



## Himalayan Projects npo

Leiselestraat 138, 8200 Sint-Michiels Belgium

☎ 00 32 (0)50 385704 📠 0488 380 277

Projectacc. Bic: BBRUBEBB – Ibannr.: BE14 3800 1081 6783

[Himalayanprojects@gmail.com](mailto:Himalayanprojects@gmail.com) – [www.himalayanprojects.org](http://www.himalayanprojects.org)

### Namaste geachte donors, sponsors en sympathisanten,

The earthquake has been almost 2 years ago, it seems like an eternity. However, there is still plenty of work to do. Rebuilding will take years to complete, but let's be positive. "Ripples in an ocean of mountains."

For example, we are now thinking of the very first need of man (and animals and plants): water. That's where it starts. Hundreds of villages have no safe or no water anymore due to the earthquake. So we decided to help two villages with the water supply: one in the south for the landless and one in the epicentre of the **NEPALQUAKE 2015**.

Doctor cum dentist Jan Dryhoel was again the **Bsure-team** leader for our medical camps. Because we notice the great need for medical help with him, we call on doctors, dentists and nurses. And we are making ambitious plans to convert a 4x4 bus into a mobile station! Read more further on in this newsletter: we will definitely be able to use your help.

Our permanent project schools in Chitre and Chinnebas were of course not neglected. They were each visited by an American and Belgian volunteer teacher to do quality education. We also make educational boxes to reach out to even more schools.

In the meantime, our medical post in Chitre received a new, fully trained nurse.

With many greetings from Paul Vande Moortel, chairman, Nita Buduza Pun and the Bsure team.



In this report you'll find:  
Bsure-team on medical tour.



Water for 'Sweetwater-town'



Toilets for kindergarten



Nepalquake: Siling part 2



Future projects & actions



A mobile healthpost?



## Benefit evening

Welcome on 8 april at 19:00 in:  
Koetshuis, Kasteel van Wippelgem  
Kramerstraat 6 at 9940 Evergem

There are snacks with a Nepalese welcome dance, information about Nepal and our projects, authentic Nepalese meal and a slide report of our last sponsor trip in October 2016.

Entrance is € 20.00 (€ 10 children) and reservations can be made via our email, phone or with Dr. Jan on 0476 499 732.

## Finally water for the town 'Sweetwater'.

"What's in a name?" When I heard about the village "Freshwater" I immediately thought of lakes and ponds where water would be abundant. Unfortunately, this vast village of "landless" on the edge of the jungle and foot hills of the Himalayas had to make do in the dry season with 2 hours a day (!?) Of water for two hours. The residents, Tamangs who originally come mainly from the high mountains north of the capital Kathmandu, have descended in large numbers to the south in recent decades and have slowly plowed the jungle into fields. However, they cannot present title to property and so they remain officially deprived of government services, although they have lived there for generations. There is electricity supply and roads are being built. But then again no access to water?

These 220 families had been saving for years to tap their own water, but they could not manage it because inflation even exceeded the growth of their piggy bank. That is why we decided to make up for the difference and found a drilling company that found water at 78 meters depth and installed a pump. Unfortunately, the pump never worked as the promised 3-phase electricity did not materialize, despite political promises. So we had to look for alternatives. A diesel generator was the easiest solution, but we did not think that was mainly due to ecological considerations, regardless of whether the villagers could continue to pay the expensive maintenance costs and diesel.

A new company was found who installed an Italian solar-powered pump. This led to significant additional costs but now they have unlimited water supply. A maintenance house was built with 2 5000l water tanks and 10 solar panels on it.

Later on this system is expandable to provide LED lighting in the vicinity. All-in-all, we think we can call this project a success, from which we also learned a lot. A first experience in much needed water supply.



### Where all the Emergency relief goes to:

In the wake of the great earthquake of April 2015, many solidarity actions were launched nationally and internationally.

Unfortunately, the government was silent for a long time. Private and small-scale NGO activity became the norm and some visible aid in Nepal, so new rules were introduced. All major INGOs had to deposit their funds directly into a government account. Then they can submit a project proposal. If approved, it can be carried out under the supervision of a government official, otherwise the money is allocated by the government itself to its own project. Master plans are drawn up and constantly adapted, because every politician wants to exert his influence, usually expensive, grand solutions that are barely feasible.

However, there are enough alternative building methods that are very cheap and for which the old building blocks can be reused. With minor extra adjustments this can be made earthquake resistant - on the photo an example of the insertion of bamboo in the walls Information videos can be found on "Youtube", also in Nepalese.



New rules also apply to us: for example, we must set up a local NGO for official aid or work via another NGO and / or government. Since we would like to remain independent and focused without too much overhead, we have submitted an application for **Himalaya Pariyojana Nepal** NGO, of which Nita Buduja Pun will be Chairman, since foreigners are not allowed to be members. And now wait for the signatures! As a Nepalese NGO, we will be able to help government schools and hospitals, for example. Frankly, in the area where we've been working for years and where everyone knows us, no one cares. However, it is currently difficult to work, especially in the epicenter of the earthquake region. So we hope for an OK. Emergency relief finished after Nepalquake: water for Siling, Manakamana.





Emergency shelters

In small water projects, there is rarely interference and obstruction, and we were able to continue working in Siling, Manakama, Gorkha district, after providing all the villagers with emergency materials and holding medical camps there a year ago (see photo on the left).



Incapsulated water source

The earthquake has disrupted their water management, so we urgently had to intervene. Waiting for government assistance takes too long and is very uncertain, unless a large official comes from your village, which is not the case here. Together with the (especially) the young people among the villagers - this is one of the few villages with a balanced population - we looked for a new source. We found it at a distance of one and a half kilometers and 146 meters lower, but because a river flows over it, it had to be shielded from any infiltration (monsoon time) of surface water.



30000 liters storage tank

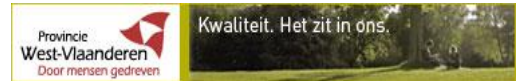
In the meantime, the works are already very advanced. The source is encapsulated, but at our request it is protected even better to prevent contamination. A tube brings the water by means of gravity to a first concrete filtration tank (sand and stones). Then it continues into a larger round concrete storage tank (after all, round is earthquake-resistant).



Now the hardest part is yet to come. This water must be pumped up 146 meters to the supply tanks on the slope just above the village. This is a complex and expensive installation. We are going to install an Italian pump that can pump the water up in one go. The government will supply the 3-phase electricity, provided we buy and install the cables and poles.

We hope to be ready by the next monsoon, so by June. The source will eventually be able to supply around 24,000 liters per day, which should be sufficient for the entire village, their livestock and fields.

I would especially like to mention here the special commitment of the entire village community, who do all the grinding and cutting work for free. We can do a lot together.



## Bsure-team on its 4th tour in Nepal.

Also in the fall we again had a medical team from Belgium visit with the relentless Dr. Jan Dryhoel, for a month. He first visited our permanent medical post in Chitre, then set up some shorter camps near Pokhara. Then we went south for a week, to our "water village" Jutpani, where we luckily could spend the night in the nearby nature park and enjoyed some tourist atmosphere.

Since these camps are always overrun by the sick and people with dental problems, Dr. Jan needs reinforcement. An urgent appeal to doctors, dentists and nurses to join our Bsure team as a volunteer. Do contact us!



As you will soon see in Dr. Read Jan's report that it takes a lot of sailing and the rental of expensive jeeps to set up these camps, which also involve a lot of time loss.

That is why we are planning to purchase a 4x4 bus and set it up as a mobile aid station. This will be an expensive investment for us (€ 60,000). Moreover, we want to use that bus as much as possible. For these reasons we try to cooperate with the local Red Cross: they can use the same bus with Nepalese doctors during our absence or use it to organize information and awareness campaigns in remote villages and centers.

It will be our largest investment price project to date; hopefully we can count on your help for sponsorship.

This project can help alleviate many concerns for many years. Benefit and proceeds from parties and birthdays are therefore more than welcome. Do you help?

## Dr. Jan reports: Nepal medical trip from 8 till 26 October.

*After a successful flight to Kathmandu and a connecting domestic flight to warm and sunny Pokhara, Paul was waiting for me at the airport. Arriving at our quiet Pun House headquarters, I moved into my familiar room with a view of three + 8000m mountains after which we could start stocking up on the material, replenishing the supply of medication and planning for the - perhaps busy - next days.*

*It was the period of Dashain (the annual big festival and big holiday) when most of them left on a family visit, and few porters could be found. We had a lot to drag along, going on foot was not an option, so we decided to leave early the next day with all our equipment in the car to Beni. From there we could reach Chitre in about six hours with the help of Deepak and his tractor. A hellish journey in the body of a tractor is no laughing matter, and certainly not worth repeating. It had been dark for a while when we arrived. After a delicious dal-bhat, the daily hot meal of the Nepalese, we settled in a good mood again.*

*The next day we arranged the medical post, replenished the supplies and flew in because meanwhile patients had already arrived.*

*I worked there for 9 days, again with a large influx of patients, even from villages 6 hours walk away (and up and down!). I was again running back and forth from the dental chair to the consultation room.*

*Fortunately there was Ganga, the nurse, to conduct a little and in the afternoon there was Didi (local representative and oldest sister of Nita) to provide me with a soup.*

*A stroke of luck: the power supply has improved, so that there is only an occasional gap in my working day. In any case, we had brought our Honda generator with us to be on the safe side.*

*After this medical camp, we returned to Pokhara by Deepak's bus, the same bus that crashed a week later due to faulty brakes and Deepak broke both legs. Phew, luckily I escaped that (Deepak is still recovering after months).*

*Back in Pokhara a day of rest, and then for 2 days to Kalika, a village high above Pokhara. Beautifully situated in the mountains around Pokhara, with mighty views of the Annapurna chain.*

*I, was warmly received by the village committee. People were already waiting at the medical post and after the necessary welcome speeches and wreaths I was able to get started. In two (hard) days I cared for a hundred patients. Fortunately, I had the assistance of a young man who understood some English, but you still feel the lack of a good nurse or assistant.*

*Most of the work involved dental care, but given the large number of patients, I was only able to provide basic care, so I had to change my schedule.*

*Continued on next page.*



## Dr. Jan continuous:

Paul Vande Moortel, our chairman, had meanwhile traveled to Jutpani, a small village in the south to prepare things and to inform the surrounding villages of my arrival.

The next morning I followed him by jeep. A long drive on miserable roads to the very warm south, in the vicinity of the famous Chitwan Natural Park. I ended up there in a small rural village, where almost exclusively survival farmers live. It is calm and Paul is already checking the works on the water project. Here, Himalayan Projects is building a solar-powered pump installation to provide this village with drinking water.

After lunch, we settled in a house under construction and started working. Here again an influx of patients, and it was dark before we returned to Sauraha to find accommodation. Two young ladies with reasonable English skills assisted me all the time, which was a very appreciated help.

The next day we returned to Jutpani early and worked all day. We were able to take care of 85 patients. It was not easy to work there: the heat, no medical chair (forgot to bring), working in an unfinished house with no toilet nearby.

As mentioned above, it would be ideal to purchase and convert a bus, containing the essentials for medical and dental care in the villages. We no longer have to rely on carriers or jeeps to transport our material, we don't have to look for a place to work, nor do we have to repair the entire rim afterwards. With some folding beds in it, we don't have to keep returning to our headquarters in Pokhara, due to a lack of hotels in non-tourist areas.

Given the long way back we cleared everything around 4 am and drove to Sauraha. The next day there was an 8am drive to Pokhara, where we arrived late at night after some close-by contacts on the road with trucks with one or no lights.

The next day I flew to Kathmandu to pick up a group of friends and sponsors who went on an immersion trip to visit the projects of Himalayan Projects they support. See our following report.



A special thanks for the support by GIFT npo (Gent's International Fund for a better future of the Rotary club Eastcoast).

## Travel report sponsortrip Nepal from 27 October till 16 November 2016.

Reeds lang koesterden enkele leden van de **Conditie Gym Club** van 'Rap en Vrank' de wens om na de vele mondelinge verslagen en fotoreportages, met eigen ogen te zien wat ons werk ginds in dat mysterieuze land Nepal inhield.

On October 28, 2016, the group of 7 sponsors and sympathizers of the Himalayan Projects vzw arrived in the capital Kathmandu, at 1400m. At the airport they were met by doctor Jan who brought them to the perfectly located Back Yard hotel, in the center of Thamel, the tourist area. Most historical sites were explored during the first two days. We were amazed that there was still a lot of damage from the 2015 earthquake, and also that the reconstruction was virtually non-existent. Here and there, manual cleaning was still carried out and there was a hesitant start to reconstruction. Many of the historic buildings were either completely destroyed or ready for demolition. The hectic Kathmandu, with all its temples, the bustling population, the ritual burnings, the many monasteries made a big impression.



Aankomst in resort in Manakamana

On Oct. 30, we flew to Pokhara, where we moved into the Pun House (Himalayan Projects HQ). After some sightseeing of the city and a visit to the beautiful Mountain museum we got up early because the next day we started our hike to Chitre (2400m). Via Ulleri we climbed the series of endless stairs to Ghorepani (2900m), for some of us already an ordeal and a difficult start to a ten-day trek to Mardi Himal. After the climb to Pun Hill (3120m) for the "sunrise" (early, cold, lots of people and noise) we descended to Chitre. On November 1 we visited our medical post extensively, with a few interventions for a photo-session. Then it went to the school and the youth center. A taste of what Himalayan Projects has achieved here so far.

The next morning, the sunrise view on our home mountain, the Daulaghiri (8178m), was much more impressive. We then left with guide Mane and porters for an eight-day trip to the base camp in the Mardi Himal (Mardi Mountains). A trekking that took us through the jungle, through beautiful valleys and along villages where the real rural life of Nepal is still alive. The ultimate trip to MHBC, at 4500m, went under radiant weather. Most were impressed by the beautiful views of the eternally snowy and 8091m high Annapurna mountain range and the sacred Machapuchre (fish-tail). Descending we were surrounded by rising clouds, but with the shower and the birthday cake for one of the group members, the fatigue was quickly forgotten. The walk back to crowded Pokhara city was at a rapid pace, so we could enjoy the beautiful valley we crossed a little too little.



Viewpoint Machapuchre Base Camp



Paragliding in Pokhara

After a day of rest, a visit to the beautiful peace stupa on Phewa Lake, and a day of wonderful paragliding, it was time to visit another project, the school in Chinnebas. After a long adventurous jeep ride we were festively welcomed in the nearby mother house of Aggridanda, and after the traditional dal-bhat meal, already highly appreciated by most of us, we got a sample of Nepalese hospitality in the school. Dancing, singing, speeches, a tour of the school and the rituals for the laying of a nursery toilet will be remembered for a long time.

The next day we left for Siling (the ruined village we rebuilt), where we visited the water project. The trip there started in a minor key because there was a strike by the Maoists (who once started the war), so we drove to our nearby resort in column and under police supervision. After a quick lunch at the River Side Resort we left again by jeep to Siling. There, too, we received a festive welcome and saw how hard the Nepalese worked with limited resources. There were still silent witnesses to the earthquake, and medical help was needed. After a night's sleep we drove back to Kathmandu.

This long trip was concluded with a visit to the severely destroyed Swayambunath (monkey temple) and a day trip to Bhaktapur and Kirtipur. For most, it was their first time visiting Nepal and thanks to the efforts of Himalayan Projects and the Eastern Light Trek team, it became an unforgettable trip.

The combination of trekking with visits to places where tourists do not normally come and where Himalayan Projects offers medical and structural help, has opened the eyes for most of the reasons why aid is so needed in Nepal and what actually happens with the donations to the non-profit organization.



Reception in Chinnebas.

## Our schoolproject in Chinnebas:

Since many years we are slowly but surely rebuilding and renewing the secondary school. What we achieved so far:

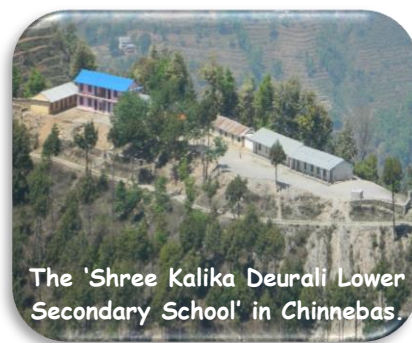
- 2 new kindergarten classrooms with playground,
- 4 class building in reinforced concrete for secondary classes,
- Water supply and toilets with septic tank,
- Income gate and partial compound wall.

In the meantime, it appears that the toilet building is just a little too far from the nursery classes and the children often fail or barely make it, with all the inconveniences this entails. That is why we have now started building an extra toilet right next to their classes. The first stone was laid with an appropriate ceremony in the presence of the visiting sponsor group (see travel report above). This small project is co-sponsored by the **Kerun association** and a grant from the **municipality of Grimbergen**, for which we thank them.

In the next phase we will break down 5 dilapidated classes and replace them with 1 large class and a meeting room. Why four classes less? Contrary to our original plan and the aspirations of the village, there appear to be insufficient pupils (270 and 30 too few) to get permission for a full-fledged secondary school. Now the permit only goes to grade 8 (or 1st degree in our terms).

That is why we demolished the old teachers' room and installed it in the new building. In the meeting room that we are going to build, meetings and group programs can also be organized during the rainy season. Later we will make a complete closure around the school and we hope to finish the infrastructure works here. Now we want to shift the focus to a qualitative interpretation. For example, in July and August, an English-speaking volunteer teacher goes to work and the Bsurre medical team visits a medical camp for the children and the villagers in the autumn. Our educational suitcases that we are making will come in handy here.

There remains the problem of the lack of teachers. There are extra teachers, but they get hardly paid from private local donations and school fees. With some monthly regular sponsors we can give them a decent salary. And finally we can give the children uniforms, so that they all have the same clean clothes.



## Moeder comity house in Aggridanda

We also visited the mother house in nearby Aggridanda several times, including with a delegation from the Kerun association who also contributed to this project. Our secretary Nita Buduja was there for the first time. After a warm welcome and a visit to the facilities, we discussed the problem of a fence: the building is on a ledge with steep slopes on three sides, which can be dangerous. We prefer a traditional wall of local boulders edged with cement, rather than the proposed barbed-wire concrete pillars, mainly for aesthetic and sustainability reasons.

Meanwhile, we already provided a budget to install electricity with LED lighting, which is now widely available, a godsend for the low-electricity Nepal.



## The Kerun society reports:

### MESSAGE

#### ON BEHALF OF KERUN SCHOOL PROJECTS

Since our visit at the end of 2015, where we were shown the plans for the Aggridanda community house, about six months passed before we returned to visit our family. We insisted that they see firsthand what we are doing and what they are involved in through all kinds of actions.

In the first place we wanted to show the development of the secondary school of Chinnebas, for which we have been looking for support for several years now.

However, our Nepalese friends had planned the inauguration party of the community house when we arrived. The villagers were in an exuberant mood, the ladies in their beautiful costumes. The brass band provided the musical setting for the entry and academic session, followed by a meal and dance party.

Although we are only part sponsor of the building, the village community showed its gratitude and we received confirmation that we are "doing well" here. This simple building will strengthen the solidarity of the population and increase their self-esteem. This will stop the emptying of the village.

This was followed by a ceremony in the school with speeches and a tour of the new classes that are now in full use. A new building has also been started that will be set up as a computer room and where the laptops, sponsored by HS Space (spin-off from ESA), will be built.

A final decision has been made about the row of dilapidated classes: these will be demolished (or have they already been?) And replaced by one class and an open covered hall as a playground (from the rain and the sun), meeting room, multipurpose event space. Once this is over, our concern will be to supplement the wages of a few extra teachers so that we not only improve the level of the school, but also the content of the school.

We thank our sponsors-donors for the trust and hope that we can continue to count on you in the future.

Deposits (one-off or with a permanent order) are welcome on the account of the VZW with the mention "support for Chinnebas".

Written by  
Hedwig Racquet.



Small black and white mix well.



Hedwig & family in Aggridanda.

### Nearby Chinnebas:

In another district, we help to finish a semi-finished mother committee house. Partly due to the newly imposed building regulations of the government, their own budget was insufficient. Their allowance went fully into making the concrete pillars.

Finally, we have built a volleyball court in the area for the local youth clubs. Of course we also provided game equipment.



Another mother committee house under construction



Volleyball field in Chinnebas



## Our medical post in Chitre, Myagdi.

As mentioned, in the medical post we had Dr. Jan visiting for a 14-day medical camp. you read that in his report and that of the tour group. Writer Paul went with him as his escort and sometimes assistant, made some repairs, covered the windows with white plastic to maximize the privacy of the exam room, and made arrangements with the local committee. The dental cabinet also needs repairs, but we cannot get a local technician on site because of the distance and distance. So far, Dr. Jan and I are kind enough to keep everything going. An example: for a second time there was a lot of damage from mice again, although we brought a firm stock of grains from Belgium for it. For example, the post could have burned down if I had not accidentally decided to connect the generator directly to the dental cabinet instead of the entire medical post due to a lack of electricity during our medical camp. The mice had already nestled in the electrical box and the wires were exposed to each other. When asked why our nurse does not use the poison, the explanation was that it did not work, and we found that the boxes were unopened. Well, it does not work like that. When our invoices also turned out to be half-eaten, it was a matter of "staying calm".



Probably not related to this experience, but just a month ago, after our return to Belgium, there was another commotion. At a local village meeting, our regular nurse Ganga unexpectedly submitted her resignation. Fortunately, thanks to Narayan Pun, our local fixer, we soon found a new nurse, a fully trained person from a neighboring village, just graduated and thus better qualified. However, due to the sudden departure of Ganga, no transfer has happened. Now we don't know how she practically ran that post. There is a lot involved: the patient files, the registration, purchase and sale of medicines, maintenance, accounting and everything else. However, by

telephone contact it is clear that our new nurse knows the ropes. The locals are delighted with her. Good news, because medical care is her main task. We will teach her the administration and relatives on our next visit in April. Doctor Jan Dryhoel will be back later this year for what will already be his fifth working visit

This proves once again that Nepalese are by nature real survivors. Hopefully we will be OK for a few years, because usually fully trained nurses cannot be found easily as they usually go abroad. Our medical post therefore continues to guarantee a minimum of medical care for the entire valley, which is our objective.



## Our very first project: the 'Shree Lali Gurans Primary School' in Chitre.

Our primary school in Chitre, our very first project, continues to do well. Admittedly, there are a lot fewer children than in the beginning. The past civil war, the slow progress of village development, the suction effect of cities and abroad and now also the consequences of the earthquake do not help. Nevertheless, we continue to support all children with free education, free medical and dental care.

Here too, however, a teacher suddenly resigned, but we now have three paid teachers left. This is sufficient because Western volunteers also regularly come to help for a while and, above all, build quality. For example, Georges Cappelle is working there a second time, although he now divides his time between Chitre and two primary schools in neighboring villages (Phalate and Swantha). He also helps us complete the educational cases that we hope to be able to use in other schools soon. In this way we reach more and more children.

**In 2016 Georges taught three months in our Chitre-school, and here follows his personal experiences as told by himself:**



The 'Shree Lali Gurans Primary School'.



**Educational project,  
2400m up in the  
village of Chitre with  
Dhaulagiri, 8178m high  
as a backdrop!**



*Nepal is a developing country with opportunities and obstacles. The impressive "Himalayan" mountains and the vast expanses of natural parks and forests in a subtropical climate attract many tourists from all over the world. On the other hand, the inadequate infrastructure and the immense differences in the standard of living of the population are striking obstacles in the growth towards well-being for everyone. In the mountain villages you notice a strong social bond between the residents. Buddhism and Hinduism with all kinds of rituals are the most striking philosophies of life.*

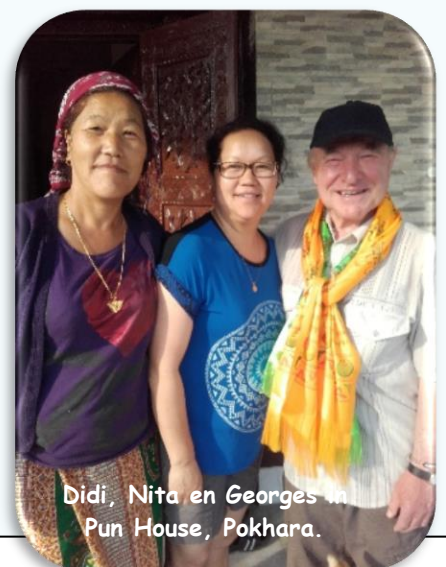
*I was lucky enough to start an education project in collaboration with vzw Himalayan Projects in the primary school in Chitre, located at the foot of the impressive Annapurna mountains. This school was formerly founded by the above-mentioned non-profit organization (). The children in the mountain village live in simple farming families and travel a long distance on foot to reach the school. Brave and admirable! As everywhere in the world, the level of education depends very much on the education and commitment of the teachers. In my opinion, the teachers have insufficient substantive and didactic background and their didactic techniques are limited. Yet they are open to change and innovation, and they are very grateful. Moreover, I experience a close social bond there.*

*The children and teachers use very outdated textbooks and they have little or no learning resources and didactic media. As prescribed in the textbooks, both children and teachers use basic mathematical operations. There is little insight and creativity and the automatisms are often absent. On the other hand, the children learn to speak, understand and write English at an early age. I was positively surprised at the English vocabulary of some of the highest class students. Other children who are often absent (because of help at home) perform remarkably less. The children, in imitation of the teacher, sometimes pronounce English incorrectly.*

*In mathematics lessons I made use of didactic media in which the structure and insight are central: number images (squares), hundred field, abacus, paper abacus ... These media undoubtedly promote the learning pleasure of the children. Due to the appropriate problem definition, they felt very involved in the educational learning process. Insights could be applied in analogous situations. Adding 36 and 99 became a breeze. You add 100 and you reduce the sum by 1. In this way, they were confronted with mental arithmetic, making use of arithmetic advantages by appealing to all kinds of properties. These math exercises and the math problems were a challenge for them, they fascinated them and they stimulated transfer.*

*In the English lessons I appealed to themes from their world: on the farm, my body, my class, my school... We watched videos, listened to accompanying English children's songs, played all kinds of situations in role and simulation games and practiced the learning content in using games and assignments (charade, drawing ...). The stories of Bouba & Zaza (Unesco edition) and English fairy tales not only offered good English. The children were also introduced to the message and the values incorporated in these texts (tolerance, respect, living with diversity ...). These contents were also implemented and evaluated by, among other things, game form and drawings ... Each teacher gradually learned to use the newly recruited materials in order to improve the teaching quality.*

***A unique and unforgettable experience. Georges Cappelle, Torhout.  
Thanks also to the Province of West Flanders for their support.***



*Didi, Nita en Georges in  
Pun House, Pokhara.*

## News from our other joint-ventures:

- Nepali Child vzw; they collect funds for an orphanage / student house in Balaju, Kathmandu. • In addition to sponsoring school fees after the earthquake,
- Aasha Project mainly focused on the reconstruction of private houses and the provision of microfinance. Extensive report is sent to their dedicated sponsors.

## What we are planning in 2017:

- In **Chinnebas** we break down 5 dilapidated classes and create **2 classes and meeting hall with podium**. There will also be a water tank on the existing toilet complex and a fence around the schoolyard.
- In the village of **Rakhu**, Myagdi district, we are going to rebuild the school and ask them for computers. •
- **Electricity supply** and fence making for the mother committee house in **Aggridanda**.
- Further refine the **educational boxes** for loan to schools.
- Completion of two **mother committee houses** in the districts of **Chinnebas**.
- **Dr. Jan** of the **Bsure-team** comes for a medical camp in our medical post in Chitre, as well as in the Chinnebas school. • Making earthquake resistant of the infrastructure that we have already built in the past.

## Actions in Belgium:

In Belgium we have school promotions and we do a number of festivals with our info and / or cooking stand; a.o. :

- School actions in the:
  - BBS "De Wissel" van Puurs,
  - Sint-Rembert school group of Torhout,
  - Free Baschool De Leeuw van Zedelgem,
  - Free Primary School "The Mosaic" of Roosbeek-Boutersem,
  - Departments A and B of the Municipal Primary School of Sint-Michiels,
  - Municipal primary school of Sleidinge (Evergem),
- Cooking stand at the World Party at Den Bruul in Leuven on Saturday 3 June,
- Information stand at the 'Feest in 't Park in the Minnewaterpark in Bruges on Saturday June 24th.
- Information stand at 'Couleur aan Zee' around 8 July at the Casino of Middelkerke.
- Benefit in the Castle of Wippelgem on April 8 (see announcement on the first page)
- A second benefit will follow on June 11, see insert below:

The Kerun Society and Himalayan Projects npo cortially invite you to our  
**NEPALDAY** in favor of our Chinnebas school

This, on 11th of June 2017 in the parish hall Heyenbeek, Verbrande Brug in  
Grimbergen from 12pm till 19pm.

Info-booth, Nepalese snacks and full course dinner, Nepalese performances by a  
traditionele folk dance group and slide projection about our school projects.

More details and information from April 2<sup>nd</sup> 2017 on [www.kerun.be](http://www.kerun.be) of  
[www.himalayanprojects.org](http://www.himalayanprojects.org)

Reservations: Hedwig Racquet op 0475/89.75.56 of Eddy Goemans 0479/85.84.53

## Not mentioned but a special thanks also to:

The World Magar Federation from Leuven, the 'De Mosaïek' primary school from Roosbeek-Boutersem, the VBS from Kortemark, the Sint-Rembert school from Torhout, the VBS De Leeuw from Zedelgem, the public schools of Sint-Michiels, the VKBO from Wevelgem, the football club 'RFCL Youth' from Lissewege, 'Sint-Lievenscollege' from Antwerp, the private primary 'De Wijnberg' from Wevelgem and the liberal 'Parents Association for Morals' from Zelzate. With apologies for any omissions.

## To do good or not? (That is the question.)

With this general newsletter, possibly accompanied by your tax certificate, which gives you a 45% refund via your taxes, we try to explain and justify what happens to your donations. What we are not doing well or could be better: let us know your comments. Your ideas are welcome.

Are we doing well? Please support us further with a deposit on **BE14 3800 1081 6783** for which you will receive a **tax certificate** from 40 euros per year (Belgium only).

Specifically, you can consider to:

- Be a **regular sponsor** by - preferably monthly - is the best way to support our operations, as we can then make an annual forecast and guarantee the regular operation of our school and medical projects. Many people choose 15 euros per month, but a different amount is also possible at their own choice and ability.
- A **one-time donation** helps us make up for our fixed operating costs and purchase extras. For example, we can distribute a toothbrush with paste to the children during our medical camps for € 0.25 each.
- **Benefit and collection campaigns:** Do you want to organize something with your school, association or friends, acquaintances or work colleagues? Maybe your employer can co-invest? We have a lot of didactic and decoration material. A Nepalese meal and / or workshops are possible. You can view and / or download our educational folder on the website [himalayanprojects.org](http://himalayanprojects.org). This income serves for additional investments and the purchase of additional educational and medical equipment. Our **Emergency Fund** for emergency aid and the **Study Fund** for continued education are also being funded in this way.
- Make us **heir** or register us in a **duo legacy**, contact us for detailed info or see our website (tax-benefits).
- Why don't you become a **volunteer**? In Nepal we have an unsaturated need for **doctors, dentists and nurses**. **Teachers** are of course also more than welcome

If you are already a sponsor, you can help us a lot further by making some "advertising" for us. Leaflets and newsletters are available on request. We prefer not to spend your sponsor money on paid advertising.

Kind suggestion: our [facebookpagina](https://www.facebook.com/himalayanprojects) brings up-to-date news and many pictures. But: 'Don't just like us, support us!



## A final word then.

After the disaster year 2015 it was a lot quieter in Nepal, which was actually not so good. The reconstruction is painfully and heartbreakingly slow, but in the first place it should be up to the Nepalese authorities to take steps and for which they received huge amounts of relief funds as well. Small-scale projects like ours may be very effective and fast without much wastage, but oh so minimal as the need is humongous.

Tourism has suffered greatly as well, which is the country's second largest source of income. There is now so much information available, but apparently many Westerners think that it would not be good to stay there as a tourist. The opposite is true. It is one of the world's most beautiful countries and you don't have to be a mountaineer for that.

And so our final words of thanks to our sponsors and also to the volunteers and colleagues for their selfless efforts: **Hedwig Racquet** and **Eddy Goemans** of the Kerun association, **Georges Cappelle** and **Dr. Jan Dryhoel**.

Also for the logistical support of **Dev Shrestha** and guides **Manosh** and **Mane** from **Eastern Light Trek** from Pokhara, **Narayan Pun**, our fixer and my in-laws in Nepal. Special thanks also to our secretary **Nita Buduja Pun**.

And last but not least you, readers for your past support, now and hopefully in the future. Please also stand behind us and together we can move mountains.

Thank you and Namasté (good day)  
from the Bsurre team!

