

NEW FUTURES NEPAL

Formerly known as Disabled Welfare Association (UK)

Registered Charity no. 1098661

ANNUAL REPORT 2006



Helping disadvantaged children and people of Nepal

Patrons: Jane Seymour OBE and James Keach

www.newfuturesnepal.org

Chairman's Report

It has been another exciting year of growth for the charity with developments on many fronts and I will bring you right up to date with our current activities.

In May 2005 our 13 children and 2 adults moved into their purpose-built new home and I am delighted to report that we have now increased their number by 50%. Early this year 7 new children joined "the Hope Centre family" and Soni Gurung, a young female Humanities student, was recruited to work alongside Tilak Shrestha in the home.

I have recently returned from Nepal where I visited our projects with two other Trustees Paul and Helen Crook. It was an inspiring and worthwhile visit. To be welcomed by the children, all of whom were settled and happy, was emotional and rewarding. We spent our time in monitoring our projects and in assessing risks and future projects. The political instability of the country also gave rise to concern about safety and we were able to put in place contingency plans to cope with dramatic upheaval in the country should it occur. Part of this plan is to buy a vehicle to be used by our workers in Kathmandu. If you can help or know of an organisation who may be able to offer funds towards this purchase, we'd love to hear from you.

Our financial accounts for 2005 are shown at the end of this Report and make inspiring reading. I am particularly pleased to be able to tell you that we have achieved our aim to double the reserves for The Hope Centre project thereby providing more stability and security for the children in our care.

2006 saw the end of our first three years as a Charitable Trust and, sadly, two of our founding Trustees retired. Sandra Culley and Hazel Roy both made huge contributions to the charity and will remain closely associated with us in the future. I am delighted to report that their places have been taken by Helen Crook and Colin Culley, both of whom have been associated with the charity since its formation. Last year also saw the appointment of two Patrons to our charity - Jane Seymour OBE and her husband James Keach. Jane and James are dedicated activists for a number of charities and we are delighted to have their patronage.



Hope Centre family - original thirteen children

We now have a superb promotional DVD showing our projects in action. This was paid for by a generous donation from good friends of the charity. You can obtain a copy by emailing or telephoning any of the Trustees. It is a very useful presentation tool if you are holding a fund raising event and all we ask is that you make a donation to cover the cost of postage. We have also re-launched our website - www.newfuturesnepal.org. Please take a look at it. It will be changed and updated regularly. Thank you to all the people and organisations who gave freely of their time and money to make these possible.

My heartfelt thanks to you, our Trustees and sponsors and particularly Ram Thapa and our team in Nepal for your continued support and hard work. I know it's old hat but we couldn't do it without you. Please keep on fund raising for us, sign up to sponsor a child or persuade a friend to do the same. If we all find just one more person to sign up we can give another 20 helpless children hope for a better future.

Lynne McCutcheon
Chairman

Patrons and Change of Trustees



Jane Seymour OBE
and
James Keach

In 2005 we were delighted to gain the patronage of Jane Seymour OBE and her husband James Keach. Both Jane and James are dedicated activists for a number of charities seeking to improve the desperate lot of many of the world's children and we are delighted to gain their patronage.

"We are impressed with the difference that New Futures Nepal is making to the lives of disabled and disadvantaged children and adults of Nepali origin through its many projects. We are delighted to be patrons of such a worthwhile charity."

In February 2006 two of the founding Trustees, Hazel Roy and Sandra Culley, retired. They had both made an important contribution to the Charity and helped in laying the foundations for our future growth. In their place we are delighted to announce the appointment of two new Trustees - Helen Crook and Colin Culley.



"I was delighted to become a trustee of New Futures Nepal as I have supported the charity since its formation, through fund raising, general administrative duties and co-ordinating the sponsor a child scheme. This has involved taking on many new challenges, including running the London marathon and learning to speak Nepali. As a registered and specialist paediatric nurse I have a strong interest in child health and welfare and hope to continue to use my knowledge and skills to the benefit of the charity"

Helen Crook

"I travelled to Nepal in 2002 and I was disturbed by the poverty and the living conditions that so many Nepali citizens had to tolerate. The suffering of the many orphaned children was particularly upsetting and I resolved to do something to help"

Colin Culley



Project Reports

Trustee visit to Nepal - March 2006

In March 2006 three Trustees of New Futures Nepal visited the Charity's projects in Nepal. These Trustees were Lynne McCutcheon (Chair) Paul Crook (Treasurer) and Helen Crook (Trustee). They report as follows :-

The Hope Centre Project

In addition to our original 13 children and 2 adults The Hope Centre now has 7 new children who arrived early in 2006. All of the new children are settling in well and have clearly formed friendships. Three have disabilities and all seven will receive medical assessments as soon as possible.

The Hope Centre provides the residents with a safe home, regular healthy meals and, in the case of the children, a good education. Their health care is also provided, with hospital treatment and operations being funded if necessary. In real terms the Hope Centre is run as a large family home and provides the children and adults with love and a secure family environment. The children's school results have been particularly good this year reflecting their increased confidence and stability.

The personnel at the Hope Centre has increased in 2006 and we now have three permanent full time workers. They are Tilak Shrestha, the Manager; Soni Gurung his assistant and Sehreeman Moktan the Guard. We have also improved communications to the Hope Centre by funding the purchase of a computer with email access for use by Tilak and Soni and there will be an extension phone installed in the guardhouse later this year. We have upgraded Ram Thapa's computer and installed devices on both PCs to protect against the fluctuating power supply in Kathmandu.

The Smith Project

Our first major construction project was started in the summer of 2004. We raised funds to buy land in Kathmandu and to build a specially designed home for disabled and orphaned children. The main home was completed in May 2005 and late in 2005 work started on the building of a 3 roomed guardhouse. This was finished in March 2006 and the guard has now moved in.

The home is safe and secure. It was designed in such a way as to provide only one main door (plus fire exits) with an internal courtyard area. We have installed smoke detectors for all ground floor rooms and a fire blanket and fire extinguisher in the kitchen, together with first aid kits. We have also taught basic first aid to all staff and the older residents at the home.

The grounds around the main building have been planted with fruit trees and vegetables enabling the children and helpers to grow their own organic crops and encourage their self-sufficiency.

Other Projects

Whilst in Nepal our Trustees took the opportunity to visit two projects run by Street Children of Nepal, a UK registered charity. Both had been identified as having similar aims to that of New Futures Nepal. These projects are a "soup kitchen" providing meals for up to 300 children a day and a drop-in centre providing care and education for many hundreds of street children.

New Futures Nepal will give consideration to supporting both projects and these will fall under the heading of our Lifelines Projects.

Fundraising

Last year's increase in funds raised was due in part to another generous legacy but we must pay tribute once again to the sterling efforts of our Trustees and our many supporters. Our Sponsor A Child scheme continues to grow and we are hoping to increase the number of sponsors steadily in order to support the growth in the number of children cared for. We also received a number of one-off donations and achieved an increase in our regular monthly donations. During the year several fund raising events were held in schools, churches, homes and halls. Some of the most successful were sponsored dinners in Nepali restaurants and our annual walking weekends held in Castleton in 2005 and Gradbach in 2006.



Soni Gurung with five of the new children at the Hope Centre

For the Future

2006/2007 promises to be as energetic and rewarding as previous years. We are looking at establishing an annual half-marathon at a prestigious and popular venue in the North of England. In Nepal itself, with its uncertain political situation, the Trustees will be continuing to look for ways to ensure the safety and viability of our projects there. Our first fund raising aim will be to buy a vehicle for use by our workers in Nepal. The vehicle will be used for daily school runs, hospital visits and in case of an emergency.

We are also committed to producing a business case to initiate our second construction project. As with everything, successful fund raising is the key enabler but our thoughts at this early stage are that choosing a location outside of Kathmandu might mean that renting rather than buying a suitable property may be a viable alternative to outright purchase. This would mean a much faster result at a much lower project risk. Let's not forget that this is how the Hope Centre project started for us in 2002.

Date for the Diary 2007

Our walking weekend and AGM will be held on the 4th, 5th and 6th May 2007. Don't miss it - make a note now!

Special thanks to PEARSON MAY

Chartered Accountants of Great Pultney Street Bath for their contribution to our Charity.

For the second year in succession they have conducted the official audit of the charity's accounts free of charge

Financial Report

Wow!!!

What can I say? Well done and thank you to all our supporters who helped make our second year as a registered charity truly remarkable and memorable.

The 'Sponsor A Child' scheme and regular monthly donations are an effective, consistent and tax efficient way of giving, enabling us to budget funding and plan our cash flow. If you wish to join one of the schemes or obtain further information please contact any of the Trustees or myself by e-mailing info@newfuturesnepal.org or logging onto www.newfuturesnepal.org

If you are already giving please could you consider reviewing your gift in relation to inflation in Nepal (currently 20% per annum) so that your gift maintains its effectiveness. (You will need to contact your bank and advise them of any change.)

Should you wish to organise a fundraising event, any of the Trustees would be happy to provide advice and support as needed. Thank you again for your generosity and support.

*Paul Crook
Treasurer*

Statement of Financial Activities for the year to 31st July 2005

For the Period:	2004/05	2003/04
	£	£
Bank balance brought forward	53,711	7,849
Income		
Donations, fundraising etc.	60,920	33,180
Legacies	10,000	21,000
Tax Refunds	9,560	4,488
Total Income	80,480	58,668
Outgoings	£	£
Funding of Nepal projects	89,117	9,313
Fund raising event costs	5,944	1,790
Management Costs	3,164	1,238
Administration Costs	497	405
Total Expenditure	98,722	12,746
Net income (Outgoings) for the year	(18,242)	45,922
Bank balances carried forward	35,529	53,711

Notes:

- Income increased substantially through increased regular donations and initiatives such as the 'Sponsor A Child Scheme', the 'Smith Project Appeal', and many fund raising events.
- Fundraising costs increased due to;
 - Increased participation at the charity's 'Castleton 2005' fundraising weekend in February 2005.
 - The cost of two Nepalese fundraising dinners in Manchester and Bristol.
 - The repayment of some trekker's charity trek deposits due to its cancellation.
 - A supporter chose our charity to raise funds in the Across The Divide Expeditions Ltd's open event challenge. We agreed to pay £1,170 towards the challenge costs provided a minimum £2,500 was raised for us. In practice the participant raised significantly more than the minimum.
- Management costs increased due to a trustee having to fly to Nepal to oversee the 'Smith Project' before final approval to proceed by the charity. We sent out two publications last year which increased printing and postage costs.
- The charity's administration cost was just 0.6% of total income. All trustees are unpaid volunteers.

The full list of trustees is as follows:-

Chairman
Lynne McCutcheon

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