



Himalayan Initiatives

Trustees Annual Report and Financial Statement

Scottish Charity Number SC044266
Year ending 31st March 2018

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Trustees Annual Report

Charity's principal contact and address

Jane Lockyer

Cluny

Victoria Road

Huntly

Aberdeenshire

AB54 8AH

Trustees

Jane Lockyer	Chairperson
Rob Mackay	Secretary
Debbie Haefner	Treasurer Elected 19/11/17
David Easton	
Carole-Ann Duff	

Independent Examiner

Ann Traill ACIE
Voluntary Action in Badenoch and Strathspey
The Town House
The Square
Grantown on Spey
PH36 3HF

Governing Document

Himalayan Initiatives is a charitable unincorporated association. It was founded by Dr David Easton and Dr Jane Lockyer. It is governed by its constitution.

Recruitment policy

All positions on the management committee are elected annually at the AGM. If the post of any officer or committee member falls vacant after the AGM the committee has the power to fill the vacancy.

Himalayan Initiatives

Trustees Annual Report and Financial Statement

Scottish Charity Number SC044266
Year ending 31st March 2018

Trustees Annual report cont.

Charitable purpose

Himalayan Initiatives works with others to help communities identify and implement sustainable development initiatives that aim to improve community wellbeing, resilience and self-determination. In Nepal, or as decided otherwise by the committee, to assist in, promote or encourage:

- a) the advancement of citizenship or community development
- b) The advancement of environmental protection or improvement
- c) The advancement of education
- d) The advancement of health
- e) The prevention or relief of poverty

Activities and Achievements

Himalayan Initiatives continues to work in close partnership with Nepal NGO Community Building for Sustainable Development to provide support to disadvantaged communities in North East Nepal.

By the start of the financial year a total of 564 metal stoves with chimneys had already been funded for distribution to households in and around the villages of Nele, Jhareni and Mamerku in Lower Solu Khumbu and Simigaon village in Dolakha District. The stoves were proving very popular, so much so that many more requests for stoves were received.

At this point it was thought prudent to undertake a formal evaluation of the project; during the year 100 households have been visited and feedback questionnaires completed.

The results show that on average 5 people benefit from the installation of each stove, over 90% of respondents said that health problems (particularly eye and chest symptoms) had improved, 56% report using less wood (31% use the same amount of wood) and most, 90% said their new stove was both easier to cook on and reduced the risk of burns. Women are overwhelmingly the main stove users (89%) and therefore stand to benefit most.

On the basis of these results we will continue to fund the stove project. A further 110 stoves will be distributed Autumn 2018.

Our support for schools and healthcare has been ongoing with funding of emergency storm damage repairs to Jhareni Primary School; pine tree plantation around the school and provision of stationery and school uniforms both in Jhareni and Rukura school, Nele. We also continue to provide funding for a teacher in Jhareni and in Rukura.

Himalayan Initiatives

Trustees Annual Report and Financial Statement

Scottish Charity Number SC044266
Year ending 31st March 2018

Trustees Annual report cont.

Nele health post was provided with a replacement solar battery for the lighting system at the Birthing Centre which we had previously supplied.

Himalayan Initiatives seeks to facilitate local income generation. Following the success of previous fruit tree provision in Nele a further 200 peach trees have been provided – this is an early fruiting variety which means any excess fruit can be sold at a premium in the local market.

In seeking to support the local communities in their desire to develop sustainable tourism our annual Charity trek took place again this year with 7 participants (inc. 3 board members) trekking to Pikey Peak and then spending time in Nele and Jhareni. £ 2175 was raised in sponsorship and it was a great opportunity to meet and engage with local people. One participant stayed on in Nele for one month as a volunteer to assist the CBSD project officer (whom we continue to fund) with the Stove project evaluation questionnaires.

In March/April 2018 3 participants (inc. 2 board members) took part in our Everest Trail and Project Villages Charity Trek and were able to visit the remote village of Mammerku to consult with local people. As a result plans are underway to provide training in first aid (the village has no health post), bamboo furniture production and wild nettle cloth production. Wild nettle cloth production is a very traditional skill rooted in the local Rai culture. They are concerned that the skills are dying out and also know from villages nearby that there can be a lucrative market for the cloth. Training will take place in December 2018 and January 2019.

In addition to fundraising through our charity treks the board had a busy year with events including a Pancake Tea and a Ceilidh. Meanwhile we continue to benefit from the generosity of loyal supporters and donors, old and new for which we are immensely grateful.

Nepal is currently undergoing a period of rapid change as the Nepal Government pushes forward with development initiatives such as extensive road- building, hydroelectric projects and local government reform. We will be working closely with CBSD in the coming year to ensure our work remains targeted at those most in need while recognizing the importance of working in partnership with local government and being alert to the on going changes and their impact – both positive and negative.

Himalayan Initiatives
Trustees Annual Report and Financial Statement

Scottish Charity Number SC044266
Year ending 31st March 2018

Financial Review

In this financial year income exceeded expenditure by £5409 and the closing balance of £14,143 means the charity is in a good position to continue its work.

Restricted funds

The restricted fund of £1,200 at the start of the year was made up of £1,000 for school uniforms and £200 for a trek deposit. The £1000 was spent on uniforms and the £200 was transferred to general funds with the donor's permission and spent on charitable activities. During the year £370 of restricted funds have been received for the stove project.

Reserve policy

The trustees consider that the general unrestricted fund of £13,773 will be sufficient to allow them to continue to operate.

Approved by the board of Trustees on..... and signed on its behalf

..... **Chairperson**

Himalayan Initiatives Trustees Annual Report and Financial Statement

Scottish Charity Number SC044266
Year ending 31st March 2018

Receipts and Payments Account

Year ended 31st March 2018

Receipts	Unrestricted	Restricted	Totals 2018	Totals 2017
Donations <i>note 1</i>	5814	370	6184	6078
Legacies	0		0	0
Grants	0		0	0
Fundraising <i>note 2</i>	3098		3098	250
Investment	1		1	1
	0		0	0
	0		0	0
	0		0	0
Total Receipts	8913	370	9283	6,329

Payments	Unrestricted	Restricted	Totals 2018	Totals 2017
Fundraising	223		223	0
Gross Trading	0		0	0
Investment costs	0		0	0
Payments relating to charitable activities	1800	1200	3000	28080
Grants/Donations	0		0	0
Other (bank charges)	80		80	85
Insurance	446		446	413
Governance (<i>Independent Exam</i>)	125		125	87
Total Expenditure	2674	1200	3874	28665

Net surplus/deficit	6239	(830)	5409	(22,336)
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Himalayan Initiatives

Trustees Annual Report and Financial Statement

Scottish Charity Number SC044266
Year ending 31st March 2018

Statement of Balances as at 31st March 2018

Statement of Balances	Unrestricted	Restricted	Totals 2018	Totals 2017
Cash at bank at start of year	7,534	1,200	8,734	31,071
Surplus/deficit for the year	6239	(830)	5,409	(22,336)
Total Receipts	13773	370	14,143	8735

Liabilities

Independent examination payment due Dec 2018 87.50

Assets

The organisation has funds underspent in Nepal which are designated for use in the coming year £412

Notes to the accounts

Note 1 Donations have been received from a number of sources including:

Charity trek in Nepal Oct 2017 £2175

Ama Mundi donated profits from sales of Nepalese handicrafts £1155

Fundraising by "Hilltrek" £345

Note 2 The main fundraising events were a Pancake Tea and a Ceilidh

Note 3 No trustees have received remunerations in this financial year other than out of pocket expenses.

Approved by the board of Trustees on..... and signed on its behalf

..... **Treasurer**

Himalayan Initiatives
Trustees Annual Report and Financial Statement

Scottish Charity Number SC044266
Year ending 31st March 2018

Independent Examiner's Report

I report on the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31st March 2018 set out on pages **5 & 6**

Respective responsibilities of trustee and examiner

The Charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the terms of the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 and the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006. The charity trustees considered that the audit requirement of Regulation 10(1) (a) to (c) of the Accounting Regulations does not apply. It is my responsibility to examine the accounts as required under section 44(1) (c) of the Act and to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of Independent examiner's statement

My Examination is carried out in accordance with Regulation 11 of the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006. An Examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeks explanations from the trustees concerning any such matters, the procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the accounts.

Independent examiner's statement

In the course of my examination, no matter has come to my attention which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:

- To keep accounting records in accordance with section 44(1) of the 2005 Act and regulation 4 of the 2006 Accounts Regulations, and
- To prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with regulation 9 of the 2006 Accounting Regulations have not been met.

Signed Date

Ann Traill LCIE
ACIE Licentiate (receipt and Payment) member
Voluntary Action in Badenoch and Strathspey
The Town House
The Square
Grantown-on-Spey
PH26 3HF