

Eileen Lodge, the founder of NLT, had her 90th birthday on 29th June. She still lives in Kathmandu in the same house she has occupied for nearly 25 years, and was visited by Kamal Shrestha, who took greetings from old colleagues and friends, and some ice cream! In the recent earthquake, Eileen and a number of neighbours slept outside in her garden for safety!



Our Sponsored children in Nepal

Many of our sponsored children were affected by the earthquakes in Nepal, with schools and homes damaged. This picture shows a school for 150 children in Sindhuli which is now not usable. Fortunately the first major earthquake happened on a Saturday when there was nobody there.



At present we do not have any children waiting for sponsorship although many need help with repairs to their homes. When things in the country are more normal, we expect there will be more families asking for help with education. Please watch this space!

**TOM BRADLEY
LEPROSY ELIMINATED?**

An ancient disease in our contemporary world

30 SEPT - 13 OCT 2015

Art Gallery, St. Paul's School, London SW13 9JT

With photographs shot across 6 years in 11 countries, this on-going project by photographer Tom Bradley shows the devastating effect this disease has on people, and the strength of the individuals and communities who live with it. Using black and white, and colour photographs shot on a variety of media, he explores how and why this ancient disease still manifests itself in our contemporary world. See his website for more details.

www.tom-bradley.com

Tom is a self-taught British photographer whose journey with leprosy began at NLT's centre at Lalgadh, and who has worked extensively across Africa and Asia since 2008. He works with a variety of NGOs and has been published in The Guardian and New York Times.

Dr Sophia Lama has graduated from medical school in China and has completed her internship. Some of you will remember when Sophia, the daughter of our senior medical doctor Krishna Lama, passed her MBBS entrance exam and began this journey in 2009. After 6 years of hard study in China, Sophia is now beginning her work at Lalgadh, with her father as her boss. *Please pray for Sophia as she settles in.*



Twitter



NLT has a Twitter account. You can either go to our website to see the tweets or, if you are a tweeter yourself, our hash tag is:- @NepalLeprosyTr

The online shop

Many of our products are now in our online shop accessible via our website. Please do visit and have a look at the beautiful products there, and perhaps buy one or two!

A monthly Prayer Letter is sent out by NLT – at present it only goes out to people who receive the Newsletter by email. If any readers would like to receive the Prayer Letter please send your email address to info@nlt.org.uk. If you don't already, you might consider receiving the Newsletter by email as well – it saves a lot of postage!

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 regularly helping with various administrative tasks, and/or helping at fairs and events locally.

Please ring or email info@nlt.org.uk/0208 940 1200

Speaking Team!



We have a group of four people, Enid, Mildred, Naomi and occasionally



Mike who are all happy to form a small team to visit your church, school, club or group and give a talk, drama and/or slides. We do not make a charge for this, but we do like to bring NLT handicrafts to sell!



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Nepal Leprosy Trust

Changing lives

The Earthquake..... NLT's ongoing role



You will all be aware of the terrible earthquake that struck Nepal on Saturday April 25th just before midday. There have been over 400 aftershocks since then and the loss of life and property has been severe. Most damage has been sustained in the hill districts north and south of Kathmandu where houses are basic, and in Kathmandu itself where many old-style buildings were not able to cope. Historic sites have suffered badly in the city, and in some hill areas, nearly 100% of buildings are now rubble. Overall it seems that nearly 9000 people lost their lives, and about 800,000 buildings have been irreparably damaged or destroyed.



NLT is very grateful to the many people who have been in contact since then, concerned about our staff, and wanting to help with donations, etc. Mercifully, our staff were all OK, although some lost relatives or houses in their home area. At that stage we were not sure what NLT could specifically do, and money seemed to be pouring into the official channels. However, our staff, many of whom are from hill areas themselves, decided to get involved and help those who found themselves with little food, minimal shelter, and small prospect of any real help coming from "official channels".

Our team at Lalgadh have therefore been using the funds donated to NLT for buying suitable foodstuffs, blankets and tarpaulins from our suppliers near the Indian border, and then contracting trucks and tractors to transport it to the hill districts badly affected by the earthquake. This has resulted in a staggering 204 tonnes of relief supplies being delivered by our team to 9 different village areas in the three districts - Sindhuli, Ramechhap and Sindhupalchowk (the worst hit district of all). In some cases our aid was the first to have arrived and villagers were very grateful indeed. This has all been done in close coordination with the local authorities in each area so that we were not duplicating other efforts, and the supplies were received by those in greatest need. This has helped over 5000 families, and has cost \$190,000. We have additionally stockpiled enough roofing sheets to enable 100 very needy families to build some better shelter for the monsoon which has already arrived, and is making a hard situation even harder. *Please continue to pray for all the people so badly affected by this situation.*



Fundraising 2015

Hall School Wimbledon



September 19th is our next annual sponsored walk.

One of the greatest challenges in overcoming leprosy is overcoming the stigma that it causes. As long as leprosy is stigmatized, people will be afraid to go for treatment and will try to hide their symptoms for as long as they can. When they can no longer hide the disfigurement, it is too late to undo the damage and they have to endure the "living death" that leprosy can bring.

NLT has been dedicated for many years not only to treating the symptoms of leprosy, but also to eradicating the stigma in the communities around our Centre at Lalgadh.

We are trying to develop our annual sponsored walk into an event that can raise awareness about leprosy and also generate funds to help fight the stigma. As an additional feature, we thought it would be fun to see how many steps we can walk between us all, and see if we can get anywhere near a million. This would be greatly helped if more people walked with us on our walk along the Thames from Hampton Court to Richmond, or if you organized your own sponsored walk with friends in your local area. Keep a reasonable count of your steps using a pedometer or by calculating from distance walked and average step-size, and we can see if we get near **one million** steps.

A "**Million Steps against Stigma**" has a good ring about it and we would love to see this annual event grow into something big enough to really impact on the problem of leprosy in Nepal. For it to grow, it needs people to take it to heart and to organize events around the country that can happen around the same time, and have a united purpose.

Come and join us at Richmond, or organize your own Steps against Stigma.

For more information please contact us on

0208 940 1200/info@nlt.org.uk

If you prefer to sponsor our walkers please go to

<https://my.give.net/NepalLeprosyTrust>

Thank you for your support.



Afternoon Strawberry Tea

Saturday 20th June saw hopeful NLTers preparing for a strawberry tea in the garden, but the weather looked certain to rain on the party. One of them suggested they pray for sunshine, and, guess what? - the sun came out and stayed out until the very last moment when, as the last car boot was shut, the heavens opened and it poured!

People enjoyed the tea and a chat, and heard more about the disruption the earthquake has caused in Nepal and the relief work that NLT has been engaged in.

The tea raised about £180, and it was wonderful to be able to introduce some new people to the work of NLT. We look forward to holding more of these events in the coming months.

Thanks to all those who helped and supported this event.

School Assembly

The picture above shows Millie and Alfie Hunter with teacher Susie Holmes at Hall School in Wimbledon, presenting a "cheque" to NLT for £863.35 towards our earthquake relief work. In May the school had a whole day's fund raising events including sales of cakes, sports challenges, sponsored activities, etc. Enid and Mike joined them on the day, which was sunny and bright, with some NLT handicrafts for the children to look at. Everybody seemed to be having a great time and the children enjoyed spending their parents' money on the colourful felt toys which were popular.

In June Naomi and Mike visited the school again to say "thank you" for the donation and to talk to the children about NLT's work and the problem of leprosy in Nepal. The children asked lots of questions which showed they must have been listening to Mike and Naomi's talks very carefully.

We are very grateful to the children of Hall School!

Richmond and Ham Fairs

Both these fairs gave an opportunity to show people the disastrous effects of the earthquake in Nepal. The weather at Richmond was gloomy but people still braved the cold to enjoy themselves. By contrast Ham was bright and sunny and encouraged more visitors and conversation. It was good to hear the many expressions of concern and sympathy for the people in Nepal who are having such a difficult time at the moment, and to receive some useful donations towards the relief work.



Local Fairs

Easy Fundraising

While online shopping, there are many ways of helping charity at the same time as you shop. Many businesses are linked to giveasyoulive.com, shop2fundraise.co.uk and easyfundraising.org.uk. These businesses will donate to the charity of your choice at **no cost to yourself** if you make purchases from them through these fundraising websites. The online florist **Charity Flowers** will give **15%** of your order value to the charity of your choice and send beautiful flowers to anywhere in the UK. Many of us use these fundraising avenues to support NLT every time we shop on line. **Cafe Nero** is linked to [easyfundraising](http://easyfundraising.org.uk) and if you make the link through the website, they will donate when you buy coffee in their stores. **All this fundraising while simply doing your shopping!**