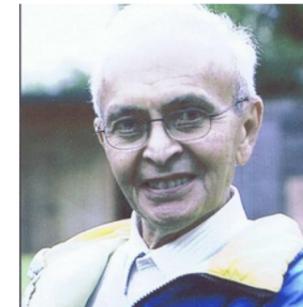


# Nepal Leprosy Trust



## Saying goodbye to Dhuru Bhadreshwar ... ..



It is with great sadness that we report that Dr Dhuru Bhadreshwar passed away on Monday 28th July 2016. Dhuru was a remarkable and gifted man who devoted his life to his family and friends and the Lord Jesus, and worked as a consultant orthopedic surgeon for many years until he was forced to retire from the NHS by a serious heart attack. Many would have taken their rest at that point, but Dhuru retrained in leprosy reconstructive surgery, and then supported NLT's reconstructive surgical work at Lalgadh for several years in the late 1990s, training our staff and carrying out many different operations. When advancing years prevented him continuing there in person, he carried on supporting the staff with advice and training opportunities, right up until he passed away. Dhuru's passion was helping others in the spirit and love of Jesus, and his legacy for NLT is lives changed, and a staff inspired by his selfless commitment.



## Badri Shrestha - what future?



Badri Shrestha (3rd from the left) is a man who has had more than his share of difficulty in life. Several years ago he found that he had leprosy, but despite full treatment his condition has worsened and he is weakened, with disability in his hands and feet. This is an ongoing problem, but a greater challenge is the fact that his two sons, both in their early 20s, are disabled with cerebral palsy and wheelchair bound, and the

elder son has epilepsy and TB as well. There are no state systems in Nepal to help with this kind of difficulty and, without the superhuman efforts of Badri's wife Somwati, they would have probably died long ago. They have a married daughter who helps, but she is limited in what she can do, so Badri and his wife live with acute poverty and a gnawing terror about the future. NLT became involved last year when our community team did some modifications to their house to make things a bit easier for the two boys; and more recently, a church has been providing a regular allowance to help the family live with enough food and other basics. But what of the future? They have no land and no money; mum and dad are in their 50s; their sons are in their 20s. The elder son is clever although he cannot easily communicate. The younger son is more limited, but is often difficult when his frustration leads to anger. Clearly money is part of the answer, but how can this family be helped in a way that leaves them their dignity, and yet gives them a positive future to look forward to? Please pray for this family, and if you have any inspiration, please share it with us.

*Thank you*

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## Lalgadh goes Solar



There are a number of new buildings going up at Lalgadh, supported by the ASHA programme which American Leprosy Missions has initiated for Lalgadh. This programme has enabled the outpatient services to be considerably expanded to better cope with the high patient loads - more than 700 in one day recently. Part of the improvements include solar power that will provide up to 15 kilowatts for our computer systems and operating theatre lighting, etc, and will enable work to continue during the frequent power cuts .

Here is a photo of our founder Eileen Lodge in June...



enjoying some nice cake brought along by visitors!

**Help in the office at Richmond** is still needed, and we would be thrilled to hear from anyone who would like to spend a few hours a week helping with various administrative tasks, and/or helping at fairs and events locally.

Please phone or email us to find out more.

### Speaking Team!

We have a team - Enid, Mildred, and Mike - who are all happy to visit your church, school, club or group to give a talk, with slides, about NLT's work and leprosy in Nepal. We do not make a charge for this, but we do like to bring NLT handicrafts  to sell!

**For more information concerning NLT, please phone Enid or Mike on: 020 8940 1200 or email us at: info@nlt.org.uk**

**If you would like to receive your copy of the newsletter by email to save NLT some postage costs, please let us know by emailing us on: info@nlt.org.uk**

## Twitter

NLT now has a Twitter account!

You can either go to our website to see the tweets or, if you are a tweeter yourself, follow us at:-

@NepalLeprosyTr



## Future Events in 2016



24 September - Sponsored walk - "Steps Against Stigma" - see previous page



13th November - St Matthias Fair at St Matthias Church, Richmond



25th November - VCC Xmas Fair at The Vineyard Community Centre, The Vineyard, Richmond

Contact us for more information

## Special shoes enable Sarita to walk ...

Sarita is a girl of 9 years old. She came to our notice when her mother carried her to meet our team that was bringing earthquake relief supplies to Kalika School in a remote and high part of Sindhuli district. These are all Tamang folk (mountain people): very poor, mostly illiterate, and most of the children speak only Tamang.

Sarita hasn't got leprosy, but her feet were badly burned in a fire when she was just 8 months old. Her mother had gone to feed the goats and Sarita was left in the care of others. When mum returned, baby Sarita was crying, with her feet in the cooking fire. Her mother grabbed her and carried her down the mountainside in the dark for several hours to the district hospital, but they couldn't do anything. She carried her home again and tried various ointments for months, but with no success. They even went to a Kathmandu hospital which advised a below-knee amputation. After a very dark time during two years, when it seemed as if Sarita's

feet would never heal, the remains of her feet did finally heal but left her with only heels and a very small part of each foot, leaving her unable to walk without help. Dr Clugston felt that Lalgadh, with its experience of foot problems in leprosy, should be able to help Sarita's walking and independence, and maybe improve things for her. The team therefore suggested that Sarita's mum bring her to Lalgadh so that they could make some special shoes for her; and she did - carrying Sarita herself all the way!

The hospital team examined Sarita's ankles and feet, and Gudri - the Footwear Dept Manager - got to work with his team. They made plaster casts of both feet, designed special padded inner "foot-gloves" made of soft rubber, and hand-made shoes to fit over the inner foot-gloves. This has been life-changing for Sarita and she is now learning to walk and run with her new shoes. She has gone home with these and another slightly larger pair to allow for growth.

**Many thanks to the church and Girl Guide group in Harrogate who provided the funds for this help**



### Dr Clugston collects his gong!

On 29th July, Dr Graeme Clugston and some of the team visited the Australian Embassy in Kathmandu. This was so that the medal recognising that Graeme has been made an Officer of the Order of Australia could be formally presented to him. The honour recognises his distinguished service to medicine, and to the international community of Nepal, particularly to people with leprosy, and to global health and nutrition.

**Congratulations Graeme!**



### Facebook Group

We are in the throes of arriving into the 21st Century, under the care and guidance of NLT friends Jill Woods and Jo Walkworth, who have kindly offered to help us with social media. We have opened a Facebook group called **Nepal Leprosy Trust Alumni** and wondered if you would like to join us? If you have any difficulty finding the group, or requesting to join, please let us know via email: [info@nlt.org.uk](mailto:info@nlt.org.uk)

We are hoping that this will stir some memories, join up long-lost friends, and provide some interesting stories, engaging comments and new challenges. Please take a look and see if you want to be a part of this next chapter in NLT's life.



## Monsoon Season In Nepal



If you are in Nepal during the monsoon, then an umbrella and some wellies are a good investment. Paths and tracks turn to mud in a moment, while open spaces become quagmires, ponds become lakes, and lakes seas.

The waterlogged hills are prone to landslides and the big rivers can quickly become mighty torrents. When mud and water is on the move at speed, things quickly get dangerous. This year has seen several hundred people lost and killed, and much property destroyed.



Fortunately the Ratu River next to Lalgadh has behaved well so far, but



please do pray for those that have been affected by the flooding, and also by the earthquakes of 2015, - many homes have not yet been rebuilt.



Of course the monsoon also provides water for the rice crops that are planted all over Nepal. Rice is the staple food for almost every Nepali. Planting rice is back-breaking work but the rice won't grow without the monsoon.



## Steps against Stigma

Saturday 24th September 2016

Come and join us on our annual fundraiser as we enjoy our sponsored walk along the Thames. Bring some wet weather gear in case it rains, and some lunch to keep you going. We will also stop along the way for refreshment as well. It is about 8 or 9 miles and takes a few hours, depending on the age of the walkers, but it is always good fun! So find a few friends to sponsor you, and come to our office in Richmond (10A The Vineyard, Richmond, Surrey, TW10 6AQ) **between 09:45am and 10:15am**. See you there! (Check our website for last minute information or Tel: 020 8940 1200 mobile: 07932 621391)



### Update on Kalpana

You will remember from our last letter that Kalpana, one of our patients, was facing a very difficult future with no home, no husband, and four young children, including one with cerebral palsy. Your help has made a huge difference and Kalpana

is much better, the two girls are going to our Sunrise Academy school, and the family has a new house nearby which is nearly finished and will belong to them. Kalpana has gained strength and health and is working again, using her skill in gravel-sorting, while our staff help her to develop some new skills that may make independence easier and less back-breaking. Mike met her in June and was very encouraged to see how positive and cheerful she was compared to earlier reports.

**Thanks to all who prayed and contributed.**

### Lydia Children's Fund



**Sanam** is 13 years old and is in grade 9 at Sharada Higher Secondary School in Kathmandu. Her elder sister is studying nursing and her twin younger sisters are studying in grade 5. Sanam would also like to study to be a nurse, but her parents, both affected by leprosy, are struggling financially and would very much appreciate help with Sanam's school fees.



**Aarush** is 4 years old and is attending Kantipuri Boarding High School near Lalitpur. Aarush's father used to work in a hotel in Kathmandu and then tried to go abroad to work via Thailand, but was deported back to Nepal. He was eventually found dead by the river Trishuli in Nepal.

Aarush's mother Sujita does not have any work, but she would like to learn some skills that would help her get work. Her house was damaged by the earthquake of 2015, so she and Aarush live with her father, who is not well and cannot communicate due to a stroke. Sujita would very much appreciate help with her son's education.

**If you would like to sponsor either of these two children please contact Mildred**

**020 8940 1200 or [mildred@nlt.org.uk](mailto:mildred@nlt.org.uk)**