



Dear Friends of UMN Hospitals' Endowment Trust,

Thank you so much for your generosity over the past year. Your gifts have literally made the difference between life and death to people seeking care in the four UMN founded hospitals of Tansen, Okhaldhunga, Patan and Amp Pipal. While in the UK we have been celebrating 70 years of the NHS, it is easy to forget that in places like Nepal, if you don't have money for care then you don't get treated. An illness can plunge families into debt that they never recover from and hard choices are made about whether or not to stay for essential medical help.

In Tansen hospital, the long and complex care of burns patients uses considerable resources and most of the 200 or so burn patients seen per year need some help from the medical assistance fund (MAF).



Pabitra was burned over almost her entire body apart from her face and head. She was not expected to survive but after many painful months and multiple dressings and operations did well and started to smile again. She was being looked after by a young male relative but he ran away. Pabitra's father disappeared for many weeks and we thought he might abandon her. Sadly this is not unusual when families are worried about whether they can pay the bill at the end. He did eventually turn up. She was a beautiful but sad and caring little girl. Before leaving she noticed another

child was upset and gave away her only possession, a little doll from the bazaar.

The endowment fund is invested and the interest earned is distributed in full each year. This gives security to our UMN founded hospitals that they will have a regular income to the Medical Assistance Fund (MAF) to support patients who couldn't otherwise afford treatment. Extra money raised in the year is added to this endowment fund, to provide a

sustainable source of income. In 2017 the four hospitals were given £39,706. This goes a very long way in a country like Nepal. Since the Trust started making grants in 2005, UMNHET has paid out £403,541.

HP is 19 years old. He travelled to Kathmandu from his village, a 15 hour bus journey looking to make his fortune in the big city. He found work as a day labourer, earning less than £2 per day. After a fall at work he ended up with a serious infection in his leg and he found himself in Patan hospital for 26 days on intravenous antibiotics and a hospital bill of £250 which he couldn't pay. The hospital charity fund, with your assistance, covered his costs. Without it he would have had to leave the hospital without treatment and be at risk of losing his leg to infection.



Altogether in the past 1 year, the UMNHET fund has helped 178 patients in Amp Pipal, 190 patients in Patan hospital, 274 patients in Okhaldhunga and 77 patients in Tansen.

We are so grateful for the support you give the Trust, enabling the four UMN affiliated hospitals in Nepal to serve the poor in need of medical care, regardless of caste, religion or resources. Please continue to pray for these hospitals, the Nepali and expatriate staff, as well as the patients whose lives are touched. Could we ask you, too, to share this newsletter with one other person to see if we can extend the support we give in the coming years? Perhaps consider sponsoring UMNHET if you, or someone you know, is looking for a good cause to sponsor? For more information please visit our website: www.umnhet.org.uk

Thank you again for your continued support.

The Trustees:

Cleve Chevassut (Chair), Tim Trimble (Treasurer), Gary Parkes, Olak Jirel, Alison Chevassut, Katrina Butterworth