

SIR EDMUND HILLARY'S

HIMALAYAN TRUST 2015 REVIEW



The Himalayan Trust is an international non-profit humanitarian organisation working in the Solukhumbu region of Nepal. Our aim is to improve the health, education and general wellbeing of people living in this region.

When Sir Edmund Hillary made the first ascent of Everest in 1953, Nepal was a country of nine million people who lived almost entirely on subsistence agriculture with a small export economy based on export of rice and jute. In 2015 it has a population of 28.1 million. It no longer grows enough food to support itself and 49 per cent of its people are below the poverty line of \$3 per day.

Every year, Ed trekked for weeks or months in the areas of his aid work, evaluating what had been done and working for the future. Ed listened to requests from local people, consulted with them, and in partnership with them implemented the project. This is the pattern the Trust continues to strive for alongside our Nepali friends and partner organisations.

The Himalayan Trust follows in Ed's footsteps continuing to build the resilience of local communities and strengthen the bond between the people of Nepal and the many New Zealanders who have given time, money and support over the years.



Sir Ed Hillary walking into the Rolwaling Valley, 1960.
Photo: Mike Gill.

IN MEMORY

**The Trust acknowledges
the passing this past 18
months of these long-standing
supporters.**

Udo Benecke was passionate about the environment. A scientist, it was Udo's initial report that was responsible for initiating the Trust's Forestry Programme in Nepal. The rest as they say is history, with the establishment of Sagamatha National Park, Nepal's first national park.

Betty Joplin was for 46 years, the Trust's administrative assistant, helping Ed with his correspondence and accounts. She was held in much affection by the extended Hillary family.

Lois Pearl, with her husband Dr Max Pearl, was an inaugural member of the Himalayan Trust. Neighbours of the Hillary family, they were intimately involved with the Trust in its early years, especially the development of Khunde Hospital.

Stuart Thomson, like Ed, was a Papakura boy. He was a practical Kiwi, and was introduced to Nepal by his friend Neville Wooderson. Stuart was an engineer, a great innovator, inventor, and humanitarian. A valued friend of the Trust, he was largely responsible for installing solar hot-water heating in the hospitals in the early 1970's, revolutionising some of the energy challenges at the time. He also helped with the building of some of the early schools. Stuart loved roughing it when necessary and was a great companion to many.



On April 25 a 7.8 magnitude earthquake hit Nepal. This earthquake, a second one on May 12, and the ongoing aftershocks affected millions across Nepal and destroyed thousands of homes, community buildings and historic sights.

Our focus for the recovery is in Solukhumbu, the region in the watershed of Everest, and the area of Nepal where the Himalayan Trust has worked with the communities since Sir Ed Hillary built the first school in 1961, a single classroom, in the village of Khumjung. Read more details about our response overleaf.

The outpouring of generosity from you, and many others across New Zealand and from around the world, helped us raise more than \$1 million, and allowed us to respond quickly to the needs of our friends in the Everest region. Thank you.

We also want to pay tribute to our partners in Nepal, who despite their personal difficulties and tragedies, worked hard to reach out to the communities in the remote villages. We give heartfelt thanks to Himalayan Trust Nepal, REED Nepal, AFNepal and the Lukla Himalaya Club for their dedication to helping those in dire need.

While the devastation caused by the earthquakes has been hugely demanding on our resources, it is not the only tragedy we have addressed in this past year.

On April 18, 2014, an avalanche on Everest claimed the lives of 16 Nepali high-altitude porters – many of whom were from the Khumbu area, where we focus much of our development aid. This tragedy was a reminder that while Everest has increased in popularity and accessibility over the last 60 years, Nepalis have continued to bear much of the risk involved in summiting.

In response, we have established a scholarship programme for the children of the victims ensuring they have a guaranteed full education, which will provide them alternative employment opportunities.

And while we have been shaken by these tragic events, we remain committed to being relevant, effective and inclusive.

The Lukla water project certainly emulates those values. Completed in October 2014, the water system came through unaffected by the earthquake. In an evaluation of the project, a development specialist wrote that “the Lukla water project is the best high impact, low cost water scheme / fire-fighting system I have seen anywhere”.

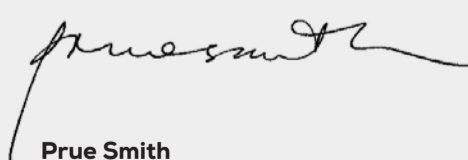
The New Zealand government also acknowledges that the Himalayan Trust “continues to play an important and highly valued role in supporting schools and teachers in the area”. This observation followed a field visit in December 2014, by officials from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade, and the New Zealand High Commission to Nepal.

Not resting on our laurels, we commissioned an independent in-depth review of our programme of educational activities, always looking for ways to improve. We look forward over the coming years to incorporating many of the review’s recommendations, optimistic that this will result in a better education for the children of Solukhumbu.

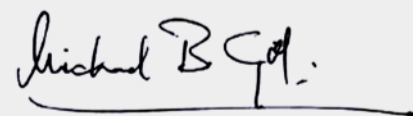
This year the Trust also completed a feasibility study for an innovative public health initiative focussed on strengthening village health posts, with a particular focus on supporting new mothers and babies.

The Himalayan Trust has worked hard this year to be efficient and effective in all our work, especially when faced with the enormous challenge of helping our friends in Nepal recover from the devastating earthquakes. Your ongoing support has enabled us to help many communities over the years and will be vital in the challenging years ahead.

Sincerely, thank you again.



Prue Smith
General Manager



Mike Gill
Chair

THE YEAR IN NUMBERS

DESPITE THE EARTHQUAKE, OUR WORK HAS CONTINUED.

EDUCATION MATERIALS FOR 6159 CHILDREN IN 63

SCHOOLS. 76 NEW ACADEMIC SCHOLARSHIPS AWARDED.

182 TEACHERS ATTENDED TRAINING WORKSHOPS.

IN-SERVICE TRAINING FOR 162 SECONDARY

TEACHERS. SAFE WATER TO MORE THAN 200 HOMES,

BENEFITTING 3000 PEOPLE. 30 VILLAGERS AND 60

LOCAL SCHOOL CHILDREN TRAINED IN FIRE SAFETY AND

USE OF FIRE HYDRANTS.



Following the installation of a new water supply in Lukla, Australian fire safety experts trained 30 villagers and 60 local school children in fire safety and the use of fire hydrants to help prevent a repeat of the devastating fires of the past few years.



The Lukla Drinking Water Project completed in 2014 pipes clean, safe drinking water underground, to 200 homes and businesses, benefiting 3000 local people, and the thousands of trekkers passing through every year. The new water system means families no longer have to use unreliable water sources, as pictured.

Photos: Lakpa Thering Sherpa, Lynley Cook & Robert Graham



Of the 63 schools supported by the Himalayan Trust, many sustained serious damage, such as this one at Sano Gumela, near Phakding. The Trust will be rebuilding classrooms, teachers' quarters, student hostels and toilet blocks in at least 30 schools. Photo: Robert Graham

BUILDING BACK BETTER

A SHAKEN NATION

Following the earthquakes this year that caused widespread devastation across Nepal, we immediately provided shelter and relief for affected communities in the Solukhumbu region where we work.

One of the greatest needs in the communities was adequate shelter immediately following the quake. The Himalayan Trust distributed tarpaulins, tents, bedding and other essential items to affected communities and funded the construction of 25 emergency houses for families who had lost everything.

Many Himalayan Trust-supported schools sustained damage from the quakes, and from the outset we realised the best long-term help we could provide was to ensure children could continue their education. Funding has gone into the provision of temporary classrooms in 30 schools, now completed, this relief work ranged from the donating of tents, retrofitting damaged buildings, to constructing temporary shelters.

The Himalayan Trust emergency relief effort meant more than 6000 school children were back in class just three weeks following the second quake in May.

BUILDING BACK BETTER

The Nepalese people have suffered one of their worst natural disasters in history; it is our aim to support affected communities to rebuild their homes, schools and communities.

We have a huge task ahead. The monsoon has ended and with the small window before winter sets in our long-term response is now underway. We are putting the plans in place for a five-year rebuild operation. Following thorough assessments of the affected communities, we will be rebuilding classrooms, teachers' quarters, student hostels and toilet blocks in at least 30 schools across the Solukhumbu district.

Working together with our local partners and the Government of Nepal, designs for the new school buildings must meet disaster resilient building codes to better ensure the safety of children and teachers if a similar disaster strikes again.

Our rebuild will be challenging as we expect to face skilled labour shortages and logistical difficulties in delivering building materials to remote areas. Construction will be closely supervised on the rebuild sites to ensure building codes and safety standards are met. Our rebuild will provide the opportunity for essential vocational training for young people in the local communities, giving them future employment opportunities.

Photos: Robert Graham



The Himalayan Trust together with its local partners distributed tarpaulins, tents, bedding and other essential items to affected communities immediately following the earthquakes.



At least 120 seismic-resistant classrooms to be rebuilt or repaired, in at least 30 schools.

All teachers in Solukhumbu have received training to support traumatised children.

Disaster preparedness training in all schools - for children and teachers.

Youth offered on-site vocational training as part of the rebuild.



RELIEF HOUSING

Kumle Bika's village of Thulo Gumela was completely destroyed in the April 25 earthquake. Families were forced to sleep outside without any shelter for days. The village is off the beaten tourist track, and the families earn a small income from agriculture.

"After the house got destroyed, we had nowhere to go. I was really worried about my family. We stayed under the sky without any roof above our head for some days."

Kumle said he and friends heard that tarpaulins were being distributed down in Phakding village, but when they arrived they had missed out.

"We were really frustrated. We felt that being from the lower caste in the society, people really didn't care about us."

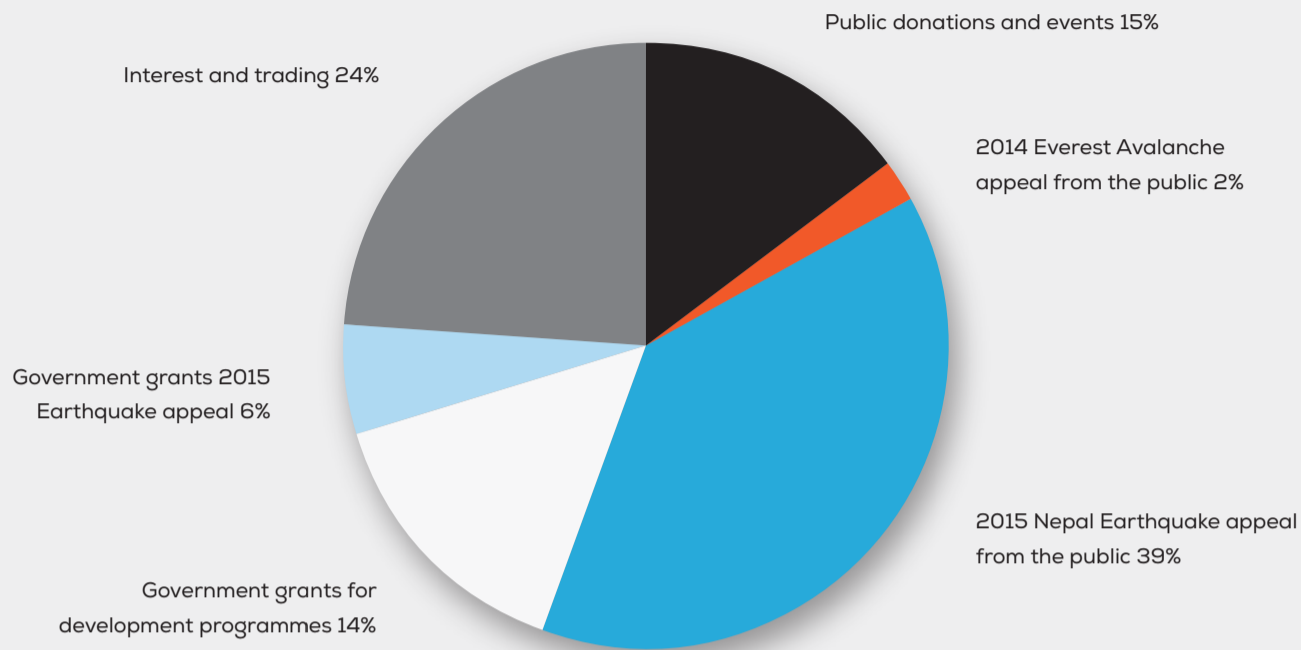
The families learned the Himalayan Trust were funding relief in their district and within days an assessment team arrived in their village.

"We felt that we might be rejected again. But it was not like that. The team came to our village, they looked at everything. They visited all of our destroyed houses. We met their criteria and that's how we got the relief house."

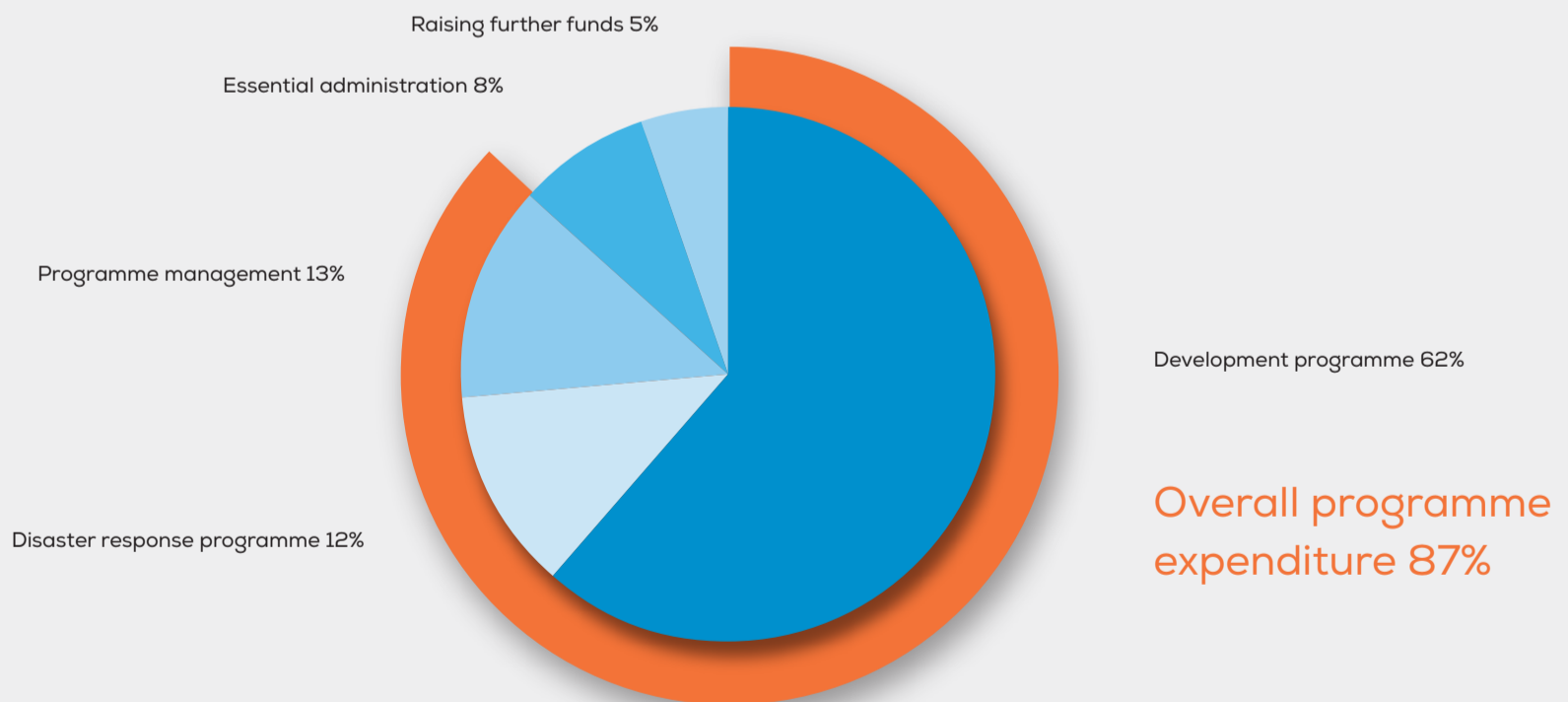
The design of the relief houses is earthquake resistant and they are located on land that is not subject to landslides or avalanches. They are steel-framed construction with corrugated iron roofing and steel sheet cladding. The walls are insulated with glass-wool and the interior lined with plywood sheeting.

"I want to thank the Himalayan Trust for helping us in providing the relief house. We are off the trekking route and it's hard to get the donors' attention. Our community have no words to express how happy we are to get this new relief house. Thank you for helping our community."

WHERE THE MONEY COMES FROM
 TOTAL INCOME FOR YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 2015
 \$2,385,966



WHERE THE MONEY GOES
 TOTAL EXPENDITURE FOR YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 2015
 \$858,333



The overall programme expenditure is 87% and includes the following areas:

Development programme is our long-term work with communities in the district of Solukhumbu, Nepal – with the main focus on delivering quality education, but also included the delivery of safe drinking water and fire hydrant system. The programme also includes essential work undertaken to ensure our programmes are well set up and monitored, and are delivering the best possible results for people in need, and feasibility studies for future programmes of work.

Disaster response programme refers to the immediate relief effort following the April 25, 2015 earthquake – but also includes the long-term scholarship programme set up in response to the 2014 avalanche on Everest. Financial accounts for the following years will include the expenditure on the long-term programme rebuilding schools in the Solukhumbu and associated activities. Please note that 100% of donations received for the 2014 Everest Avalanche Appeal and the 2015 Nepal Earthquake Appeal will be used in Nepal.

The information in this report has been summarised from the annual accounts of Himalayan Trust for the year ending June 30, 2015. These accounts have been prepared by HLB Mann Judd, and as of 2015-16 will be audited in line to meet new legislative requirements. A full financial report is available on request.

The Himalayan Trust is committed to complying with the Council for International Development Code of Conduct.

The Himalayan Trust would like to thank you all for your generous support over the past year.

Thanks to you, we were able to respond quickly when the earthquakes hit Nepal and thanks to you, we will be there in the long-term, helping communities in the Everest region to build back better.



The students of Fordell School walked 8,900m (the height of Mt Everest) to raise money for the Himalayan Trust.



Nepal Aid's auction at Skycity raised \$33,000 for the Rebuild Appeal. L to R Jen Hayes, Peter Hillary, Dave Williams, Robert Bruce

We would like to thank the students and staff at the following schools: the Academic Colleges Group, Addington, Akaroa, Appleby, Ashgrove, Avonside, Bayfield, Bayview Primary, Belfast, Bella Coola Elementary, Botany Downs, Campbell Institute, Campbell's Bay, Carew Peel Forest, Carlton, Carncot Independent, Cashmere Avenue, Churchill Park, Concord, Diocesan, Dominion Road, Dorie, Drury, E F International, Elmwood, Fairfield Intermediate, Fordell, Grantlea Downs, Green Park, Holy Family Wanaka, Howick Intermediate, King's, Lepperton, Lichfield, Lincoln, Long Bay Primary, Longburn, Macleans College, Makarewa, Marist, Marist Herne Bay, Maruia, Matahui, Matua, Monrad Intermediate, Moriah College, Mount Aspiring College, Mt Roskill Grammar, Norfolk, Oaklands, Oakura, Omakau, Otorohanga Primary, Otumoetai College, Otumoetai Intermediate, Our Lady of Lourdes, Outram, Paihia, Papakura Central, Papanui High, Papatoetoe Intermediate, Parnell District, Patoka, Rangiora High, Redwood Primary, Roncalli College, Shirley Boys' High, Sir Edmund Hillary College, Springston, St Cuthbert's, St Francis De Sales, St Peter's, St Ignatius, St Kentigern, St Martins, St Paul's Richmond, St Peter's, Sumner, Taita Central, Takapuna Primary, Tangiteroria, Taradale High, Te Kuiti Primary, Toko, Tua Marina, Vauxhall, Waimate Main, Wainuimata Intermediate, Waitati, Wakari, Westland High and Woodleigh.

We would like to thank all the businesses and organisations that have given financial or practical support, in particular: Adventure Consultants, Auckland Art Gallery, Auckland Museum, Everest Dine Restaurant, Eyes 4 Everest, Federal Diner, Fisher Charitable Trust, Gus Fisher Gallery, the Hermitage, HLB Mann Judd, Icebreaker, James Dunlop Textiles, Kathmandu, Macpac, Misery, Nasha Entertainment, Nepal Aid, NZ Alpine Club, NZ Native Forests Restoration Trust, PWC Foundation, Rolex, Ryman Healthcare, Sellutions, Sir Edmund Hillary Scholarship Programme at Waikato University, Springhill Charitable Trust & Frimley Foundation, State Cinemas, Tindall Foundation, Upper Hutt Multicultural Council, Villa Maria, and all the Rotary, Inner Wheel, and Tramping clubs around the country who have donated to our Rebuild Appeal.

We would also like to thank the Office of the Honorary Consulate General of Nepal in New Zealand for its support.

We also acknowledge the vital ongoing support from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade.

The Himalayan Trust values our connections with many international organisations working in Nepal, including American Himalayan Foundation, dZi Foundation, Sir Edmund Hillary Foundation (Canada), Sir Edmund Hillary Stiftung (Germany); and in particular the especially close working relationship post-earthquake with Australian Himalayan Foundation and Himalayan Trust (UK).

We would like to thank the extended Hillary family for their unflinching support, especially in the aftermath of the earthquakes.



OUR WORK WOULD NOT BE POSSIBLE WITHOUT YOU.

By making a donation of just \$33, you could help provide a classroom desk and bench for 2 children
\$120 could provide the equipment for a high school science lab
\$814 could fund one year's scholarship for a high school student

There are many ways you can support the Himalayan Trust's work with communities in Nepal.

Regular giving: By making a monthly donation, you can be part of our ongoing work to improve the health, education and general wellbeing of people in the Everest region.

Organise a fundraising event: There are so many fun and creative ways our supporters have been raising money for us: mufti days, bake sales, quizzes, Fiver for Ed days, auctions, dinners – even a wacky hair day! If you would like to organise your own fundraising event, we'd love to hear from you.

Run for us: Challenging yourself to take part in the Auckland Marathon (or other sports event) is a great way to fundraise for the Himalayan Trust.

Trek with us: Join our Nepal Rebuild Challenge 2016 and experience the incredible Everest region first hand. You'll even have the unique opportunity to help with the rebuild of a Himalayan Trust school.

Leave a legacy: By remembering the Himalayan Trust in your will, you will enable us to continue Sir Ed's legacy of helping the people of Nepal for generations to come.

For more information on how you can help please email fundraise@himalayantrust.org

HIMALAYAN
TRUST
FOUNDED 1960
BY SIR EDMUND HILLARY

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The Himalayan Trust is a registered charity
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