United Mission to Nepal Hospitals' Endowment Trust Newsletter no.8

Another year has passed and the Trustees are very grateful indeed for all the support you have given through the year to the work of the Trust. In spite of the challenging financial scene around the world your generosity means that we can send the grants in August with a small increase on the 2011 hospital by hospital allocation. It is anticipated that this year total interest available for the designated hospital charitable health care will be £27,000. The interest from the money we receive as 'undesignated' will be £10,500 and will be sent as grants either to the hospitals or to related health care work where it is in accordance with our Trust mandate.

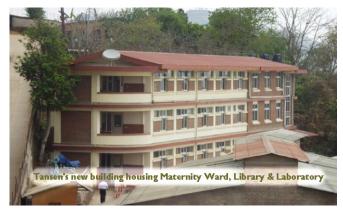
News in the political realm in Nepal still has an uncertain and very anxious element, and many of you will be aware of the failure of the government to write a new constitution within the time allocated. This leaves many questions of governance unanswered and a country without real leadership. Prices of many basic commodities have risen and daily life for many is growing ever more difficult.

However there were great celebrations in **Okhaldhunga Hospital** in March on the 50th anniversary of the start of medical care in the area. Dr. James (Jimmy) Dick, their first doctor, wrote of his



earliest recollections when there was no running water - merely kerosene cans carried from the nearest stream - and dak wallas (postmen) running between the hospital and Kathmandu. From such small beginnings the hospital and community care has grown in capacity and stature and great plans are afoot to rebuild, renovate and extend their services. Ex Gurkha soldiers from nearby villages have contributed to the fund raising and local people are willing to carry stones and do the hard work to improve facilities. The hospital bed occupancy exceeded 100% in 2011 and a

policy of free care to any child weighing less than 12kg, enabled 1,500 children to benefit in the year. Tansen Hospital has had another busy year, employing 350 Nepali staff with 8 mission appointees and has accreditation to train 10 Nepali Interns each year. Bed occupancy runs at about 78% and their Outpatient Department treated around 12,900 patients. The 'free care' given was up on last year so their need for charity fund donors remains high. Renovations to wards and department continue to improve facilities and fund raising for the construction of another water storage tank continues. The hospital recently gained the 2012 'Best Hospital of the Year' award from the Nepal National Health Magazine and we are delighted by that news.





Amp Pipal Hospital has benefited greatly from the medical services of Dr Wolfhard Starke for the past nine years and it is good to record our appreciation as he moves on to other work. Under the Chairman Mr Krishna Bahadur Thapa and the administrator Babu Ram Giri the hospital staff continue to serve the community. The hospital has links to The Nick Simons Institute in Kathmandu for health workers training. Renovation work has been carried out in various departments, 50 - 120 patients visit daily and the Outpatients Department runs a free vaccination programme for children. The Dental Department is under a specially trained technician and also provides Dental Camps with visiting overseas volunteer teams.

Patan Hospital, the teaching hospital for the Patan Academy of Health Sciences, is now one of the largest in Nepal. It treats around 320,000 outpatients and 20,000 inpatients annually and has many modern and highly technical facilities. It is independent of UMN but their 'Mission and Goal Statement' reflects the early beginnings as part of the United Mission to Nepal. Our Trust now directs the designated 'free care' charity money we receive to the Paediatric and Neonate Units in the Hospital.





Thank you all so much for being such remarkable and special people - through your interest and support, your generosity and your caring commitment to those with health needs and little ability to pay for the treatment many lives are improved. You are appreciated greatly by those who benefit most....and by all the Trustees too. Dr Bill Gould has stepped down from Trustee responsibilities, and all the Trustees wish to express their immense gratitude for his vision in founding the Trust, and his wonderful commitment to it over many years.

You may enjoy looking at each hospital's website where you'll find some amazing stories and some heart-warming encouragement. These are the links:

Okhaldhunga Hospital (http://www.umn.org.np/new/okhaldhunga_hospital.php)

Tansen Hospital (http://www.tansenhospital.org.np)

Amp Pipal Hospital (http://www.amppipal.de/the_hospital.htm)

Patan Hospital (http://www.pahs.edu.np)
UMN HET website (http://www.umnhet.co.uk)

If you received this letter by email, you can visit the sites by clicking on the appropriate link (note - you may have to hold down the CTRL key as you click). If you received this letter by post, then just type the link into your internet browser.

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