



Himalayan Trust UK

Report of the trustees for the year ended 31 December 2020

The Trustees of The Himalayan Trust UK (Charity Reg No 1000153) present their annual report and accounts for the year ended 31 December 2020 and confirm they comply with the duty in the Charities Act 2011 to have due regard to public benefit guidance published by the Commission.

The address of the principal office of the charity is 62 Riversdale Road, London N52JZ.

Trustees

As at the date of approval of this report (except as noted), the Trustees were as follows:

Graham Wrigley (Chairman)
John Walton
Angus Macdonald
Deborah Eklund
Kate Keohane
Kate Wolstenholme
Michelle Hancock (resigned 20 June 2021)
Rebecca Stephens
Rupert Band
Sabian Phippen
Sasja McCann
Sue Leyden
Timothy Keyes

Sir Chris Bonington CBE is President of the Himalayan Trust UK, and Mary Lowe is Honorary 1953 Patron.

Governance

The Trust is governed through the Restated and Amended Trust Deed relating to the Himalayan Trust UK, dated 19 April 2006.

SUPPORTING THE MOUNTAIN PEOPLE OF NEPAL

President: Sir Christian Bonington CBE | **Chairman:** Graham Wrigley | **Deputy Chairman:** John Walton | **Honorary 1953 Patron:** Mary Lowe

E: enquiries@himalayantrust.co.uk | **www.himalayantrust.co.uk**

Charity No. 1000153



Objectives and activities

The Himalayan Trust UK has been working since 1989 to help the mountain people of Nepal. We strive to improve health and education in the mountainous regions of Northeastern Nepal, particularly in the Taplejung region.

We hold to the guiding principles laid down by Sir Edmund Hillary when he founded the first Himalayan Trust in 1960:

- To focus on basic infrastructure – education, health, environment
- To do only that which is requested by the mountain people
- To involve the mountain people themselves in the work – “self-help”
- To minimise all unnecessary cost and to facilitate direct transfer of funds
- To look for long term sustainability and independence for the mountain people.

Financial review

In the financial year to 31 December 2020, the Trust recorded total receipts of £211k (2019: £147k), and total payments of £176k (2019: £197k). The Trust closed the year with £311k of funds (£271k as at 31 December 2019).

Whilst our Trust Deed does not specify a specific policy on reserves, the Trustees seek to ensure that the level of reserves held is always sufficient to cover at least one year’s worth of future grants.

In 2018, we established a fund in memory of Paul Samuel, to enable the rebuild of Laxmi Secondary School in Mamankhe, a remote mountainous village in Northeastern Nepal. We are delighted that during 2020 we completed the rebuild in Paul’s memory; any further funds raised are available for the ongoing health and education programmes of the Trust, including the continuing education programme in Mamankhe.

During 2020 we were grateful to receive £15,000 each from the Beatrice Laing Trust and Kirby Laing Foundation towards the construction of a new four classroom block at Saraswati Lower Secondary School in Tapethok, which has been presented within restricted funds. We are also grateful that the Beatrice Laing Trust continues to contribute on an annual basis to the running costs of the Yamphudin Health post.

Each year the Trust also receives restricted funds which specifically cover the costs of our annual Royal Geographic Society lecture, and any trustee expenses, although due



to the Covid-19 pandemic no such costs were incurred during 2020 (2019: £5k). Donors from the general public therefore know that, other than some minor and unavoidable administration costs (under 2% of funds raised), their incremental donations go directly to helping the mountain people of Nepal.

Operational review

Education:

2020 and the Covid-19 pandemic brought about significant disruption to our core programme. With schools closed and restrictions on movement imposed it became very difficult to function normally. An additional difficulty was the fact that a number of the Taplejung team contracted Covid-19, resulting in a depleted team in the field for a period of time.

There were two areas of focus throughout the pandemic:

- 1. To maintain some form of educational programme for children*

The team were focused on producing home working books for every child at every level, to be distributed by the REED (Rural Education and Environment Development Centre) team and teachers to every household. This distribution programme enabled teachers and the REED team to discuss the importance of educational continuity with parents, to ensure that their children were given the time and the space to concentrate on schoolwork.

In addition, the REED team produced a whole series of radio programmes to be broadcast on local radio, with many repeat broadcasts, covering particular areas of the curriculum at all levels. Times of broadcast were publicised and where children did not have access to a radio, they were advised to link up safely with another child that did have access. Where necessary, REED purchased radios to be distributed to households so that all children were able to access the programmes.

When possible, teachers would visit communities distributing reading books and holding outdoor reading sessions for groups of children.

- 2. To ensure that when schools were open, they were adequately hygiene prepared.*

During the first lockdown, all schools were provided with multiple washing kits, posters and information boards relating to personal hygiene.



When schools reopened after the first lockdown teachers spent a lot of time ensuring that the personal hygiene message was not only being learnt by the children but was being sent home to parents.

The second lockdown allowed us, with significant help from the health team, to refine and improve the personal hygiene provision in each school, linking schools to health post teams who would reinforce the message both at school and in the home. These measures are now in place and ready for schools returning.

We have had a number of dynamic projects throughout the year that have been affected to some degree by the pandemic.

The project to build four classrooms at Tapethok School has made good progress but the final touches have been delayed by Covid-19, brought about by restrictions in movement and the transport of materials. The work was suspended by the Rural Municipality to safeguard the workforce and community.

The refurbishment of the girls' hostel and the construction of a toilet and shower block at Lelep is 90% complete. As soon as movement restrictions are lifted, the work will be completed.

Despite all the difficulties faced during the year, the REED team have been entirely focused on ensuring that every child has access to education. They have worked tirelessly and have motivated head teachers, teachers and School Management Committees (SMCs) to support children and families in the community, and to ensure that when schools are able to open, they will be ready.

Health:

During 2020, the Covid-19 pandemic meant that we limited our core health programme in Yamphudin and postponed the roll-out of activities for Lelep. However, we designed and implemented a comprehensive Covid response for the Yamphudin Health Post and community, and for other health posts covering a wider area.

Under our core programme in Yamphudin, we completed the Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) on Infectious Diseases for the Health Post and Birthing Centre, delivered guidelines on this topic with PPE (see below) and trained the staff remotely when mobile signals allowed. We sent medical drugs and supplies to the health post. Monitoring and evaluation of the health post work continued, with regular data reports. Also, we maintained the community fund for maternity emergencies and referrals.



Through our Covid response, we provided emergency PPE, cleaning materials and stretchers by jeep and porters, to six health posts in two Rural Municipalities. With these deliveries, we sent a staff manual on how to use PPE and Covid care. As for the SOPs, we trained staff remotely on Covid when we were able. In Yamphudin, we set up an advice system linking villagers and health workers by mobile phones and facilitated referrals to the District Hospital.

Given Covid, we were unable this year to implement in Yamphudin our Community Health Awareness Project (CHAP), that will compliment and support the progress made at the health post. In 2021, we look forward to at least starting CHAP and assessing the feasibility of rolling out activities to Lelep the following year. Going forward, we will keep a strong focus on protecting and improving achievements in Yamphudin, both in the community and at its health post.

Covid-19

The global Covid-19 pandemic has continued to impact our work in Nepal as set out in the Education and Health sections above. Despite difficulties in travelling to Nepal, the trustees have carried out regular updates by video conference.

Sadly, the pandemic meant we were unable to go ahead with a planned dinner to celebrate Sir Edmund Hillary's 100th birthday, for which we collected donations of £22k during 2020. We are organising a replacement event to commemorate the 70th anniversary of the Everest ascent in 2023, but meanwhile we offered donors the option of a refund and £16k has been refunded to date during 2021.

Whilst we are cognisant of the changed funding environment, we are grateful to our donors who have continued to provide a source of funds for our important ongoing work. Having considered our financial position, we remain confident of our ability to deliver on our commitments.

Receipts and payments accounts

For the period from	01-Jan-20	To	31-Dec-20
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Section A Receipts and payments

To the nearest £	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total funds	Last year
			Year ended 31 Dec 2020	Year ended 31 Dec 2019
Receipts				
Donations	118,076	30,000	148,076	122,995
Fund Raising Events income	21,850		21,850	12,384
Tax Recovery	4,272		4,272	5,970
Investment Income			-	-
Legacies	37,193		37,193	5,403
			-	-
			-	-
Sub total	181,391	30,000	211,391	146,752
Payments				
Laxmi School Mamankhe	4,605	10,720	15,325	88,800
Saraswati School Tapethok		30,000	30,000	
Himalayan Trust Nepal	5,000		5,000	-
Education grants	94,179		94,179	92,200
Health grants	22,387		22,387	6,400
Scholarships	7,000		7,000	2,000
Fundraising Events Costs			-	4,651
Administration expenses	2,367		2,367	2,537
Sub total	135,538	40,720	176,258	196,588
Excess/(deficit) of receipts over payments for the year	45,853	- 10,720	35,133	- 49,836
Increase/(decrease) in value of investments	5,051	-	5,051	18,157
Increase/(decrease) in funds for the year	50,904	- 10,720	40,184	- 31,679
Funds at 1 January	259,862	10,720	270,582	302,261
Funds at 31 December	310,765	0	310,765	270,582

Section B Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

To the nearest £		Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total (31 Dec 2020)	Total (31 Dec 2019)
Cash funds	Cash at bank	155,239	0	155,239	120,107
	Total cash funds	155,239	0	155,239	120,107
Investment assets (at fair value)	Cash	40,748	-	40,748	40,154
	Unit Trusts	43,634	-	43,634	44,465
	Equities	71,144	-	71,144	65,856
			-		
	Total investment assets	155,526	-	155,526	150,475
Total Assets		310,765	0	310,765	270,582

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Basis of preparation

The Trust prepares receipts and payments accounts on a cash basis, except that investment assets are held at fair value. Dividends received during the year are reinvested in the investment portfolio and included within 'increase/(decrease) in value of investments'. Short term cash held as part of the investment portfolio is also shown within investment assets.

The restricted funds related to the Paul Samuel memorial fund which was used to fund the rebuild of the Laxmi Secondary School in Mamankhe, and to donations from the Beatrice Laing Trust and Kirby Laing Foundation for the construction of a classroom block at Saraswati Lower Secondary School in Tapethok.

Signature

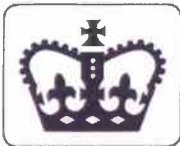


Print Name

Kate Wolstenholme

Date of approval

27 October 2021



Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

**Report to the trustees/
members of**

Charity Name
Himalayan Trust UK

**On accounts for the year
ended**

31 December 2020

**Charity no
(if any)**

1000153

Set out on pages

Attached

(remember to include the page numbers of additional sheets)

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended DD MM YYYY.

**Responsibilities and
basis of report**

As the charity trustees of the Trust, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act").

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

**Independent
examiner's statement**

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act or
- the accounts do not accord with the accounting records

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed:

Date: 27 October 2021

Name: Charles Mirrington

**Relevant professional
qualification(s) or body
(if any):**

Chartered Accountant, Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales

Address: 16 West Way, Petts Wood, Kent, BR5 1LW

Section B

Disclosure

Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight matters of concern (see CC32, Independent examination of charity accounts: directions and guidance for examiners).

Give here brief details of any items that the examiner wishes to disclose.

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