

## CTAS NEWSLETTER MAY 2014

A very busy trip with a specific focus, which was to save the Rato Paiera kindergarten from closure. Happily this has been achieved.

In addition I managed to visit all but one of our projects, to see how they were progressing.



The Nepal government have introduced a policy of “handing back” services and facilities to the local communities. Until now the salaries of the two kindergarten teachers had been paid by the Pokhara Municipality, but the teachers have been “recalled” to work at the head office.

This left a big predicament for the kindergarten; as although the “Bal Bikash Kendra” building is owned by the community, without anyone to run the kindergarten it would by default have closed after some 20 years. Following various meetings with Departmental Chiefs of the Municipality, we were able to secure an agreement to continue support (via CTAS Nepal) for two new teachers for a period of at least 12-months, to enable the community to put alternative arrangements in place.



CTAS undertook the recruitment process, and after second interviews of four short-list candidates we have appointed a lead and assistance teacher. The lead teacher was herself an infant at the kindergarten, so it is a befitting conclusion to the situation.

On my final day in Pokhara we started the induction programme for the two new teachers.

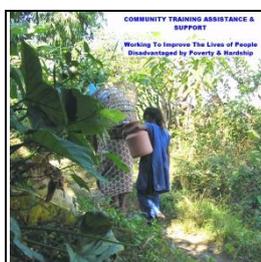
I also visited the Asha Orphanage, and was pleased to see that the children now have hot water and lighting from a recently installed solar system. They are also keeping cows, chicken and bees, as well as growing their own vegetables.



Our various water projects at Rato Paiera; Hunamantole; Nagen Tole; Pipaldali, and Lahachok are all running well, and water is coming regularly. The latter two (which are supplied by springs high up in the mountains) have an abundance of water, and the villagers are very happy. The Lahachok tank has recently benefitted from a “picture/paint job”, which is much liked by the children at the nearby school.



Our latest ongoing challenge is to assist the villagers of Puranchour in building a reservoir tank to capture water from springs higher up the hillside. The villagers have managed from their own efforts (and some government assistance for the materials) to bring a main pipe part-way down to the village. Now a substantial sum of money is now needed to build a tank to hold the flowing water, and then distribute it to eight new dhara (standpipes) to be built throughout the village.



As always, thank you for your continued support and assistance, which makes this work possible and changes the lives of so many people.

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