks always goes to Dhurba, for his organisation of every single little detail. Here's to next year . . .



EARTHQUAKE PROGRAMMES:

In the aftermath of the earthquakes, 35,000 classrooms were totally destroyed or damaged beyond repair. The immediate need to run classes saw the Nepali government and INGOs release a blueprint for Temporary Learning Centres (TLCs). Nagarhope fine-tuned these designs to suit classroom size/student numbers. Other semi-permanent structures were also assisted. Nagarhope was involved in the construction of over 50 classrooms for 12 different schools in various districts.



TOILET & DRINKING WATER:

Our initial plan post earthquake to build temporary classrooms for remote schools didn't materialise as planned. Some of the larger organisations with regional offices & staff were on the ground in affected areas within days. What we did find though, after our own first scouting trip, was many schools with no toilets, drinking water or sufficient furniture. We fitted into a niche other organisations weren't focusing on. Over 80 government schools benefitted from this programme. Many toilets, drinking water projects and septic tanks were constructed.



TEKU EDUCATION CENTRE:

Established in 2001, our Teku / Kalimati education support centre currently caters to the needs of over 70 children in different capacities, some attending local schools, as well as our own day class and evening tuition class. The centre has been looked after for a few years now by Rupa Miss and Menuka Didi. Many of the families who benefit from this centre are low income immigrants struggling to make ends meet in the hustle and bustle of Nepal's capital city. Life is tough for most, our support provides a little bit of comfort.



BLOOD DONATION PROGRAMME:

On the 2nd anniversary of the 2015 earthquake (Baisakh 12th / April 25th), Nagarhope in co-ordination with Red Cross Bhaktapur, WE CAN group and Vision Group, Bhaktapur, ran its 2nd Annual Blood Donation Programme in Bhaktapur. This year, a total of 164 people donated blood between 7am and 12pm, an amazing amount and a good increase on last year's 124. A massive thanks to Rabindra Suwal, Nagarhope Nepal Chairperson for his organisation and leadership, without whom, the day could not have gone as successfully. Nice to see this become an annual event.



DEVI PRIMARY SCHOOL, RAMECHHAP:

Our first attempt at an application for a grant was successful when Electric Aid Ireland approved a grant for rebuilding Devi Primary School, in Bhirpani, Ramechhap district. Approved in early 2017, work was mainly completed by August 2017, which included rebuilding a 3-roomed classroom block and toilet reconstruction. A big thanks to the school committee, Gita Miss, the principal, and the local workers involved. Apart from our own school, this was the only large scale project since the earthquakes and stands as a testimony to our reconstruction effort as a whole.



FUNDRAISING IN IRELAND:



Fundraising is vital to the operation of Nagarhope's work in Nepal. The majority of funds are raised directly by the Irish Committee and friends. Events this year included Elvis and the Way It Was Orchestra performing at Westmanstown Garda Club on July 21st 2017. A great night was had by over 200 in attendance, many others supported by buying tickets. A massive thanks to Kevin 'Elvis' Doyle, all the band members, and all the staff at Westmanstown, and all other volunteers and helpers on the night. This fundraiser kicked off Nagarhope's goal of constructing a Primary School Block to continue classes in Sathikurya.

Other fundraisers and donations during 2017 included:

- **Cúpla Focal** every Monday night in Lucan Sarsfields GAA Club with Michael O'Grady and Seaghan Ó Lanagáin
- **The Lucan Lions Club** continued their strong support and generous donations to Nagarhope
- **Aegon Ireland plc** continued their generous support through a number of fundraising events
- **Griffen Valley Educate Together Computer Club** as ever were forthcoming with children donating money regularly
- **The Churchgate collections** were well supported as usual
- Very generous donation from the **Umbrella Foundation**.

Thanks to one and all for your continued support and donations – there are hundreds of children's lives positively impacted by your generosity.



IN REMEMBRANCE:

In May 2017, a close friend and colleague, Sanjay Suwal from Bhaktapur passed away after a recurring cancer caught up with him. He had worked for Nagarhope Nepal and we had close ties with Sanjay for many years. Sanjay brought joy and hope to so many, he will be missed sadly.



FAB 40TH SPONSORED CYCLE:



Starting early in January 2018, Doc and a small team will attempt to cycle from East to West Nepal. To coincide with Doc's 40th Birthday (January 31st 2018), he hopes to find 40 fabulous fundraising friends to assist him by raising Euro 1000 each. Since October 2017, the team has been in training for this gruelling event. There are a group of Nepali sponsors (media, businesses) supporting the cost of the cycle, logistics, accommodation, food, flights etc. It will be winter in Nepal at that time, mornings and evenings will drop as low as 5 degrees Celsius, though average daytime temperatures should be closer to 15 degrees.

Please contact any of the names below with regard to supporting this event. Sponsorship cards/brochures and any other assistance will be provided. The funds raised from this venture are going directly into building a primary school block for Nagarhope Basic School, in Sathikurya, Kavre.

CONTACT DETAILS

Sponsor a child (Niamh): niamhclandillon@hotmail.com 01 624 1328 / 087 066 6891
Fundraising (Tadhg): tclandillon@hotmail.com 087 922 5103
Volunteering (Doc): bilijoni@hotmail.com + 977 984 11 29063 (Nepal)

Bank Account Details:

Nagarhope Ireland
Ulster Bank, Lucan Branch
BIC: ULSBIE2D
IBAN: IE30ULSB98604010122317



Nagarhope Ireland

191 Beech Park, Lucan, Co. Dublin
Charity Number: CHY18004
Facebook Group: nagarhope
Website: www.nagarhope.com