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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, Jaleshwori, Khotang, with Nepalrvt trustees

Covid-19 Emergency Food aid



NRVT has helped 101 families who were in difficulty due to the pandemic

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A Challenging Year

It has been a challenging year for everybody with Corona virus running rampant through our communities causing us to make major changes to the way we live our lives. NRVT has been impacted less than many nonprofits as we are run entirely by volunteers. However, restrictions placed on travel meant that Chris and I were unable to make our planned trip to Jaleshwori in October and lockdowns in Nepal caused the purchase of land for the Community Farm to be put on hold.

Emergency Food distribution in Kathmandu

More seriously the constraints put in place due to the epidemic have caused severe hardship to the millions of Nepalese who rely on the tourist industry for their livelihood. This includes hotel workers and street vendors as well as the thousands of trekking guides, cooks and porters.

In the UK and France the governments stepped in with furlough schemes and state aid for businesses impacted by Covid. In Nepal the government did very little, obliging nonprofits working in the region to get involved and help people who were literally running out of food.



Pasang Tamang with his team at NRVT Nepal were able to obtain a list of families in serious difficulty and, following a campaign on Facebook, NRVT Europe were able to send over money to purchase rice, lentils, sugar and cooking oil. Distribution was authorised by the Kathmandu Social Welfare Council and carried out by Pasang and the other trustees in Nepal.

In total, 101 families were provided with enough essential food supplies to see them through the winter. We were very relieved to have the apparatus in place to be able to help these families quickly and efficiently. Many thanks to everyone who contributed.

Jaleshwori Community Farm

We are excited to report that now, as I write, Pasang is in Aiselukharka – the local administrative centre, three hours walk from Jaleshwori – completing the papers to buy the farm land. He has already obtained official permission for the purchase from the Social Welfare Council in Kathmandu, to whom we were obliged to send letters to





Pupil at Rhupanmare school

Trees for Change Help a Nepali farming family & improve the environment



Trees for change

<http://www.nepalrvt.org/trees-for-change.html>



Girl looks after younger siblings at her parent's café near Jaleshwori

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Nepal confirming funding sources and outlining the farm's goals and objectives. The land will be owned by our NGO, NRVT Nepal.

Hendra Trade BV- our new Community Farm Funding Partner

Tying in with this, we are thrilled to announce that Hendra Trade BV have become our new funding partner for this project. Hendra have been interested in the work of NRVT for a number of years and have contributed to other projects. Their participation means that we can proceed with setting up the farm infrastructure as soon as the land purchase is finalised. Funding is also guaranteed to employ a farm manager for the initial two years



New Trustees

Following our November AGM we are delighted to welcome Michael Askew and Madeleine Wheatley as NRVT trustees. Originally trained as a linguist and chartered accountant, Mike has had a distinguished career in banking, ultimately

becoming President of the Business Development Bank in Shanghai. Now retired, he is bringing his considerable expertise to help steer NRVT.

Madeleine is a conservation biologist currently working at Turtle Island sanctuary in Graz, Austria. She has considerable field experience including a period in Tanzania and is especially interested in ensuring NRVT projects are sustainable and environmentally-friendly.



Trees for Change

If you read our last newsletter you'll know that NRVT have launched a Trees for Change programme which ties in with the Jaleshwori Community Farm.

When you purchase a fruit or nut tree through Trees for Change, NRVT will donate it to a Nepali subsistence farming family on your behalf. In return you receive either a voucher which will be emailed to your inbox (or that of a chosen recipient), or a beautiful and unique gift card designed by *Papeterie Designs*. Vouchers and gift cards make great Christmas gifts. They can be purchased direct from our website <http://www.nepalrvt.org/trees-for-change.html>

Quiz and Lunch

The quiz and lunch planned for September unfortunately didn't go ahead due to Corona virus. However, many of those who were planning to come along chose to make a donation anyway, a gesture that was very much appreciated. And thank you to Peter Curtis for offering to host the quiz. We very much hope we'll be able to hold the event sometime in 2021 and look forward to welcoming everyone then.

Looking Ahead

As this difficult year draws to a close we would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who has contributed to NRVT during 2020 both in Europe and in Nepal through donations or by helping out in some other way. And of course, to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a very Happy and Healthy 2021.

Alison & Chris

