



Kathmandu Kids Club Newsletter

October 2006

Safe Shelter for Rescued Kids in Kathmandu

Contact leo@kathmandukidsclub.com

In May, 2004, ISIS received an email from a 20 year old volunteer working in Nepal. She had found an 'orphanage', packed with 22 kids from Humla, who were living in appalling conditions. They were hungry and dirty and weren't going to school. They were scared, naïve and astonished by this new awful life in the city, having grown up in the mountains and fields, where although impoverished, they were at least with their families, and loved.

"We can give something to others. We don't always have to receive something first in order to give something away." Chogyam Trungpa

hands of the traffickers who brought them to Kathmandu. In that two years, the number of children we found living in horrendous homes rose from 22 to 139."



A young girl, Susmita*, in one of the trafficker's homes.



Susmita, happy and healthy now in an ISIS home.

Leonie Leo Exel, General Manager of The ISIS Foundation, said: "It has taken our staff more than two years to get these kids out of the

In July 2006, Leo and three volunteers from Bermuda went to Nepal to help move the kids from two horrible homes into eight fantastic ISIS homes. ISIS already had two homes full of rescued kids now they have ten.

The new ISIS Children's homes are amazing. Each home has 10 to 17 kids, a Home Parent, four Didis and Dhais (care staff), a library of books, a bed for each child, good food, and tutors in the morning. The children get counselling, play games, do sports, go to school, and they laugh easily. They can be kids again.

Funds Raised

Contact karen@kathmandukidsclub.com

This year, the ISIS Children's Homes have been the key project supported by donations to the Katkids Club.

Since our launch in April 2006 the Kathmandu Kids Club has raised a whopping 69,566 in funds from a collection of folks here in Bermuda and worldwide. So far we have raised 48,712 from people who have generously donated their money by becoming patrons, members & donors of the club. We also raised an additional 20,854 through the auction and sales at our recent launch event.

Of the funds raised so far, a total of 34,287 has been sent to Nepal and has covered the following expenses for 139 children in the ISIS Homes;

Food.....	20,129
School related expenses.....	10,100
Medical expenses.....	4,058

The remaining funds will be sent over the next couple of months, and reported on our website.



Bonnie reading with girls from one of the ISIS homes.

Vacationing in Nepal

By Bonnie McGlynn
Contact bonnie@kathmandukidsclub.com

Kim and I joke, "When we next go to Nepal, we'll tell Leonie three weeks after we've been there and THEN let her know we've arrived to work!"

Lessons well learned from our life changing experience with The ISIS Foundation this summer!

Kim and I arrived for a week's volunteer work to be followed by sightseeing around Nepal and then off to India. Unbeknownst to us, Leo and the amazing ISIS team in Kathmandu wove a spell, and we ended up working almost three weeks with the only sightseeing consisting of back alleys in quest of children's rain ponchos and every book store that Kathmandu could produce.

For anyone that has an interest in volunteering it largely consists of being there and available to help pull together





Kim, after a soccer match, with boys from one of the ISIS homes.

any project that the team is working on, or just spending time with the children. Our work consisted of playing foot ball with the children, buying fridges and washing machines for each of the new children's homes, buying books for book corners, putting together photo boards to make the homes more of a home as opposed to an "orphanage," and cataloguing clothes sent up from Bermudian donors and many other "jobs". Would we do it again? In a heartbeat!

"Namaste: An Evening in Nepal"

Contact eve@kathmandukidsclub.com

On September 28, we had over 250 people attend our first event, "Namaste: An Evening in Nepal." A huge team of dedicated volunteers transformed Bermuda's National Gallery into a bustling marketplace and auction room where our guests enjoyed complimentary food and drink, purchased Nepali crafts

"We find delight in the beauty and happiness of children that makes the heart too big for the body."

Ralph Waldo Emerson

and jewellery, soaked up the great atmosphere and most importantly, kept a watchful eye on their bids! We almost completely sold out of our Nepali goodies for sale and the auction items were the subject of furiously fun bidding. On the night we also received several donations, and 11 new members and six new patrons signed up too. As a result, our first event raised a whopping amount for the club: over 30,000. Thanks to everyone that volunteered, donated, loaned and advised we couldn't have done it without you!

Voluntary Job Vacancies

Contact julia@kathmandukidsclub.com

Manager's jobs involve at least four hours work per week, and you have to be a member of the Club.

Email julia@kathmandukidsclub.com for more information on the following vacancies:

- Marketing Manager: to oversee a team dedicated to promoting the club.
- Voice of Katkids Manager: To work along side the Media Manager Chris Gibbons, who writes all our press releases and do all our radio and television interviews.

We also need sub committee members every manager has a committee working to help them out with fairly big jobs, and those people work say two hours per week under the direction of a manager. So if you have experience in marketing or PR, IT, running events, graphic design, catering, accounting, writing press releases, or just want to help us stick stamps on envelopes, email julia@kathmandukidsclub.com and she will send you more information.

Charity Challenge Oct/Nov 2007

Contact jacqueline@kathmandukidsclub.com

How tough are you? How tough is your company?! Join the 2007 Base Camp Everest Charity Challenge raise funds for the Katkids Club and climb to base camp of the highest mountain in the world in late October, 2007. Better still, your company may also want to sponsor the trek by matching employee's donations it's a fantastic leadership adventure. For more details email Jacqueline Teunissen at jacqueline@kathmandukidsclub.com.

Contact and Donation Details:

Contact karen@kathmandukidsclub.com

- The ISIS Foundation and The ISIS Foundation (UK), 35 Crow Lane, East Broadway, Paget, HM 20, Bermuda,
- Ph: 1 441 232 9001; Fax: 1 441 236 1999
- Registration: 508 (Bermuda); 109 8152 (UK)
- Websites: www.isis.bm or www.kathmandukidsclub.com
- Donate by Cheque: By sending a cheque to the address above, made out to The ISIS Foundation or The ISIS Foundation (UK)
- Donate by Credit or Debit Card: On www.donations.bm or www.justgiving.com

** We alter children's names, and some details, to protect their privacy.*

