

SIR EDMUND HILLARY'S

HIMALAYAN TRUST ANNUAL REPORT

2021





The Himalayan Trust is an international nonprofit humanitarian organisation working in the Solukhumbu Mt Everest region of Nepal.

Our aim is to improve the health, education and general wellbeing of people living in this region.

INTRODUCTION

When Sir Edmund Hillary made the first ascent of Everest in 1953, Nepal was a country of nine million people who lived almost entirely on subsistence agriculture with a small export economy of rice and jute.

Today, Nepal has a population of over 29 million people. The country no longer grows enough food to support its growing population, 49 percent of whom live below the poverty line of \$3 per day.

As Nepal changes and grows, the Himalayan Trust does too. Alongside our Nepali friends and partner organisation, Himalayan Trust Nepal. We continue to follow in Ed's footsteps by supporting Education, Healthcare and community projects.

The Himalayan Trust works hard to build resilience and provide promising futures for people in the local communities of the Solukhumbu region. This is all made possible by the support and dedication of our supporters and members in New Zealand and abroad that have given money and time over the years.

OUR APPROACH

Power in Partnership

The people and the communities of the Everest region are at the centre of all our work. Ed established the Trust to operate in an inclusive way. As such we listen to the community, provide assistance where we can, and support their vision for a better future.

Sustainable Development

We work in close partnership with local organisations in Nepal who all have unique local expertise, knowledge and experience. Working together means we can have a greater impact and ensure long-term, sustainable change.

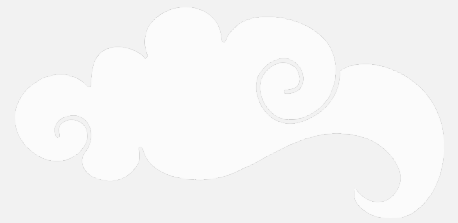
Long Term Commitment to Change

We are committed to supporting the people of Solukhumbu and the Everest region for many years to come. Our projects and actions all work towards a long term goal of breaking the cycle of poverty.



ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

This year has been an immensely challenging year. With a global pandemic having devastating effects throughout Nepal many families and communities have suffered huge losses. Our hearts go out to all those that have been affected by this tragedy.



MESSAGE FROM OUR CHAIR

Covid-19 shocked us all as it spread around the world with devastating impacts in so many countries. Every day we watched the numbers grow from thousands dead to millions and while places like NZ stayed behind our closed borders living pretty comfortable lives the circumstances for people in Nepal were grim. Even amongst our Himalayan Trust Nepal partners there were shocking impacts with the deaths of family members and all the heartbreak that comes with such losses. Nepal was in-and-out of lockdown with the risk of a generation of young people missing out on their education or at least having it compromised.

However, I am proud to report that our HTN partners have been out in the hills working with the schools we support and during the lockdowns providing radios and cheap mobile phones for students to continue their studies from home.

Khunde Hospital and its community clinics provided PPE and instruction for communities to stay safe during the spread of the pandemic.

Throughout all of this we have been in frequent contact with our partners Himalayan Trust Nepal and our CEO Dr Mingma Norbu. We are very fortunate to have such great partners in Nepal with whom we have such long and trusted relationships. HTN is our sole Nepal partner. We are very familiar with the two dimensional images of our HTN partners on innumerable video calls! It is great technology when you can not be there in person.

Here in New Zealand there have been changes in the Himalayan Trust as well. We have worked on cutting our NZ costs while increasing our fundraising targets. We have fewer NZ based staff and amongst our new recruits is my son Alexander Hillary, a Central Otago resident, who has taken on our NZ Operations Manager role.

Our primary goal for the Himalayan Trust is to deliver effective programmes in education, health, conservation and community in Solu Khumbu with successful fundraising here in New Zealand. The key is maintaining our NZ fundraising and representing New Zealand in the Mt Everest region as my father did. The Himalayan Trust and New Zealand has an enviable legacy of generosity in the Himalayas and we are committed to growing this support and ensuring our Nepalese partners have what they need to deliver successful programmes as we work through the pandemic.

Peter Hillary

A YEAR IN NUMBERS

Despite a pandemic that has swept the globe, our work has continued. Alongside our partners in Nepal, here is an insight into what we have achieved.

143

Scholarship students. 69 Male and 57 Female.

65

Schools with Stationery Support.

2

hospitals,

15

clinics and,

48

schools with COVID-19 Preventative materials.

2

Hospitals and,

7

clinics supplied with Medicine.

Patients Treated at HTNZ supported facilities:

4,078

at Khunde Hospital.

1,640

at clinics in Monju, Phortse and Thame.

850

Namche Dental Clinic

12,243

Phaplu Hospital

650

Patle Community Health Service

993

Likhu-Pikey Rural George Hunter Health Clinic

OUR IMPACT IN NEPAL



- 1 | Primary School students wearing masks in March 2021.
- 2 | New water supply at Juving School.
- 3 | Covid-19 PPE materials delivered to 18 schools in Takshindu, Junbesi, Pike and Bhakanje high school clusters in the Solududhkunda Municipality.
- 4 | Covid-19 materials handed over to Phaplu hospital.
- 5 | New Thame School Hostel completed and handed over to local School Man-

- agement Committee.
- 6 | Covid-19 preventive materials distribution in the 18 schools of Solududhkunda Municipality.
- 7 | Teaching materials being packed at HTN office before delivery to 65 different school. Materials include exam copy, paper, pens, books, files, boards, tapes and sports items, among others.



HEALTHCARE & COVID-19 REPORT

Healthcare Programme Report

The health programme in the Solu remains strong and our partner Himalayan Trust Nepal continues to oversee its implementation. The increased demands from the Covid 19 pandemic has featured large in the medical work this past year. HTNZ through focussed fund raising has been able provide \$15,959 for much needed protective equipment for both health workers and schools in the area.

Fifty five years on from its inception Kunde Hospital remains with a strong professional reputation as it responds to new challenges. Phaphlu Hospital was constructed through HT funding in 1975 it was transferred to the Nepal government in 1985. HTN continues as a conduit for operational funds raised by SEHS in Germany. This allows for some oversight and ensures that it functions efficiently. Outreach clinics are strategically placed throughout the Solu Khumbu region. Professionally trained Village Medical Assistants can be in direct communication with the base hospitals thus receiving pertinent advice as they undertake clinical work and provide health education.

The Himalayan Trust is pleased to have an ongoing relationship with the Forgotten Sherpas of Nepal Trust and their funding of village health work in the Solu region. It is gratifying to be able to devolve more of the responsibility for the delivery health care to Himalayan Trust Nepal, meanwhile remaining in close collaboration as to how they undertake this responsibility.

COVID-19 Impact

It was only a matter of time before the Covid 19 pandemic would reach the Solu-Khumbu. With no restrictions at the open Indo-Nepalese border and infected Nepalese workers returning from the Middle East. So it was no surprise that Covid cases were confirmed in Kathmandu pre-monsoon 2020. A lock-down was declared in Kathmandu and schools nation-wide were closed. Internal flights were suspended and with road traffic curtailed there was a delay time. Medical staff in the Solu-Khumbu commenced an educational programme via radio and social media.

A fund raising appeal in New Zealand met with a generous response. The American Himalayan Foundation also provided funding support for Covid 19 prevention awareness and emergency response programme at a community level. These efforts made a significant difference and Covid infection spread was curtailed.

Second Wave & Recovery

The Delta variant arrived in May with expeditions resulting in the virus spreading through villages. The setting up of a MIQ facility in Khumjung delayed the spread of the disease and provided quarantine treatment for those infected. Fortunately widespread double vaccination has been achieved in the Khumbu and the Covid infection is falling away. While economic pressures have increased the lock-down has eased and international flights have resumed. Tourists are welcomed as they will provide a much-needed economic boost to the region, and school pupils have returned to school. So it remains to be seen if Nepal, with only a partly-achieved vaccination programme, over 11,000 deaths from Covid, and an unknown collective immune status will escape an even more severe impact from the virus.

EDUCATION

The COVID-19 pandemic Turned Real in 2021

The 2020 surge of Covid infections came from India to affect the adjacent Terai and the cities such as Kathmandu but did not much penetrate the hills or mountain areas. Delta in 2021 changed all that and we increasingly began to hear of deaths in the high

altitude villages and in the more densely populated areas of the southern half of the Solu Khumbu district. Schools were closed. The trekking industry collapsed. Migrant Nepali workers in the Middle East or SE Asia were sent back to their villages where they returned to subsistence agriculture. However in the current post-monsoon season, trekkers (fully vaccinated) are returning and the daily flights have no empty seats. Normality it seems is on its way back.

Fighting COVID

Our education partner HTN (Himalayan Trust Nepal) have worked on innovative programmes to keep the students receiving some of their tuition but it is undeniable that most pupils have received compromised education over the pandemic because of all the disruptions.

NZ donors have helped generously with provision of masks and other PPE. At last in October 2021 schools have again opened and QEPS, our Quality Education Programme in Solu Khumbu has started again in classrooms.

The QEPS II Workplan

QEPS I in 2016-2019 worked on Literacy in the Khumbu schools between Lukla and Khumjung and on school-based training for Grades 3-8 in Nepali, English, Maths and Science. QEPS II moves down into Solu with continuation of Literacy training and curriculum in a total of 73 schools.

Solu is different from Khumbu. The people are predominantly Rai, Chetri, Tamang, Sherpa and Kulung among others rather than just Sherpa. The warmer, moister climate grows crops more easily. The mountains are on the horizon, not looming overhead. There are not many lodges or trekkers but this will change as visitors on their second visit to Nepal decide to enter Solu and discover the pleasures of moving in a culture which is subtly different from that of the Everest mountain region.

Being Inclusive

It needs to be remembered that when Ed's first school was built in Khumjung in 1961 there were few schools in rural Nepal except in Kathmandu. In the 1960's most of the students were boys however for many years now there have been as many girls as boys in Solu Khumbu schools. Illiterate parents were very aware of the disadvantage for their children due to a lack of basic education and literacy and they strongly supported their local schools. Children who are dalits, the lowest caste, are now attending school as are children with disabilities.

As with any group of children, their educational and vocational outcomes vary. These are poor communities and so some leave school early because their families need them to earn an income or work on the family farm. Other students go on to tertiary education in Kathmandu, some of them assisted by Himalayan Trust scholarships to enable them to become teachers, nurses, business people, doctors, engineers and tourism operators. Their success stories are often remarkable. (probably put this little story in italics)

Ang Zangbu grew up in a poor family who would hunt in the forest for berries and mushrooms in spring and late winter when food was short. He tried school at the age of six but the strange squiggles of the Nepali alphabet were no more than an unsettling mystery to him. But three years later he returned to school and a miracle happened. Suddenly he was reading words and numbers. He had always been fascinated by the planes that flew into Lukla. At the age of 19, helped by a foreign donor, he was enrolled in a pilot training course. Now he flies Boeings in Europe.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Balance Overview and Financial Statement

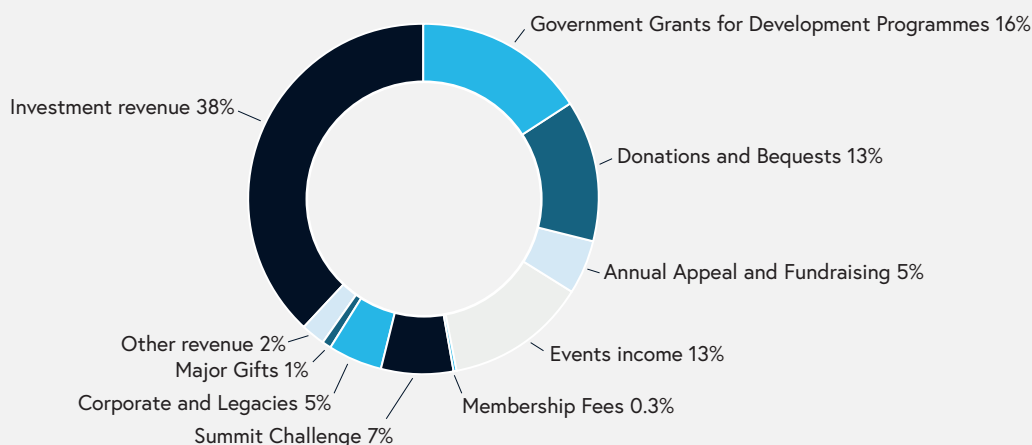
The Himalayan Trust has had a successful year financially, assisted by generous donations from our supporters, a government grant, and the investment performance of the endowment fund. The Himalayan Trust board and employees have worked hard to create a sustainable balance sheet and budget, to ensure continuity of funding for our programmes in Nepal and for occasional emergency situations as well.

Lastly, the Himalayan Trust board

is in the final stages of preparing a Statement of Investment Policies & Objectives (SIPO) to grow the endowment fund left by Ed Hillary, in order to secure the Himalayan Trust for generations to come.

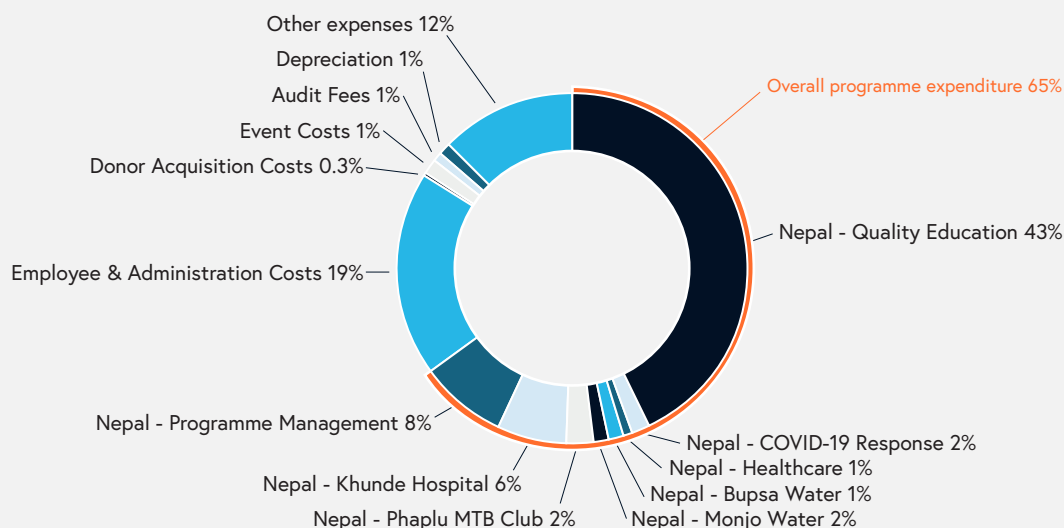
INCOME

Total income for year ending 30 June, 2021
\$1,404,850



EXPENDITURE

Total expenditure for year ending 30 June, 2021
\$947,306



FUNDRAISING OVERVIEW

The Himalayan Trust would like to thank our committed and generous supporters over this past year. These donors and fundraising participants have made our campaigns a success despite the challenges of the pandemic.

Summit Challenge

The fourth year of Summit Challenge (SC) was a huge success with 225 participants signing up for the different challenges to enable them to achieve the maximum vertical metres and raising a total of \$92,088. SC 2021 received donations from 1102 different donors at an average donation of \$75.36. We also saw a record amount of awareness and interest through the new social media marketing strategy which was developed with the aim to target broader demographics such as in the 'sport' and 'challenge' interest, as opposed to solely focussing on 'Nepal' interest demographics.



In addition to healthy online dialogue and blogging we saw some fantastic gatherings of challengers in Christchurch, Auckland and Wellington.

Summit Challenge 2021 was supported by our new partnership with the International Antarctic Centre (IAC) in Christchurch, who were hugely supportive in the campaigns marketing and planning. IAC and the Himalayan Trust also formed a new trip as part of the SC campaign called the Mt Cook fundraising expedition. IAC's support of this trip made it possible for us to share some of Ed Hillary's favourite mountains with our supporters and to celebrate the work of the Himalayan Trust.

Two very notable successes by SC 2021 participants were the fundraising achievements of Ang Zangbu Sherpa who is a Khumjung School graduate and 787 Pilot in Frankfurt who raised \$10,512 through his campaign. Another remarkable achievement was Alastair McDowells month of ascents throughout the Southern Alps that led to him accumulate 40,258 vertical metres... a staggering 1,300 vertical metres a day.

Everest Day

On the 29th May 1953 Sir Edmund Hillary and Sherpa Tenzing Norgay successfully completed the first ascent of Mt Everest.

To celebrate this memorable achievement and honour the lasting legacy of Sir Ed and the impact he made to the people of the Everest Region the Himalayan Trust launched Everest Day, their inaugural national fundraising and awareness appeal.

Everest Day 2021 was a huge success both financially as well as promoting the event and the work of the Trust to the NZ Community. Over \$175,000 was raised against a budget of \$60,000 and the event received extensive media coverage through the NZME Radio network and news stories on Newshub and TVONE and the print media. The primary fundraising vehicles for the campaign were as follows:

- The Fiver-for-Ed appeal where the NZ public was invited to donate \$5 through www.fiver-for-ed.nz. This appeal was promoted through using a range of social media platforms and was spearheaded by our Ambassadors and high profile NZ Business people and celebrities. The Fiver for Ed appeal raised over \$70,000 from 1547 donors at an average donation of \$45 per donor.
- The COVID-19 Direct Marketing Appeal which targeted our supporters and raised over \$55,000 from 189 donors at an average donation of \$291 per donor. Funds raised went towards purchasing PPE Equipment and supporting the front line health workers in Nepal.
- A range of fundraising activities organized by our supporters were held nation wide including Schools; NZ Businesses; NZ Nepali Assoc; Waikato University Hillary Scholars and Alumni and Hermitage Mt Cook to name just a few. Funds raised from these activities totalled \$45,000.

Plans are underway for Everest Day 2022 and in 2023 Everest Day will focus very much on the 70th anniversary of the first ascent of Mt Everest with events in Nepal and NZ. Stay tuned!

Marketing and Communications Strategy

This year we engaged the services of a digital marketing specialist; Casey Hemingway to assist with the Summit and Descent Challenges. In October, we have brought on Casey as the Trusts Marketing Manager with the goal of growing our fundraisers and expanding our support base.

2021 saw the Himalayan Trust's marketing efforts evolve dramatically. With a focus on growing awareness of the Trust with younger Kiwis, we had to develop modern marketing strategies that leveraged social media advertising to reach and engage this new audience. Early results were promising with Summit and Descent Challenge raising over \$100,000 thanks to the great fundraising efforts of our enthusiastic challengers.

Over the next few years, we will be expanding our digital marketing efforts to raise awareness nationally and broaden our base of loyal supporters. This work includes updating the website and donation platform, developing a communications strategy that incentivises regular giving, and refining our approach to advertising with a focus on effectiveness.

THANK YOU

The Himalayan Trust would like to thank you all for your generous support over the past year.

It has been a challenging year for the Everest region and the world, but thanks to you and your support, we were able to respond quickly to the pandemic.

Now we are doubling down on our commitment to our core missions and ensuring that COVID-19 is no longer a barrier to the people of the Everest region receiving Education and Healthcare.

We would like to thank our members and regular givers for their unfailing support. We also would like to thank those people and organisations who have supported and engaged in our fundraising campaigns:

Everest day.

Josh and Helen Emmett, Helen Clark, Phurenje Sherpa, Sir Michael Hill, Trelise Cooper, Sam Neill, Dan Carter, Sir Richard Taylor, Sky City Entertainment, SCO Consulting, Nepal New Zealand Society, Comvita, Victoria Ave Primary School, Sir Edmund Hillary Collegiate, Ellerslie/Onehunga Lions Club.

Summit Challenge.

Miranda Satterthwaite, Phurenje Sherpa, Ang Zangbhu Sherpa, Alastair McDowell, Sarah Hillary, Michael Gill and the International Antarctic Centre.

Descent Challenge.

Guy Cotter and Suze Kelly, Harper Sounness, Jen Houltham, Cardrona and Treble Cone Ski Fields, Edmund Hillary Collection

We also acknowledge the invaluable ongoing support from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade.

The Himalayan Trust values our connections with many international organisations working in Nepal, including American Himalayan Foundation, dZi Foundation, Sir Edmund Hillary Foundation (Canada), Sir Edmund Hillary Stiftung (Germany), Australian Himalayan Foundation, Himalayan Trust UK; in particular the Himalayan Trust Nepal without which our work would not be possible.



Our work would not be possible without you

Get involved in other ways and support the Himalayan Trusts work with communities in Nepal:

Organise a fundraising event: There are so many fun and creative ways our supporters have been raising money for us: mufti days, bake sales, quizzes, Fiver for Ed days, auctions and dinners. If you would like to organise your own fundraising event, we'd love to hear from you.

Sign up for a challenge: Sign up for a challenge! Summit Challenge in March, and Descent Challenge in August for a physical challenge that will motivate and inspire, while doing good for the people of Solukhumbu.

Give a Fiver for Ed: A Fiver for Ed is part of our annual fundraiser: Everest Day, which is held on the 29 May. Get involved to celebrate Ed's Himalayan legacy and the lasting relationship between Nepal and New Zealand.

Trek with us: Join our trek in May, 2023 to the Everest Region for the 70th anniversary of the ascent of Everest.

Leave a legacy: By remembering the Himalayan Trust in your will, you will enable us to continue Sir Ed's legacy of helping the people of Nepal for generations to come. Contact fundraise@himalayantrust.org

Regular giving: Our founder, Ed Hillary wrote in his will: "I declare that I have had a full life with much happiness and a share of sadness. I have little cause for complaint. If however some people in New Zealand feel I have made some contribution to the prestige of my country then they could best demonstrate this by continuing modest support to the Himalayan People I have worked with for so many years."

Learn more at www.himalayantrust.org

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The Himalayan Trust is a registered charity with the New Zealand Charities Commission, registration CC39393.