



Nepali Village Initiatives Association Inc.

29 Blue Mount Road, Trentham, Victoria 3458, Australia

Association No.: A0054301J ABN: 79 892 132 355

Board: Peter Hall
Don Cullen
George Hillary

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Newsletter No. 4 – December 2015

Since 2011 our focus has been training teachers in remote Western Nepal. Over the past year we've made remarkable progress with our Quality Education Nepal project which now has three good legs:

- Our NGO LEARN is in full operation, having delivered 6 training programs since April 2014 involving 150 teachers
- A grant of \$800,000 from the estate of former Portland Rotarian Andrew Jack will give us the income we need to underpin the operation of LEARN, including payment of salaries for much-need staff
- A Rotary project funded by 15 Clubs, 4 Districts and The Rotary Foundation is expected to commence soon, extending training to a further 75 teachers over three years - a pilot for more such projects in the future.

But we have one weak leg - we have insufficient funds to continue current training programs for 150 teachers! We can't interrupt their training. They need further Basic

Training, In-school Support and Refresher Training. We expect that to cost around \$55,000 over the coming year. Right now, we don't have the funds!

Can you put up some money to make our table stable? To go on delivering the training that the teachers are expecting? We're looking for private donations, large and small, from our regular supporters and others who can see the value of the project.

Funds can be transferred to Nepali Village Initiatives Association Inc., BSB 633-000, a/c 149716235 (or posted to 29 Blue Mount Road, Trentham Vic. 3458). However, if you want a tax-deductible receipt, please go to www.rawcs.org.au, click Donate (top right), select Project 43, year 2009-10 and follow the instructions.

In addition, we are looking for charitable institutions that might be willing to contribute. In our research we have discovered that there are two types of funds given Deductible Gift Recipient (DGR) status. Type 1 funds can expend money on projects directly. Type 2 funds cannot - they can only contribute to Type 1 funds. In fact, they are required to distribute a substantial proportion of their income in that way every year.

Through our association with Rotary (RAWCS), we enjoy the benefits of being in a Type 1 fund. So we're looking for Type 2 funds that may be obliged to distribute income to our type of fund.

Can you introduce us to a philanthropic fund that might be interested?

New Board appointed

At the AGM on 29 November, a new Board was appointed to direct NVIA:

- Peter Hall continuing as President
- Ronda Hall continuing as Secretary
- Michael Dillon AM continuing after his appointment to the committee last year. A renowned cinematographer, Michael was a Director of the Australian Himalayan Foundation from its inception in 2001. He has extensive experience of Nepal, including making two full-length documentaries of the work of Sir Edmund Hillary building schools and training teachers in Solu Khumbu (Everest) District.
- Don Cullen manages the Tibetan Village Project which he registered with RAWCS in 2008. Through it he has delivered education and health benefits including the establishment of health care clinics that attract more than 30,000 patients annually; building greenhouses that provide fresh vegetables for school children and local communities; establishing schools and funding their operations.
- George Hillary, grandson of Sir Edmund. George has visited Nepal where he has seen the plight of the people first hand. Now undertaking university studies, he

will bring a youthful outlook to understanding the needs of the Nepalese people, having expressed the view that "It looks like some very exciting times ahead for NVIA!"

- Gordon Nightingale, a member of the Rotary Club of Daylesford, first visited Nepal in the 1980s and returned as one of our volunteers in 2014. As a result of renewing his acquaintance with the country, Gordon is committed to helping the rural people to address their basic needs in whatever way he can.

PBI Application

We have been advised that we might achieve recognition by the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission (ACNC) as a Public Benevolent Institution (PBI). This would yield considerable benefits - income tax exemption and Deductible Gift Recipient status. The latter would allow us to issue tax deductible receipts directly, avoiding the need for donations to be submitted via RAWCS (thus avoiding its 3% admin. charge).

We took the first step at the AGM with the adoption of a new set of Rules. Since then an application has been submitted to ACNC. We await the outcome of this application with high hopes.

Rotary Foundation Global Grant Project

We are in the final stages of assembling an application to The Rotary Foundation, seeking funding to have LEARN deliver training to 75 teachers of Tatopani Resource Centre over a period of three years. Led by the Rotary Clubs of Portland and Pokhara Fishtail, eight Rotary clubs in Australia from three different Districts (9780 - South-West Victoria; 9800 - Central Victoria; and 9600 - South-East Queensland) will join seven clubs in Nepal to contribute \$38,000 to the project. US\$100 from each Nepalese club may not seem a large amount, but that \$100 represents a week's salary for the CEO of LEARN!

With contributions from The Rotary Foundation, the total budget for the project is just over \$100,000.

Rotary International Convention in Seoul

Rotary International hosts a Convention each year. We attended one in Bangkok in 2012, along with some 500 Rotarians from Nepal. The Convention in 2014 was in Sydney where we had a booth in the House of Friendship for Quality Education Nepal. Through this we gained many new supporters, including a number of clubs now contributing to the Foundation Global Grant Project.

Next year's Convention will be in Seoul, Korea, May 28 - June 1. We have not only been allocated a booth in the House of Friendship, but also invited to convene a Breakout Session. This will allow us not only to promote what we have been doing,

including the *Global Grant Project*, but also to show how easy it can now be for other Rotary Clubs around the world to initiate similar projects in the future, given that we can assist them every step of the way.

50,000 Rotarians are expected to attend the Convention. Even a small proportion of these attending our Break-out session will give us unprecedented publicity. We will be looking to our Rotarian friends in Nepal and representatives of The Rotary Foundation to assist in the presentation and discussion.

We'll also need assistance staffing the booth in the House of Friendship. This Newsletter is going to NVIA members and supporters including well over 100 Rotarians. If you are planning to attend the Convention, and could spare an hour or two assisting on the stand, please respond by email.

Season's Greetings

We close by saying Happy Christmas and all the best for the New Year. Ronda and I are planning to return to Nepal late in January, where we'll be able to meet new LEARN staff and review LEARN's administration and forward planning.

Regards to all



Peter Hall
President



Teachers from Early Learning Centres upwards participate in our training