

Dear Friends of UMNHET,

This has been a difficult year for those in Nepal. The epicenter of the severe **earthquake** of the 25th April 2015 lay just a few kilometers northeast of Amp Pipal. The pharmacy, storage rooms, the office building and a residential building were damaged.



**Kathmandu** was hit less severely but many historical buildings collapsed with serious loss of life e.g. Bhimsen Tower (Dharahara).



A third of homes in **Okhaldhunga** area were significantly damaged but the hospital was left intact.

After seven years of negotiations, in the wake of the earthquakes, the majority of politicians signed the new **Nepal constitution** in September 2015, but people in the Terai and India were not pleased (- it's complicated!). There followed a crippling 5 month long **blockade** with petrol, diesel, gas and medicines in very short supply. Building materials for reconstruction could not get across the border and so even now many people are living in temporary shelters.

Supporters of UMNHET rose to the challenge of the disaster in Nepal and donations went up significantly so that we were able to give money for the immediate relief of suffering in Earthquake hit areas.

Interest from investments of the UMNHET funds has again supplied each of the four hospitals with much needed help for poor patient care.

**Tansen Hospital** has become one of only four burns units in Nepal. About 200 patients per year are admitted with severe burns and they often spend many months in the hospital having multiple skin grafts, blood transfusions and nutritional support. Therefore most receive help from UMNHET donations.



15 year old, before and after grafting

**Amp Pipal Hospital** continues to be run by Nepalmed, a German NGO and seems to be thriving with their support. See their web site for details (<http://www.nepalmed.de/ENG>)

**Patan Hospital** is independent and seems to run on lines in keeping with its history as a mission hospital. They recruit and sponsor many medical students from less advantaged backgrounds and continue to subsidize care for poorer patients and send Nepali medical students to Amp Pipal for rural experience.

Tansen (UMHT) and Okhaldhunga Community Hospital (OCH) remain an important part of the **United Mission to Nepal (UMN)**.

**Tansen (UMHT)** has a lot of new developments. Water shortages have been a problem for many years and so a new 1000 000 litre water tank was officially opened on 1<sup>st</sup> June 2016. That's about enough water for a month. Total storage is now 2.2 Million litres. An Oxygen producing plant has been built which will reduce the need to buy massive numbers of cylinders for OT/OR and very sick patients. Work is underway to improve waste management, water treatment, recycling and a new incinerator for clinical waste. Tansen is as busy as ever and training of Nepalis goes on all over the hospital including ward nurses, theatre nurse, anaesthetic staff, pastoral care workers, surgeons, MDGPs and interns. A new laboratory technician training school opened next to Tansen Nursing School in October and the first batch of 29 Nepali students were recruited for the three-year course.



Trainers  
and  
MDGP  
Surgical  
trainees



**Okhaldunga (OCH)** has seen major changes with the opening of a large new hospital building – two new operating theatres, maternity unit and paediatric department (below). More building work is planned for an emergency room and nutrition and rehabilitation centre.



Dr Erik  
Bohler at  
the opening  
ceremony  
OCH and Dr  
Keshab in  
the new  
paediatric  
ward



Thank you for another year of valuable support.  
We serve, Jesus Heals.

Service to people, glory to God (mottos of UMHT and OCH).

Gary Parkes, on behalf of the UMNHET Trustees:

Cleve Chevassut (Chair), Tim Trimble (Treasurer), Gary Parkes, Roger Marston, Michael Hawksworth, Maureen Hawksworth, Olak Jirel, Alison Chevassut.