



Winter 2014

LIFTING UP FORGOTTEN KIDS IN KATHMANDU



Namaste!

Its Winter in the UK, but in Dubai we are looking forward to a few months of mild weather and lots of outdoor fund raising events. The 3rd Annual Golf Day takes place in December and many Yaks are in training for Runs and Cycles. Keep up the good work!

Despite the usual mass migration of supporters out of Dubai during the Summer months, and the monsoon season in Nepal we were not idle! We took the "down time" to introduce a new organizational structure including a new management team and two additional UK based trustees joined.

We also launched the *4 Steps to Build Your Own School* campaign and the *6 Steps to Effective CSR* program for corporates. In Nepal we signed partnerships and implemented the *2014 Teacher Training* program including early years and English language. We are proud to have reached out to 400 vulnerable young adults who attended our *Girls Empowerment* program!

We have also extended our kindergartens to the slums of Kathmandu, once you read our lead story we are sure you will be shocked but also encouraged to help us continue to fight for the rights of vulnerable children.

I end with the news that we have opened our 4th primary school and our 15th kindergarten!

Thank you all again for joining us on the journey and for your continued support!

Danybhad!
John

With our growing commitments in Tandrang it was not our intention to expand our activities into Kathmandu. However following a recent fire in the slums of Bagmati and the lack of any visible support for those effected we had no choice but to act! In the fire over 100 families lost their homes.

Children and parents who had little to begin with were now quite literally sleeping in the ashes. We waited expecting to hear news that aid agencies were providing help. We were shocked and saddened to see that these unfortunate victims were ignored and subject to some discrimination because they were migrant workers from India. We decided to act.

We stepped in and with the help of our new In country Manager Maureen, Sarika and her team we provided a safe environment at Asha Kindergarten with clean uniforms and a hot daily meal for 25 children. This was a start. The project rapidly expanded. Within a matter of weeks we opened another Kindergarten in the slums of JerryButty and our third and fourth will open in November and December respectively. We have always

said our focus is upon the most marginalised, neglected exploited children.

We recognise that the need is great, resources limited and we need to take care in managing our projects, however sometimes we need to remember that it was the act of picking up one Dalit child five years ago that started our journey and sometimes it is better to act than to wait until we have all the answers. This was one of those moments and we hope you will continue to support us so we can continue to provide love, care, protection and futures to the children of Tandrang and now Kathmandu.

HIGHLIGHTS



4th School Opens!



Girls Get Their Turn!





DISTANT DREAM BECOMES A REALITY FOR THE COMMUNITY AT DARME!

In 2009, long before you had heard of the cause, John, Amanda and Peter stood outside a hovel that was called a school on a hill a long way from the wonders of Dubai. One year ago John sat in that awful place again but this time with the children and parents of Darme and Janaprya and told them it was their turn. Who he thought would care about these kids? Can I really again ask for support? We knew our yaks would not let us down and you didn't! We bought that field and we bought our first bricks and we built a school. The school was officially inaugurated on October 23rd by The Nepalese parliament chief whip, Mr Chinkaji Shresta.

We are extremely grateful to Mr Medhi Ahraha for his very generous personal

contribution to the Primary school and to Mastercard Middle East for providing furniture and creative learning materials to grades 1- 3.

Dubai based Corporate Al Ghurair has also made a substantial donation towards this project and are committed to further support the cause. We are truly honored to be associated with a locally based company highly respected for its commitment to CSR and philosophy of balancing business objectives with social responsibility.

We extend our special thanks to Mr Saif Al- Ghurair for his personal support and to Mr. Keith Flanagan for his continued efforts on behalf of the cause.



Masteryaks Deserve Credit!

Mastercard Dubai fly across the ocean, brave the streets of Kathmandu, travel eight hours along the rocky road over hills and rivers to reach the schools at Tandrang. Their reward was the eating of rice pudding with the kids, opening a school and the unique experience of celebrating Tihar as the locals do, even if some of the tikka designs was a little "untraditional"! We'd like to thank Jules and all the team for the good humor, patient and indomitable spirit throughout the trip, and of course for their fantastic contribution to the futures of children.



KACHUUA KLUB NO. 15 OPENS!

Following our recent intervention to support kids in Kathmandu, we have considered the best options to provide lasting impact. The solution is certainly not to take the kids away from their families as many advocate! We have also decided that the solution is not to establish a private school, joining the many other such enterprises which eventually lead to constraints due to financial pressures: We have decided to continue with our model as applied in Tandrang, partnership to support and improve existing schools.

Children of the Mountain has therefore partnered with Government run school Guyesworthy to provide a quality education to the kids of Bagmati slum. In return for creative learning environment and teacher training, the school promises to seek out kids not attending and work with our team to address the issues causing truancy. Our 15th Kindergarten opened on the 18th October. We hope to expand this model to two other slums in Kathmandu.

If you are interested in joining us "get active get involved!" Contact: events@childrenofthemountain.org



CONGRATULATIONS MR & MRS MAHARJAN!

Long term supporters of the cause, Nicola & Nabin are married! We wish them many years of happy trekking and thank them for their wonderful support.

They opened their hearts and donated their wedding gifts to provide a kindergarten for the kids at Lamberger. Through their compassionate action and the generosity of their friends, family and guests they have reached 125% of their target. The furniture is being made in an alley in Kathmandu, the uniforms are sewn, the walls painted, the books printed and the toys ordered.



The Perfect Wedding Gift

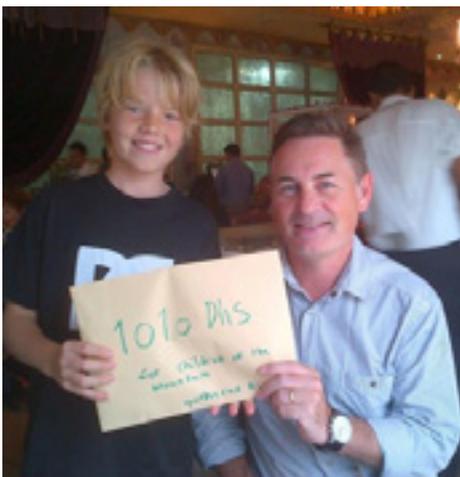
The 'Garden of Dreams' kindergarten will open in November. Blessings to the beautiful couple and all those who gathered in celebration of their union in Yorkshire and Nepal.

HAYS Recruiting experts worldwide

DUBAI CORPORATES WALK THE CSR TALK!

We are delighted to announce that Hays Recruitment have joined our growing list of corporate supporters. Hays are walking the talk when it comes to investing in their people and promoting balance in the workplace! Hays started by supporting our school supplies collect campaign 'Sharing is Caring'. However this led to Hays colleagues raising funds through sponsored events. Thanks to their amazing efforts we opened a kindergarten at Gandaki school with members of the Hays team travelling to Nepal to cut the ribbon!

A big thank you to Chris Greaves, MD and all the staff for their continued support!



Another moment today that delights us! Koen a pupil of Dubai International Academy, heard John speak at a recent awareness event. He didn't just go home and forget like probably most kids would do. He started his own top secret campaign and weeks later called John to come see him. Koen has raised AED 1,010 which will provide uniforms to Maitum school. (That AED 10 is important as Koen set himself a target of AED 1,000) What an outstanding example to all Yaks! In honor of Koen's mighty efforts he will henceforth be known as BraveYak, which funnily enough when translated to dutch is Koen!

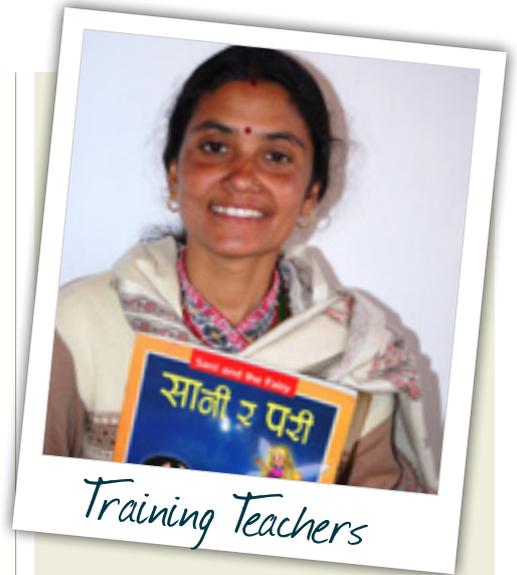


CONTINUED SUPPORT IN AUSTRIA

We are delighted to place the name of our Austria based supporter Naturfreunde on the hill.

Naturfreunde is Austria's leading trekking agent and raised funds last year to open a kindergarten.

This wonderful company will continue their support in 2015 by offering sponsored treks to Austrians.



IT'S HER TURN NOW!

Helping to empower girls and equip them with skills and knowledge that allow them to create their own safe and healthy futures.

Children of the Mountain has built 4 schools and opened 20 Kindergartens. For those of you paying attention you will have noticed that we have always said that the brick building is the foundation upon which we will build, as we do not believe any student or teacher can be truly motivated while working in a dark cave! However it is not all we do. The education of Girls, and especially Girls not attending school, is a core objective of our work. It was, after all the chance meeting of a young lady and John which resulted in the founding of Children of the Mountain.

"Women have to be strong. One of the qualities of a strong woman is to be able to speak publicly and share her thoughts and ideas with others. A strong woman should be confident and not afraid of men."

HerTurn Participant, Age 10

With this in mind we have included a girls confidence program in the Cycle of Hope. Our implementation partner is HER TURN.

This year we reached 400 vulnerable young ladies across Tandrang. We are confident that this, and our follow up support will result in a more inclusive community with empowered women. We also hope that this program will encourage some of the girls to step forward with a desire to become teachers themselves.

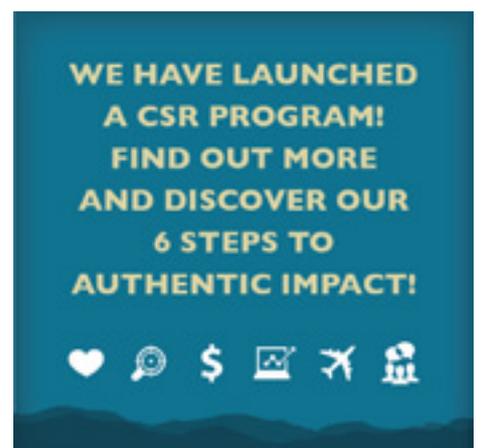
"I want to marry at the age of 24 or 25 because at that time I would have completed my education and I would have taken more training of livelihood skills. At that age my body will also be capable of giving birth. I want to marry when I am self dependent, capable of taking care of myself and want to be an empowered woman."

HerTurn participant, age 13



Our English Language Training Launches in Tandrang.

We have partnered with The Nepalese English Language Teachers Association to bring English language teaching to Tandrang. This is a first step to overcoming one disadvantage that the children in Tandrang face when competing for opportunities against those attending private schools. It won't happen overnight but we are delighted to take one more step towards equality.



Go to our website, click on the new CSR button and read all about the 6 easy steps you can take to make a real measurable change to the lives of children.

If you are interested in joining us "get active get involved!" Contact: events@childrenofthemountain.org



Children of the Mountain is honored to be associated with Al Tamimi Investments, a Dynamic UAE based group that is recognised as a leader in Corporate Social Responsibilities and Social Entrepreneurship across the region. The company chairman's message that "a business is not truly successful unless it makes an active effort to give back" is supported up by proactive



Al Tamimi Stables
إسطبلات التميمي

actions such as the unique and successful initiative The Big Start, which empowers local talent, supports education, social responsibility and sustainable investment. Such values align to Children of the Mountains objectives to empower and educate children in Nepal.

Earlier in the year, Al Tamimi Stables held a fun day, now a regular event, and raised funds to open a Kindergarten at Janapriya, again with members of the team traveling to Nepal to cut the ribbon and meet the children.

Al Tamimi Stables is a family friendly farm and educational activities centre situated in the rural area of Al Zubair on the edge of the Emirate of Sharjah. The Stables will be the location for regular Fun Days in aid of Children of the Mountain. Over 700 people attended the last event.



FEELING GOOD
DOING GOOD!

A big thank you to Paul {LumberYak!}, Dawn and the team at Talise Spa (the Worlds Best Spa!) for holding a fantastic ladies day in support of the cause. Thanks to Siog Moore for being our posh Ambassador on the day!

SMART ACTIVE YAKS!

Writing from Dubai, with the blazing summer behind us, and four to five months of mild weather ahead of us, we are looking forward to another successful outdoor fund raising season. Without your continued energy, commitment and passion we can't continue our work so please get active get involved!

Many yaks are in training for the Dubai 5k, 10k, half and full marathons. Supporting these efforts is Mark Robinson & his team at Smart Fitness!

A big Thank you to Mark!



SMART
FITNESS

ON COURSE FOR CHILDREN

On 4th December we hold the 4th Annual On Course for Children golf day at Arabian Ranches. The cost will be AED 3,000 for a 4 ball and will include lunch and prizes. Hole sponsorship is AED 6,000. Please contact us to book tee time or sponsor a hole.

If you are interested in joining us "get active get involved!" Contact: events@childrenofthemountain.org



Look cool, do good! Kids Yak t-shirts exclusively designed for us by Bumble & Mouse are available to order.

4 STEPS TO BUILD A SCHOOL CAMPAIGN LAUNCHED IN DUBAI!

Having recently launched a campaign to enable small groups of friends to work together on fund raising for their own school, we are delighted with the response! The first group was formed by Dubai based Sue Edwards and campaigning is going very well. Other groups are launching campaigns soon.

Sues group is called "The Yakety Yaks" and are fund raising towards a school at Gandaki. Be sure to keep an eye out for their events and give your support!



	01 Form a team of friends and colleagues	
04 Travel to Nepal and lay the foundations	10 x £1,200 = 1 x SCHOOL Join with 10 Friends, Colleagues & Family Members, Raise £1,200 each, and travel to Nepal to physically help build your school.	02 Contact us to choose a location and build time
	03 Start your campaign using online tools	

YOU LIKE US!! 15,830 TIMES!



We are very excited to announce that we have teamed up with the Product house Dubai to offer Yaks the chance to buy Children of the Mountain branded gifts.

The full range is still under development but will include candles and Nepalese Tea. Needless to say we will offer only products of the highest quality!

Our first product will be candles from the E18HT range. E18HT have created a unique range of stunning, hand made candles that are crafted to the highest standards and finished beyond compare.



The Perfect Festive Gift!

These are available at Talise Spa or can be ordered via Amanda info@childrenofthemountain.org at a cost of AED 285.



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