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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

Pupils watching a DVD for the first time at Shree Simele High School, Jaleshwari, Khotang



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NEWSLETTER ISSUE 9, JULY 2018

CHARITY NO. 1173563

Solar Power for Schools Project

(right, Rhupangmare Primary School)

The first half of 2018 has been momentous as NRVT were able to advance the solar power project with the installation of two 260w panels at Rhupangmare school.

The complete system, including internal wiring, earthing and the cost of transporting the materials to this remote village, was just in excess of 2000€. Chris, Pasang (NRVT Nepal chairman) and Ful Kumar (NRVT Nepal trustee) visited this school in February 2017. It is approximately 4 hours walk from Jaleshwari and is still accessible only on foot, not even by tractor. Given the difficulty of reaching Rhupangmare it is easy to imagine the excitement of the

very dedicated teaching staff at this primary school where over 100 children are registered. This is also the birthplace of Ful Kumar who was delighted to be involved in an initiative to help his home village.

The Rhupangmare solar panels were donated in partnership with The Deepings Rotary Club (Lincolnshire). This group of dedicated men and women raised considerable funds themselves and also tapped into Rotary International to make a difference to this isolated corner of upper Khotang. (photo right; children at the school)

The Deepings Rotary plan to continue their support for the Solar Panels for Schools Project in 2018/9 and are now fundraising to help nearby Sukepokhari school. NRVT are enormously grateful for their enthusiasm and continued involvement. Chris & Alison will be visiting Rhupangmare and Sukepokhari schools in March 2019 and will take with them learning resources



Royal Wedding Garden Party



The Royal Wedding Party at the Château du Fraissinet on 19th May was a major success. Along with over 70 guests we cried as we watched the wedding on the big screen, we feasted on a specially prepared wedding breakfast, toasted the happy couple and then danced to Rhythm 'n' Blues, raising 1050 euros for NRVT in the process. These funds will go towards the purchase of irrigation equipment to be put in place during our visit to Nepal in February 2019.



A huge thank you to everyone who attended, those who came along to help set up, and also everyone unable to celebrate with us but who very kindly sent a donation anyway.



Scottish Rugby Shirt Auction

This awesome Six Nations rugby shirt was signed by the entire Scottish team and very kindly donated by Ali Price. The shirt raised £175 at auction. This sum will supply a Nepali subsistence farmer with an irrigation system to help him combat climate change and provide food security for his family. Huge thank you to all the guys involved and to Carol Price for posting it to us!

including a computer and much-needed printer for each school. These are now possible thanks to the new electricity supply.

Internet for Dibdi: Following an initiative by Pasang, Dibdi Middle School (Jaleshwari) now has basic internet provision funded by NRVT. In addition to providing a link to the 'outside world', headteacher, Bal Bahadur Dahal is hoping to set up links with school groups in France and the UK.



Shree Simele High School should soon be receiving internet provision from the government so NRVT has decided not to go ahead with supplying this school.

Irrigation

Parallel to the solar panels for schools project, NRVT remains committed to working to improve food security in Jaleshwari. To this end we are initiating a project to install crop irrigation systems to as many farms in the area as would like to receive it. According to Pasang, who has spent a considerable amount of time in his home village in recent months on NRVT and family business, this is pretty much all the local subsistence farmers - around 400 families.

A basic drip irrigation system will include a tank or fenced basin, pipe and fittings at an estimated average cost of 175€ per farm. Work will start in one area of the village and progress to others as funds become available. Focussing on one area at a time means that tools and labour are concentrated in one area and time and resources are not scattered over the hillside. These irrigation systems - which, although basic are well beyond the reach of most families - will empower the Jaleshwari subsistence farmers, giving greater control over crop cycles and enabling them to counteract the erratic effects of climate change.

In addition to improving food security, the irrigation will enable families to produce surplus produce which could be sold at local markets, or perhaps eventually in Kathmandu. This in turn will enable them to pay school fees, buy uniforms for their children and to contribute to teachers' salaries and other local services that are not provided by the state in this remote region.

The irrigation project is a major commitment on the part of NRVT to improve the standard of living in the village. It will take several years to implement and we are hoping it will attract your generous support.

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 for our Charities Aid Foundation bank account details.

