

CTAS NEWSLETTER OCTOBER 2022

I am delighted to be writing this newsletter whilst in Kathmandu, having just completed a busy and productive two weeks in Nepal visiting all our ongoing projects in and around the Pokhara valley and looking at several potential new ones.



We continue to supply the daily tiffin to the Youbarbarsha school; we also previously gave the children water calculators. We are hoping to assist the school in the near future by improving the sanitation of their toilet block. Currently there is only one tap for hand-washing for the 75 or so children: and the water runs onto the ground with no proper soakaway, or washing area for them. We have just received a proposal for this work: and hope to raise the necessary £2,000 to assist them with this.

A new principal has recently been appointed at Kristi, the previous one having retired after many years. The number of children (around 20) attending this small village school has declined slightly since my last visit 3-years ago, as families migrate to other places with better facilities: and the average number of children per family has dropped in recent years. The children at this school benefit from the daily tiffin we supply: and teachers and children alike were happy to see us after such a long gap.



The school at Damsadi continues to thrive, and around 45 children regularly attend. We have helped to supply water, as well as educational materials and continue to give daily tiffin. Unfortunately there was a landslide 2-3 months ago behind the school, and a pile of stones and earth from the mountain side is lodged behind the school building, causing a safety hazard, and also making the adjacent classrooms damp. We have supported this village school for many years: and want to help them to make the school area secure, by building a netted wall behind the school to contain any further slippage from the hillside before the next heavy rains come.



While in Pokhara I attended a local rotary meeting. We hope we may be able to link up in the future between CTAS, the UK rotaries, which support us: and the Pokhara rotaries, which already work in the region.



One of the schools (previously supported by the Annapurna rotary) is in the Pipaldali area, where we helped bring a 60,000 litre tank to supply water for dozens of families. This school has very poor sanitation and a pressing need to repair the tin roof, which is leaking.



Our kindergarten continues to run well. When I visited (just after the Dashain festival) there were fewer children than usual, as many had gone with their parents back to the villages to visit their grandparents and other family members. A new lead teacher was appointed earlier this year, as Phul Maya stepped back having recently given birth to a baby son; our congratulations to her. We have some repair work to do over the coming months at the kindergarten: and during this visit I attended a meeting with the community building's committee (whose building we use for the infants) to discuss the works needed.

A huge thank you goes to our NGO committee in Nepal who have kept all our projects running between the COVID lockdown periods over the past couple of years: and a special thank you to our NGO Treasurer (Som Nepali) without whom we could not have continued our work.



Thank you for your support, it is much appreciated: and enables us to make a huge difference to the lives of people, who are less fortunate than we are in the UK.

Michele Spencer (Chairperson)

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