

SIR EDMUND HILLARY'S

HIMALAYAN TRUST



2020

REVIEW

HIMALAYAN
TRUST

FOUNDED 1960
BY SIR EDMUND HILLARY

A FOREWORD FROM OUR PATRON

This is an especially challenging year for the communities in Nepal where the Himalayan Trust works. The COVID-19 pandemic put a stop to tourism in the Solukhumbu which has been such a vital source of income for communities. Yet, keeping the communities safe from COVID-19 must be a top priority, knowing that it can strike down people of all ages and is particularly dangerous for older people and those of all ages with health vulnerabilities. The Nepalese Government announced that the autumn mountaineering season could operate. While that brings income, it obviously also comes with risks.

The Himalayan Trust launched an appeal for emergency medical supplies and personal protective equipment for the Solukhumbu which has been well supported, and will need to continue to be as more people from outside the region make their way there. Schools in the region which have been closed are now reopening. The ongoing work of the Trust to support education and other services in the region is vital, and I hope it will continue to attract generous support.

When Sir Edmund Hillary founded the Himalayan Trust, his vision was to support human development and a sustainable future for the communities he knew in the Himalayas. That vision remains as relevant and timely as ever. I hope it will continue to be supported by all those who shared his vision and deep respect for the peoples, communities, landscape, and environment of the Solukhumbu region of Nepal.

Rt. Hon. Helen Clark
Patron, Himalayan Trust

Rt. Hon. Helen Clark with Dr Kami Temba, Kunde.



LETTER FROM THE CHAIRPERSON

2020 is the Year of Covid – or more correctly, the First Year of Covid as its consequences will be as profound in 2021 as they are this year. The population of 100,000 in the District of Solukhumbu is dependent at a base level on agriculture, but the tourism/trekking, and remittances, which have lifted households above subsistence have collapsed because of Covid. Prior to the revolution of 1950, the Sherpas and other hill peoples of Solukhumbu had no schools or healthcare. Their migrant workers went no further than Darjeeling for road-building or carrying loads for Everest expeditions via Tibet. Infectious diseases kept average life expectancy under the age of 50.

Sir Ed's awareness of how precarious life was came to him in 1963 when he found himself in the middle of a smallpox epidemic at Surkye below Chauikhakar. Smallpox is more infectious than Covid and more lethal but because vaccination is totally effective, Ed was able to have emergency supplies flown in and thus 'flatten the curve' of that outbreak. Covid and its related viral illnesses in those times, when deaths from mysterious fevers were common, might not have attracted much attention, but in the inter-connected universe of 2020 its effects are profound. The families of those dependent on tourism, including porters and the whole trekking ecosystem, have lost their incomes and some will face hunger.

The Himalayan Trust will be extending its humanitarian appeals as demands become more insistent but in the longer term the responsibility will fall back on Nepalis themselves to find and practise their own solutions. Education will be of over-riding importance, the ability of everyone to read and write, to link with and learn from the wider world outside Solukhumbu and beyond Nepal. And increasingly we recognize and promote the essential roles played by women.

In conclusion a multitude of thank yous: to our donors without whom we would not exist; to NZ's MFAT who fund our flagship education programme; to our partners Himalayan Trust Nepal and Action for Nepal; and our board and staff who do so much more work than is realised.

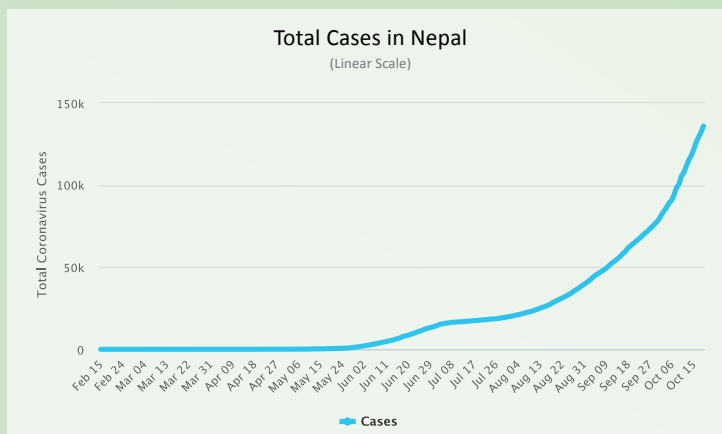
Mike Gill
Chairperson, Himalayan Trust



THE COVID-19 CRISIS

This year has been defined by the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. Across the globe, the respiratory disease has infected tens of millions of people, causing over a million deaths and the most severe global economic downturn since the Great Depression of the 1930s, according to IMF projections.

Nepal confirmed its first case of COVID-19 on 23 January 2020. On 24 March, the Nepalese government announced a nationwide lockdown, closing all schools, non-essential businesses and the international border, and requiring people to stay at home and maintain social distancing. The lockdown was lifted on 21 July, after which the number of active cases rose dramatically as Nepal experienced a second wave of infection. By 20 October 2020, Nepal had recorded 136,036 confirmed cases and 757 deaths.



Source: worldometers.info/coronavirus/country/nepal/



“We are taking every possible safety measure for ourselves as well as the local people.”

Dr Kami Temba

Dr Kami Temba, senior doctor in charge at Kunde Hospital, which was originally built by Sir Ed and his friends in 1966.

Nepal is one of the poorest countries in the world and its public health system is not well equipped to cope with the pandemic. As case numbers in Nepal climbed in April and May, health workers in the Solukhumbu District (Everest region) reported very limited access to personal protective equipment (PPE), crucial for preventing the spread of COVID-19 among health workers and their communities.



COVID-19 prevention supplies ready for delivery to clinics across Solukhumbu District, June 2020.

In May, the Himalayan Trust put out an urgent online appeal to our donors to help fund the supplies needed, and we were blown away by the generous response. The appeal has so far raised over \$38,000, which has allowed us to supply many more hospitals and community clinics than we had originally planned. By funding these essential supplies, our incredible donors have helped save lives.

We are continuing to provide support for health workers as the pandemic persists. We are also working with our partners in Nepal to determine more ways we can help. Tourism is the main source of income in the Solukhumbu District, and with no tourists visiting, financial hardship has already set in. We anticipate there will be a need for humanitarian support in the medium to long term.

Thank you to our supporters for helping to continue Sir Edmund Hillary’s legacy, even during the toughest of times. Through his mountaineering, Sir Ed developed a deep connection with the people of the Solukhumbu District and dedicated himself to helping them succeed. As we face the biggest challenge of our generation, we will honour his commitment and continue to support these communities.



Supplies delivered to Phalpu Hospital in April 2020.

3 GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING



Working towards UN Sustainable Development Goal 3:

Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages.

EDUCATION: THE KEY TO SUCCESS

Behind every classroom door in Nepal sit children eager to learn and grow. Your generosity provides the key to unlocking those doors and creating great opportunity.

EXCITING PROGRESS IN LITERACY



The Literacy Improvement Programme in the Solukhumbu (LIPS), a pilot programme that was started in 2016 across 11 schools, has had incredible outcomes. Overall, children are more excited and connected in their learning, parents are more supportive, teachers are using more engaging teaching methods in the classroom and far more children are leaving early grades with better literacy as a result. Now our challenge is to take that work further. LIPS is ready to be scaled up to reach many more children across an additional 45 schools in the lower Solukhumbu District thanks to your ongoing support.

One of the parents of a grade three student in Mahendra Jyoti Secondary School was proud that her younger son was learning to read Nepali in the literacy sessions:

“I see both my children reading at home. My elder son also enjoys reading the Nepali story books brought home by my younger son. The elder one is in grade five and the younger is in three. Sometimes I can see the younger kid correcting his elder brother. They both read together for most of the time. They love reading story books, and they also retell the story to me.”

ONGOING TEACHER TRAINING DELIVERS HIGHER QUALITY EDUCATION



By encouraging teachers to continue to improve their teaching practice, Himalayan Trust Nepal's School Based Teacher Training Programme (SBTTP) is empowering teachers to deliver higher quality education. Thank you for your generosity in supporting ongoing learning and opening even more doors for students.

COMPUTER LABS IN SCHOOLS PROVIDE VALUABLE OPPORTUNITIES

Technology plays an ever-increasing role in daily life and staying connected is as vital in Nepal as the rest of the world. Himalayan Trust Nepal in partnership with EduTech Nepal have established 15 computer labs in secondary schools across the Solukhumbu District over the last two years. These labs give students the opportunity to learn valuable computer technology skills. Thanks to your generous donations for making this project possible.



SCHOLARSHIP PROVIDES CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

As part of our education programme, the Himalayan Trust provides scholarships to help young people from the Solukhumbu District pursue higher education. One of our past scholars who is now using his skills to forge an impressive career is Pasang Tshering Sherpa.

Pasang was born in the mountains of Khumbu and received his schooling at Khumjung School, built by Sir Ed in 1961. Pasang then earned a bachelor's degree in humanities and social science from Tribhuvan University. His Himalayan Trust arts scholarship allowed him to study and explore traditional Thangka art.



Pasang now operates The World's Highest Sherpa Art Gallery in Gokyo, where he exhibits and sells his Thangka artwork. He also owns and operates the adjoining hotel, Thangka Inn. He has published two books: *Sherpa - The Ultimate Mountaineers*, featuring profiles of over 100 Sherpas, and *The Khumbu Directory*, an accommodation guide for tourists. “I am really proud to be a scholarship holder from Sir Edmund Hillary's Himalayan Trust. Without Himalayan Trust's support, it would have been impossible to get my education,” says Pasang.

4 QUALITY EDUCATION



Working towards UN Sustainable Development Goal 4:

Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all.

HEALTH SPOTLIGHT: ANG DAWA

Ang Dawa is the community health worker at the Phortse Health Clinic. A local resident of Phortse Village, Ang Dawa has been in this role since she completed her training in Kathmandu in 2018. This training was sponsored by a generous donor from New Zealand, for which she is extremely grateful.

Phortse is a Sherpa village set on a plateau in the Solukhumbu District of Nepal. The village has had patchy access to healthcare over the years, often with the closest available services a three to four hour walk away at Kunde Hospital. In April 2015 the clinic was damaged by the magnitude 7.8 Nepal earthquake, but a recent retrofitting has allowed it to again function safely.

Ang Dawa spends most mornings seeing patients and combines her time working in the adjacent school library. Since the clinic is close to her home, she can arrange care for her infant son while she works. Her health work is supervised by the doctors at Kunde Hospital, who can give her advice and guidance over the phone. It may be to get an opinion about an infant with persistent gastro-enteritis or an eye problem that is not responding to treatment. The alternative is to carry a patient for hours over difficult terrain to the hospital. With Ang Dawa able to provide healthcare in the village it makes an enormous difference.

The ongoing COVID-19 pandemic has brought an unexpected challenge for Ang Dawa and other village healthcare workers and has made their work all the more critical. There is now more focus on educating fellow villagers about hygiene, hand-washing and safe coughing techniques.

It is so encouraging to have people like Ang Dawa taking on roles in health and education in their local villages. The impact of bringing these skills into local communities will be felt for generations to come.

Ang Dawa treats a young patient at Phortse Health Clinic.

The Rt. Hon. Helen Clark visited Ang in Phortse.



Working towards UN Sustainable Development Goal 3:
Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages.



BUPSA AND MONJO WATER PROJECTS

At the Himalayan Trust's Gala Dinner of 2019, a strong presence was a shiny new Sir Edmund Hillary Edition Land Rover Discovery. The company added to their generous support by offering to sponsor two water projects in Solukhumbu, one in Bupsa and the other in Monjo, both near completion despite delays due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Bupsa is a village on the Everest trail a day's walk south of Lukla, accessible only on foot until last year when a Nepali bulldozer driver fashioned the sort of 'road' that excites the passions of Land Rover aficionados. Bupsa is a typical Nepali village supporting farmers growing wheat, corn and vegetables for the growing trekking industry. The surrounding forest-covered hillsides and mountains have numerous inaccessible small springs and streams, hence the need for an engineered pipeline running down from a high source and delivering water to the village houses, lodges and vegetable patches.

Monjo village is further up-valley at the entry to the Sagarmatha (Everest) National Park. By 2018 the existing water supply's limits had been reached and the locals were seeking donors for a new pipeline and reservoir. Land Rover came to the rescue with funding and under the guidance of engineer Sonam Sherpa, who built the Himalayan Trust-financed Lukla water project in 2014, a new source was located on the west bank of the Dudh Kosi and its pipeline crossed the river to a new concrete reservoir.

The benefits at both Bupsa and Monjo are multiple: pure drinking water, water for hand-washing and general hygiene (especially needed now due to COVID-19), and flush toilets. Also needed is water for horticulture in the dry season, and to assist the communities supporting the multitude of trekkers when they return once COVID-19 has been suppressed.

The villagers of Monjo and Bupsa say "Tuche-che and Thank you", thank you Land Rover for your gift of water.



ABOVE & BEYOND

Workers installing pipelines in the Solukhumbu District.



Working towards UN Sustainable Development Goal 6:
Ensure access to water and sanitation for all.



HILLARY: OCEAN TO SKY

The documentary *Hillary: Ocean to Sky* features Sir Ed on “the adventure of a lifetime” jet boating up India’s river Ganges. Film maker and Himalayan Trust member, Michael Dillon, generously offered all profits from the premiere screenings of the film as a donation to the Himalayan Trust. We were grateful to see so many of you come out and support us. 553 people attended five film events across New Zealand, raising a total of \$17,241. You can now buy the *Hillary: Ocean to Sky* DVD at himalayantrust.org/shop



Sir Edmund Hillary and Dr Jim Wilson receive puja from a local Hindu priest at the Holy river Ganges. Photo courtesy of Mike Dillon.

MEMBER SPOTLIGHT: SUE HARRISON

Sue Harrison, a long-time supporter, Himalayan Trust member, and Summit Challenger, has raised \$52,745 through her cookbook creation – *Outdoor Appetite*.

Sue formed the Love of Nepal Society, a committee of six from Christchurch following the 2015 earthquake in Nepal. To make the book a success she recruited the talented photographer Lindsay Keats, and sourced recipes from the wider Himalayan Trust whānau. “We have all experienced earthquakes, the impact it had on our families and we’re living through the realities of building back. We wanted to do something to help Nepal after the earthquakes and came up with the idea of a cookbook,” said Sue. We are fortunate to have such a dedicated, creative, and determined supporter in our membership. Thanks Sue!

You can buy a copy of *Outdoor Appetite* at your nearest Bivouac Outdoor store or at himalayantrust.org/shop



SUMMIT CHALLENGE

This year, we were proud to welcome Sir Ed’s grandsons George and Alex Hillary as our Himalayan Trust Summit Challenge ambassadors. Alongside hundreds of New Zealanders, they ran, walked, biked and climbed the height of Everest to raise funds for life-changing education, water and health projects in Nepal. Together, 220 Summit Challengers raised over \$36,800.

To complete the Summit Challenge, participants need to ascend the height of Everest in under one month – an average of 295m every day. They can take it on anywhere they like, complete it solo or share the climb between a team, go hard out and tackle the climb in one weekend or spread the challenge out over the month.

Thanks to sponsor Kathmandu, participants could earn an event T-shirt and win exciting prizes. We would also like to thank Salomon, who gifted the Official Shoe of the Summit Challenge to eight lucky participants.

Thank you to everyone who took part and donated! We look forward to climbing with you again in March 2021. To join the Summit Challenge visit summitchallenge.org

“My grandfather’s legacy in Nepal is very inspiring. It really does teach us that everyone can do extraordinary things. We can’t all be the first to summit Everest, but we can all lead by example and make a difference.”

George Hillary, Sir Ed’s grandson and Summit Challenge ambassador.



KATHMANDU CHRISTMAS ORNAMENTS AND ARTIST TEES

Our partnership with Kathmandu has gone from strength to strength, showing how creativity and talent from the outdoor brand has been used to give back in Nepal.

The Himalayan Trust has received \$14,366 in donations from the sale of Kathmandu Artist Series T-shirts, making the world of difference to our education programmes.

Kathmandu Christmas giving donations grew 140% from 2018 to 2019, bringing in \$27,516 from the sale of the adorable red panda ornament.

Both programmes, combined with a generous corporate contribution from Kathmandu, sponsorship of the Summit Challenge, and employee donations through workplace giving have made an enormous impact in Nepal.

Kathmandu, their team, and their customers enable life-changing impact through education programmes, and we can't thank them enough. Save a space on your Christmas tree this year for the delightful elephant, handcrafted in Nepal and available at Kathmandu in November.



The Kathmandu Artist Series T-shirt, designed by Nepalese artist Kailash K Shresta.



ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Thank you to the donors who have gone above and beyond in their generosity this year.

Organisations

Dux Industries Ltd
Hornby Rotary
Kathmandu
Jaguar Land Rover NZ
Sir Edmund Hillary Alpine Centre

Individuals

Barry & Fiona Gray
Dick Frizzell
Stephen Fowler
Francine Cappon
John Bolton

GOLDEN DORJE AWARDS

This year we acknowledged the following individuals for their long term and significant contribution to the people of the Himalayas.

W. Zeke O'Connor

Karen O'Connor

Sir Edmund Hillary Foundation of Canada

Richard Blum

Erica Stone

Norbu Tenzing

American Himalayan Foundation

Larry Witherbee

Joan Witherbee

Hillary Foundation USA

Ingrid Versen

Manfred Haupel

Hillary Foundation Germany

Simon Balderstone

Australian Himalayan Foundation

Mary Lowe

Graham Wrigley

Himalayan trust UK

Phurba Sona Sherpa

Greater Himalayan Foundation

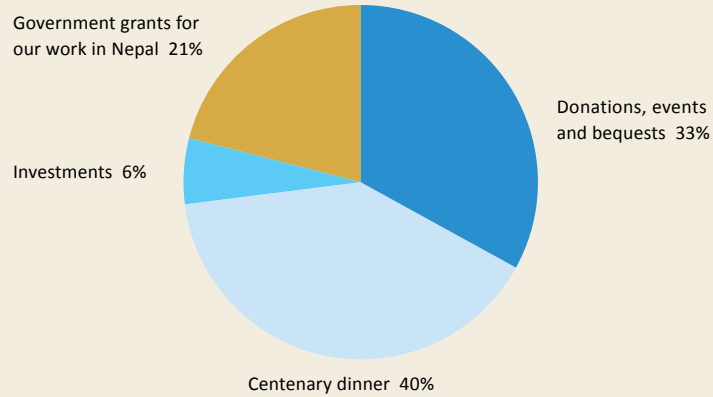
Thank you to **Phurba Sona** and **Ang Zhangbu** who personally presented the awards on our behalf.



FINANCIAL REVIEW

WHERE THE MONEY COMES FROM

TOTAL INCOME FOR YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 2020
\$1,215,470



RAISING VITAL FUNDS

The Himalayan Trust invests money each year in activities to raise public donations and engage long-term supporters. This year, we also held a centenary dinner with a surplus of \$257,000.

A Grant Funding Arrangement has been entered into with MFAT to 30 June 2025.

EXPENDITURE IN NEPAL

Expenditure in Nepal is the Himalayan Trust's long-term development work with communities in the Everest region of Nepal to deliver quality education, safe water and to improve health care.

Operations and accountability costs cover essential services in finance, accounting and management including Trust personnel. Additional expenditure includes essential work to ensure our programmes in Nepal are well set up and monitored and are delivering the best possible results for people in need.

The expenditure is higher than expected and accordingly the Board has commenced a review of all spend, established targeted returns on all fundraising, and ceased the approach that was trialled in relation to regular giving acquisitions. The process of allocating related costs to projects is also being reviewed.

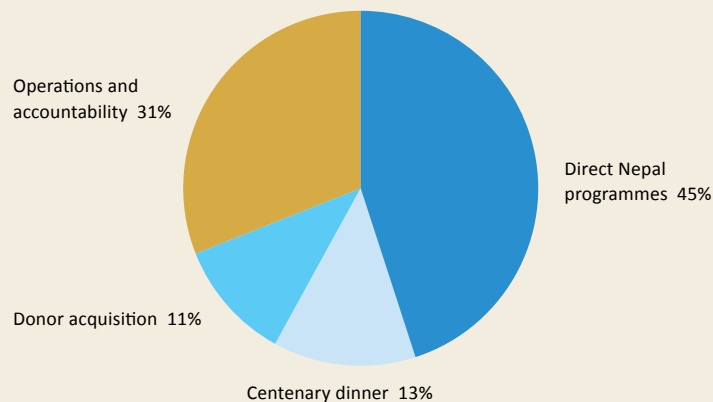
The information in this report has been summarised from the Performance Report of Himalayan Trust for the year ending June 30, 2020. This report has been prepared by HLB Mann Judd Ltd and, at the time of publication, was subject to audit by RSM (NZ) Ltd. The audited Performance Report is available on request.

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

For further information, queries or complaints please email info@himalayantrust.org or visit himalayantrust.org

WHERE THE MONEY GOES

TOTAL EXPENDITURE FOR YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 2020
\$1,732,251





Sir Edmund Hillary founded the Himalayan Trust in the 1960s when he built the first schools and hospitals in the Everest region. We follow in his footsteps, working in partnership with local communities to improve education, healthcare and safe water systems for remote communities in Nepal, one of the poorest countries in the world.

Thank you for enabling Sir Ed's unique legacy to live on and for making a difference to the lives of so many children, families and communities in the Solukhumbu District of Nepal.

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HIMALAYAN
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BY SIR EDMUND HILLARY

**SUSTAINABLE
DEVELOPMENT
GOALS**

We support the Sustainable Development Goals