

Beautiful Summer Baskets - large and small

Straw baskets made in Nepal and decorated by our own street knitter, Enid!



Large straw bag
£22 inc p&p



Small straw bag
£12 inc p&p



Large straw bag
£22 inc p&p

To contact us at NLT please phone us:
020 8940 1200 or email: info@nlt.org.uk



Our order for batik cards has arrived! Here is a small selection of the many designs. It seems best to sell these in quantities of 5 or 10, with choice of mixed or same designs. There are two sizes, the larger being £1.25 each and the smaller being £0.75 each - with postage extra and a discount for quantity. See our website for more details.

Child Sponsorship

Helping poor families to educate their children continues to be an excellent way of lifting people out of poverty, and we have seen many good outcomes. Every year, some children finish their education support and others join the scheme. Due to the extended period of lockdown in Nepal, and reduced communications, the numbers of families coming forward to seek help has been less, but this will change. We are grateful to every sponsor who supports children in this way, and if you would like to help a child please get in touch.

A Touch of Providence

Don't forget to order a copy of this great book, full of fascinating stories of Eileen's life, the founding of NLT and the work at Lalgadh. Amusing accounts of different people's experiences add colour to this amazing story. Only £10 including UK postage.



Speaking Team!

When things are back to normal, Enid and/or Mike would love to visit your church, school, club or group to share about the work of NLT and life in Nepal, and show you the NLT handicrafts made at our fairtrade workshop!

Twitter



NLT has a Twitter account!

See the tweets on our website or follow us at:

[@NepalLeprosyTr](https://twitter.com/NepalLeprosyTr)

If you are someone who prays for NLT, we send out a monthly prayer letter by email. If you do not use email, we can post it to you if you let us know. It will help to keep you more updated with events in NLT and in Nepal.

If you would be happy to receive your copy of this newsletter by email to save NLT some postage, please let us know by emailing us at: info@nlt.org.uk

Nepal Leprosy Trust, 10A The Vineyard, Richmond, TW10 6AQ (England)
Telephone: 020 8940 1200; Email: info@nlt.org.uk; Website: www.nlt.org.uk

(During the current situation, you can also telephone Mike on 07932 621391)

NLT is a company limited by guarantee (no. 4046961) and a registered UK charity (no. 1081952)

To unsubscribe from this newsletter, please email, phone, or write to us.

Nepal Leprosy Trust

Changing lives

Aid to the Poorest

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The lockdown in Nepal has been very hard for the poor in villages throughout the country. Their only consistent source of cash income is through daily waged work on farms and building sites, brick kilns and factories, the transport infrastructure and selling their vegetable produce. With all these areas greatly



reduced, many people have been relying on the diminishing stocks of food in their homes, which have been further depleted by those who were migrant workers and have returned quietly to their home villages in Nepal to escape the terrible problems in India.

Village resources have been badly strained, and it has been a privilege for our community team, with the support of the Sasakawa Health Foundation, to be able to provide food and other supplies to those in greatest need.



To identify beneficiaries, our self-help groups have been valuable, being situated in places affected by deep poverty and connected to the poorest amongst those. Along with useful supplies of



food and other materials, our team has been training the group members in the use of masks and the importance of hand-washing, so that they in turn can hand out masks and advice to their community members, and be a part of stemming the tide of the pandemic. This project is supporting 26 self-help groups, and those they have brought to the attention of the team.

Update on NLT and Covid

Nepal is still coming through the second wave of the pandemic, and a third may be on its way. A lockdown is still in place local to Lalgadh, but at the moment many people seem to be still moving around, and the numbers of patients coming for help at Lalgadh are increasing. On Sunday 18th July, 400 people visited the outpatients unit for treatment, including 42 people affected by leprosy. A couple of days later, there were 4 positive Covid cases among the OPD visitors. There have been an average of 40 inpatients each day and all new admissions are taken for a Covid test in the local town before being admitted. The work is still very intense because of all the PPE and testing that has to be employed to protect staff and patients, but Lalgadh is still able to serve the community, and staff are doing well. Our staff nurse Sulochana has just had a new baby boy (pictured), and Dr Prakriti recently got married at Lalgadh - *more inside*.



Thank you for your prayers and support which have helped keep things going so well

Running for NLT



By the Thames

Our NLT run had been 'on' and then 'off' and then 'on again' several times since the pandemic struck last year. As it seemed unlikely that the official Vitality London 10k Run would take place this year, we decided to do our own run on 31st May - the intended day of the official Vitality Run.

There were five NLT runners – Julie, Joe, Ian, Amy and Matthew, and they all turned up – with dogs - which was a great start! We decided to run beside the Thames from Maidenhead to Bourne End and back. Matthew and Joe added an extra 3.5 km just to make sure and took an hour. Ian, Julie and Amy wisely stuck to the 10k and also took about an hour, so it was a great effort all round, and has raised at least £500 for NLT's work. Well done and thanks to all five!

Having done our own run, the Vitality Run organisers came up with a new date and venue for the official race, which took place on 11th July at Hatfield Park. Our amazing runners all turned up again for their second 10k run, and we cheered them on to another successful finish.



At Hatfield - plus Crumble

Thanks to all those who have supported them by contributing to NLT's fundraiser. If any of you are still considering it, then remember that all the funds raised support people affected by leprosy in Nepal. You can donate via our website, or by direct bank transfer, or with a good old-fashioned cheque – while they still work!

NLT items available online

Setting up and managing our own online NLT shop has proved difficult, so we have turned to eBay as a way of presenting some of the great products made by our fairtrade workshops in Nepal to a wider range of customers.

If you go onto eBay and search for 'Nepal Leprosy Trust' you will find some NLT products to browse, and we are building this collection bit by bit. Our handicraft business is no longer registered for VAT, which means our prices can be lower than before!



Felt Bracelet made by Nepal Leprosy Trust
New (other)
£4.50
Buy it Now
Free postage



Please do take a look!

More wedding bells at Lalgadh

Prakriti Subedi is the daughter of Krishna (Samuel) Subedi, a physio-technician specialising in leprosy, who was one of the original staff at Lalgadh in the early 1990s. Samuel married while at Lalgadh and Prakriti was born soon after and grew up at Lalgadh Hospital. She was one of the early members of Sunrise Academy, the little pre-school started on the compound, and went on to study medicine. Prakriti has since worked at Lalgadh for a number of years as a doctor alongside her father who is now the outpatient department manager, serving people affected by leprosy and all others who come for help. Now her life has taken a new turn with her marriage to Shishir, an ENT surgeon in Chitwan.



Prakriti with her family and her new husband Shishir

We wish them a very blessed and happy future together.

An interesting opportunity

A trust that has supported NLT in the past recently invited us to apply for an initiative it has set up, aimed at encouraging charities to find new sources of funds. It is an interesting trust, which, unlike many, realizes that charities often find it difficult to cover core costs or to think 'outside the box'.

It is offering to double all donations received from new donors, subject to several conditions:

- donations must come from a person, company or charity **that has not supported NLT before**, by 30th September;
- the minimum single donation that will be matched is £500; and the total it will match is up to £10,000;
- it will not match funds coming from fundraising (e.g. coffee mornings) or sponsored events.

The initiative aims to encourage NLT and others to find new support from organisations or philanthropists in their local area in particular (e.g. businesses, or celebrities!), although it accepts we may find new support from trusts or foundations too, and maybe not locally.

We would be grateful for your prayers as we consider whom we could approach; and if you have any suggestions, we would be grateful for those too. We'd be delighted to connect with more local organisations and churches in Richmond or the SW London area, and introduce them to the work of NLT. Richmond has many wealthy residents and 'celebrities'... but it is not easy to know where to begin in making such connections. We were invited to take part in this initiative, and think it is worth pursuing if we can.

Monsoon destruction

Nepal is a land of contrasts, which can beguile onlookers one moment and horrify them the next. High and cold mountains and hot, flat and dusty plains; poverty and a struggle for survival illuminated by traditional decorations, colourful saris and festivals; intensely poor people showing amazing hospitality; gentle rivers in beautiful surroundings becoming raging torrents destroying everything in their path.

The people of Nepal are continually hampered in their attempts to improve things - by the forces operating in business, politics, and especially nature. Monsoons are a major adversary and this year has been no exception, with early and heavy rains. The Melamchi Water Project to supply water to Kathmandu began in 1998, and had reached an 'almost complete' stage in March this year after 20 years of delays, corruption, and natural obstacles. Millions of gallons of water *per day* are to come to parched Kathmandu from the Melamchi River in the north via a new 26.5 km tunnel through rock and gravel. In March the water began to flow, and testing was under way, but then came the monsoon. On 14th June, early heavy rainfall in the mountains above Melamchi brought thousands of tons of rock and soil, from an earlier landslide high in the mountains, crashing down into the headworks and infrastructure of the water project. The flood continued down-river to destroy a large part of Melamchi town itself, and at least 20 people died and some are still missing. The water project is now buried under several metres of rock, mud and silt, rendering the project unworkable until the whole lot is dug out. This will cost up to a billion rupees. So it is once again several steps forward and several steps back for Nepal.

Please pray for the people of Nepal through this monsoon

Mainudin - Update



Those of you who receive our prayer letter will already know of the sad news that Mainudin Dafali, a greatly respected hero of our successful Stigma Elimination Programme, passed away at the end of April 2021 whilst being treated for cancer in India. At this stage we don't know if it was the cancer, the treatment, or even Covid-19 that took him, but he leaves his new wife Sakila, and their baby daughter Upsana behind. We will miss him very much in our ongoing effort to combat stigma and ignorance around leprosy.

Please pray for Mainudin's widow Sakila, as she faces a difficult future with a child but no husband to take care of her, and for our team to have wisdom in caring for them.

Covid - Update

Although much useful aid has come to Nepal from the UK and Ireland to help them deal with the pandemic, a key problem in Nepal has been the shortage of vaccines. China has donated 1.8 million doses and is to donate a further 1.6 million. India donated 1 million shots and the Covax system has provided some too. Nepal is also buying 4 million more doses from China, and some of this has arrived. So far 4% of Nepal's population have received 2 shots of vaccine, and 10% have received one shot, so there is still a long way to go.