

October 2015

NEPAL EARTHQUAKES APPEAL NEWSLETTER

NEPAL

There has been a very sympathetic and generous response from good hearted people in Ireland to the devastating earthquakes that hit Nepal on 25th April and 12th May 2015.



THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT

Nepal Ireland Society and Irish Nepalese Educational Trust started fundraising immediately after the earthquakes. This newsletter aims to briefly let you know how your generosity is being applied in Nepal.

- The generous response to damage caused by two powerful earthquakes to the fragile infrastructure in Nepal has been fantastic. As soon as news of the first tremor came through, Nepal Ireland Society and Irish Nepalese Educational Trust started appeals to provide relief and assistance to a country which lost nearly ten thousand lives and many more thousands injured. Damage to homes and buildings, including schools and hospitals, created so much distress. The impact on Nepal, one of the least developed countries in Asia, is huge.
- Nepal Ireland Society (NIS) is the contact point in Ireland for information relating to tourism promotion, business and investment, and forging friendships between Nepal and Ireland, two of the world's most beautiful countries!
- Irish Nepalese Educational Trust (INET) is the Irish charity born out of the first successful Irish ascent of Mount Everest in 1993. It works on a totally voluntary basis to finance and support the building of schools and other educational projects high up in the Solu Khumbu in the lap of Mount Everest. Both NIS and INET are working together to bring relief and reparation to some of the most affected communities.
- Due to the nature of Nepal's economic situation and its geographic characteristics, it can often be very difficult to distribute aid in an efficient and timely way. A lot of relief funds and materials can be held up due to political and administrative fences that have to be crossed. For this reason, NIS and INET have dealt directly with people they know and work with in Nepal. Funds were transferred directly to them and spent on emergency relief to some of those most in need. Voluntary committees were set up in Nepal and Ireland. They identified particular projects and provided funds and materials as needs emerged.



Medical Aid

Health camps were swiftly set up and money was used to buy medicines, dressings and other urgent medical equipment. Teams of volunteers, including doctors and nurses, were working flat out to help the injured.



www.nepalireland.org



www.inetireland.ie

REBUILDING LIVES



This is just the start

It will take many years for the people of Nepal to fully recover, if ever, from the damage done to their country. NIS is actively promoting tourism in Nepal, which even now is a delightful place to visit. INET is carrying on with the development of educational and associated activities. The work will never end!

- Deepesh Man Shakya is President of NIS and was visiting his family in Kathmandu when the first earthquake struck. He immediately made contact with his NIS colleagues in Ireland and the fundraising ball started rolling. Dhana Bahadur Rai is the INET volunteer director in Nepal. He and Deepesh worked tirelessly together with several others, including Irish mountaineers who were in Nepal at the time.
- Between early May and the present time, nearly €80,000 or 9 million Nepalese rupees has been raised with donations and fund raising. Every kind of event has been organised including; coffee mornings, Nepalese dinners, traditional Irish music sessions, mountaineering lectures, donations from hiking and mountaineering clubs, yoga groups, many individuals and much more. To avoid any offense from possible omissions, it will be invidious to list everybody and everything here! However, full records and accounts have been kept and can be made available, if required.
- At the date of this newsletter, most of the money raised has been spent on many useful projects. More will be spent on repairs to schools and other essential buildings in the Solu Khumbu as soon as the monsoon season in Nepal has finished. A small group of volunteers from INET, at their own expense, are due out in Nepal next month, to assess the damage to some schools.

Below is a short list of some typical projects but it is far from exhaustive:

- Purchase of many tarpaulins before the start of the monsoon.
- 10 dome houses in Jharuwarasi and distribution of 25 tarpaulins.
- Funding for 10 houses in Ramechhap.
- Repairs to Lalitpur village school.
- 15 bundles of zinc roof for Sindhuli village.
- Rebuilding works in Rolwaling village.
- A much needed ambulance.
- A donation to Nepal Leprosy Trust.
- Set up 5 year deposit accounts for homeless families to draw down.



You gave help to the homeless

