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Remote Villages Trust

Changing Lives through Practical Aid

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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

Manager appointed at Jaleshwori Community Farm



Milan Tamang has become the first manager of the

Jaleshwori Community Farm

Pictured here with wife Anita and their son

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New Lockdown in Nepal

Many of you will already be aware that the Delta variant of Covid 19 has spread to Nepal and is causing huge problems. With a new lockdown on the cards many people, including Pasang and his family, quickly left Kathmandu to return to their home villages in the mountains. Pasang, his wife Manju and daughter Sushila stayed in Jaleshwori with Pasang's parents for a few weeks although they are now back in Kathmandu as Sushila needs internet to follow her studies at school.

Pasang told us that things in Jaleswori are difficult; all local markets are closed and they are not allowed to visit the local 'town' of Aiselukharka where there are many cases of Covid and some people have died.

Needless to say, the Nepali health system is inadequate and unable to cope with the numbers of Covid patients. The mountains definitely seem like the safest option but there are beginning to be food shortages as the exodus from Kathmandu has put pressure on resources that were already scarce. Pasang has said that prices of all basic commodities are rising rapidly.

In Kathmandu transport is difficult and only a few shops are open. Pasang and Manju hope to be offered the Covid vaccine soon.



*Top: Pasang shows food foraged from the local forest to supplement supplies.
Below: Pasang with Manju in Jaleshwori*



Jaleshwori Community Farm

The really good news is that the Community Farm is now up and running. It was officially opened by local village representatives in March of this year. A manager, Milan, has been installed and he is now living on site with his wife Anita and their son. Considerable work was needed initially to make the house habitable and this was achieved with the help of Pasang, members of the village and some of the NRVT Nepal trustees who were staying locally. Pasang sent over lots of photos – some of which you may have seen on the NRVT Facebook page. It was great to witness how the local community immediately banded together and took responsibility for the initial land



Pasang gives Farm Manager Milan a traditional Nepali knife to help with his work at the Jaleshwori Community Farm



clearing, planting and fence building. So far dragon fruit, avocado and almond trees have been planted. The trees have been protected with hand built bamboo fences. Some trees have also been donated to farmers in the local community through the **Trees for Change** program which NRVT launched last year.

Trees for Change are still available to purchase through our website. <http://www.nepalrvt.org/trees-for-change.html>

Pasang also ensured that Milan and some of the other villagers who are helping at the Community Farm received training in composting and tree maintenance from the nearby AgroForestry Research Centre at Deusa.



Local children to receive new winter clothing



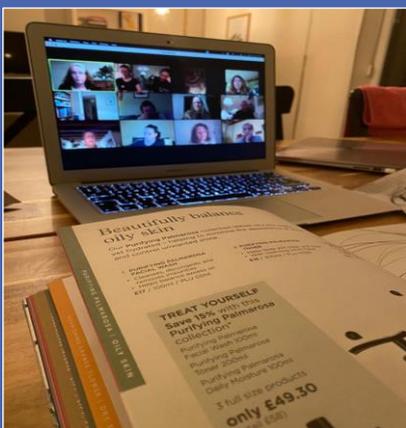
Left: A villager helps to rebuild the Community Farm house for Milan and Anita.



Right: Sushila and Manju with drip irrigation at the Jaleshwori Community Farm

Warm Clothes for Jaleshwori Kids

Last winter, Jaleswori English teacher and NRVT Trustee Dilli Ram Tamang asked if we could provide warm winter clothes for the local children as many were simply too cold to learn. Due to Covid, distances involved and communication challenges it has taken a few months to get this organized but this year thanks to the generosity of private donors, a fund-raising Neals Yard Remedies party on Zoom and an Instagram initiative by '@follow_the_halos', NRVT will be providing warm winter tracksuits and jumpers for all the primary and middle school children in Jaleshwori – and those in Sukepokhare and Rupangmare too. A total of around 400 pupils. Schools and roads in the Jaleshwori area are currently closed due to the combination of lockdown and monsoon but we have sourced a supplier in Kathmandu and hope to be able to post pictures of children in their new outfits this autumn.



Neals Yard Remedies Zoom Party raised money for warm clothes Find 'Neal's Yard Organic Remedies Clare Simmonds' on Facebook

If you would like to help fund-raise for Nepal Remote Villages Trust and be a part of their work, please contact Alison & Chris at info@nepalrvt.org