



Changing Lives through Practical Aid

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## NEPAL

### Remote Villages Trust

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Working in some of the most deprived areas through trusted Nepali intermediaries, Nepalrvt aims to improve education and increase food security in Khotang, eastern Nepal.



*Villagers in Dolpu, Jaleshwari, Khotang, with Nepalrvt trustees*

*Kerna & Sunni were delighted to receive the new drip irrigation from Nepalrvt*



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### Khotang & Lower Solukhumbu Feb-March 2019

Last month Chris and I returned from a three week trip to Khotang and Lower Solukhumbu, Nepal - the main areas where NRVT has been working. We took tents with us and mostly camped on land belonging to NRVT Nepal Chairman Pasang's parents. The tents enabled us to be flexible and we took them with us when we visited Rhupangmare school and the Agro Forestry Research Centre at Deusa.



The biggest change since Chris's visit in 2017 is that a 'road' has now been cut through the mountain all the way to the village. This is a road in the most basic sense. It is actually a wide dirt track accessible by trial motorbike or 4x4 and it is susceptible to being destroyed by mudslides - or just to simply being impassable due to mud - around the time of the summer monsoons. However, the road is still a major advance in infrastructure. The trip from Jaleshwari to Kathmandu that meant a four-day walk and a ten hour bus ride in 2010, or a two-day walk and ten hour jeep ride in 2015 when we first visited, can now be achieved in 12 - admittedly gruelling! - hours.

### Climate Change in Nepal

Climate change is a visible reality in the Himalayas with distant mountains that were once snow-covered and 'white' now often 'black' because the snow has melted. Crops are less productive due to lower rainfall and changing rainfall patterns make it difficult to decide when and what to plant. Local people recognize that traditional farming methods are no longer good enough and are keen to embrace new ideas. This was the impetus behind the NRVT Drip Irrigation Project. This was the first time that this kind of irrigation had been seen in Khotang and the local farmers were really excited.

### Drip Irrigation Project

Our trip was carefully timed to coincide with the arrival of the drip irrigation kits in the village. We began by visiting Sital Drip Irrigation in Kathmandu to check on the NRVT order of 80 kits and discuss logistics. Sital Drip is an impressive small company using mainly recycled materials. It has designed a product specifically adapted for small subsistence farmers.



*Drip irrigation kits & training day in Jaleswari Sector 7*



## Madame de Maintenon

Thanks to Annie Corbier and the Ecole Municipale de Danse et Théâtre d'Alès for a wonderful interpretation of Madame de Maintenon on the Garden Terrace of the Château du Fraissinet, Saturday 13th April. Over 50 people turned up to watch and the performance was followed by tea and cakes. A very enjoyable afternoon which raised 325€ for NRVT Community Farm Project. Thank you to everyone who participated.



## Computer donations: St Michael's in the Gard

A donation from St Michael's Anglican Church in the Gard enabled the purchase of computers for Rhupangmare and Sukepokhari primary schools. Teachers were delighted and grateful. Many thanks.



## Individual donations

NRVT continues to receive generous donations and would like to thank all the individuals involved.



Curious pupils at Dibdi Middle School

The Sital irrigation package included a technician who came up to the village to carry out training. She was excellent and got the whole community motivated and involved. At the end of the day the 80 irrigation kits were distributed to selected families. Sector 7 was targeted to begin this initiative as it is one of the poorest areas of the community.

## Solar panels and Educational Resources for Schools in association with The Deepings Rotary

The Solar Panels for Schools project continues to run successfully, helping more and more local schools improve their educational potential through the provision of electricity. The Deepings Rotary has been very generous in donating funds to implement this project and we - along with the teachers and pupils of the schools involved - are very grateful for their valued support.



At the most basic level electricity means light is available in classrooms on dull afternoons. Together with the resources package it also means that teachers have access to a computer, printer, supplementary hard disk with e-library, TV or projector and a DVD player.

For the first time teachers are able to animate lessons by showing films and video clips from the e-library. They can also keep computerised records and print out materials.

Following the installation of the solar panels, the enthusiastic teachers at Dibdi Middle School have begun showing weekly films which keep the children interested and motivated to make the often long walk to school. Dibdi also applied for government funding to buy 6 laptops and have set up a computer class (*see above*).

The latest schools to benefit from the Solar panels are Shree Simele High School and Sukepokhari Primary School (*right*). Sukepokhari also received an NRVT resources package on our trip - as did Rhupangmare Primary who received solar panels donated by the Rotary in 2018.



## Summer Quiz

Venue; Le Mas du Moulin, Arpaillargues

Date : mid -July - to be confirmed

Chez: Diane & Clive Norwood

Quizmaster: Peter Curtis

Bring & Share Buffet, Raffle

Participation 5€

Please contact Clive Norwood

if you would like to join us:

clive.norwood@wanadoo.fr



## Shakespeare afternoon ~ in English!

Sunday, 29th September, 3pm

At Château du Fraissinet in association with Annie Corbier and the Ecole Municipale de Danse et de Théâtre d'Alès.

Participation: 5€

Tea and cakes on sale *All profits to NRVT*

## Supporting Nepal Remote Villages Trust

If you would like to support the work of Nepal Remote Villages Trust by making a **regular donation** please contact Alison at [info@nepalrvt.org](mailto:info@nepalrvt.org) for our Charities Aid Foundation bank account details. *Thank you*