

TOUCH Ireland is a totally voluntary charity with no salaries paid to any member.
100% of donations for our projects go to our projects.

Asia Trip February 2019

On the 11th February we departed Ireland to visit TOUCH Ireland projects in Nepal and also to be present for the opening of the Twin Otters – Phoenix House for Street Children. This project was funded by the ‘Help Nepal Rise Again’ Fund with Montys of Kathmandu Restaurant through TOUCH Ireland. We were also looking in on the construction of the Kanti Child and Adolescent Psychiatry Centre of Excellence which we are co-funding with the Norwegian Psychiatry Association, FORUT-Norway and CWIN.

We were so looking forward to seeing all our friends at Twin Otters, TOUCH House, Jalbire, Kanti Children’s Hospital and some of our 3rd Level Students in Kathmandu.

Official Opening of Phoenix House



It was a great day for all concerned, The Twin Otters, Monty’s of Kathmandu Restaurant ‘Help Nepal Rise Again’ Fund, TOUCH Ireland and especially the Children. Attending were local dignitaries, business people and some of the local community. After speeches there was a magic show for the children which they really enjoyed.

Then Twin Otters put on a great spread of food for everyone. We also had some of our 3rd Level Education students that are sponsored by the Monty’ Bursary. So Well done Shiva, Lina, Dinesh, Birendra, Sukdev and Kemraj and all concerned from TOUCH Ireland with this project. These children will have a great chance at a good future.



Welcome to our Spring Newsletter '19

TOUCH Ireland Emergency Christmas Appeal 2018

Great news! Thanks to Damien Ward for his donation from completing the Art O’Neill Challenge towards our Christmas appeal for the repair of the Ladani Orphanage Roof in Sri Lanka. We raised €1,650.00 of the €1,650.00 needed. This means we are now there!

So thanks to everyone that helped us raise these funds needed to repair the roof at the Ladani Orphanage. We will update you all with photos in due course. You have all made it an Extra Happy New Year for the Children of Ladani. Well done again to all that supported this Appeal!!



Donate to TOUCH Ireland

You can donate by PayPal on the TOUCH Ireland Website: <http://touchireland.net/>

By Cheque made out to TOUCH Ireland or by Cash

Please send your Donation to TOUCH Ireland, 17 Monread Meadows, Naas, Co. Kildare

Highlights of our Visit to Nepal

Child Sponsorship - Jalbire

We headed high up into the Himalayas to the Village of Jalbire with Dinesh to see all the twenty children on our sponsorship programme. Two of our 3rd Level students Pooja and Savyata came with us to help out and also to see the children.

It took us five hours to reach Dinesh's Father's house as this is where we would meet the children. While waiting we were treated to a traditional lunch on the roof top of the house overlooking the valley below.

When the children arrived from school they were excited and delighted to see us. We distributed school bags which we had purchased on route and gifts from our supporters back in Ireland.



We headed back to Kathmandu around 5pm and stopped for dinner on route and finally arrived in Kathmandu at 12.30am. That was the end of a very long and rewarding day for all of us.

Visit to TOUCH House

We spent two days with the children/young adults in TOUCH House where as always we were given a great welcome.

On the first day we had lunch with everyone followed by distribution of presents donated by our supporters in Ireland. After this the children put on their entertainment programme for us which was enjoyed by everyone. Then we had numerous games including 'Boat, Bank River' which was a new game for all.



On the second day it was off to the Cinema to watch a Nepali film which lasted three hours! At the interval there was Popcorn and drinks to watch the end of the film. Then it was MO MOs, Burgers and more drinks which was well appreciated by everyone before going back to TOUCH House. We left the children with a heavy heart but knowing they were all well and we would see them all again soon.

Painting TOUCH House

After the Earthquake in 2015 TOUCH House was shaken and some damage done to the building but because it was built Earthquake proof it remained standing with only superficial damage done to the building. We managed to fund the necessary repairs at the time but not paint the building. The Building had not been properly painted since its opening in 2007.



During our visits to Phoenix House we handed over 12 Lockers to the children. These were sponsored by Shiva from Monty's of Kathmandu Restaurant in Temple Bar, Dublin. They were so delighted when we presented them with their own Keys to their own locker.

Lockers for the Children in Phoenix House



We all need a little bit of privacy. For these children its a new Experience

Now the Building looks new thanks to TOUCH Ireland Supporters and Saint Patrick's Cathedral Community Grants Scheme.

Picnic – Phoenix House ‘Twin Otters’



It was time to head back to the picnic area where everyone enjoyed a beautiful meal cooked by Dev and all the helpers. It was a lovely day with everyone. We headed back into Kathmandu with everyone very tired and ready for a good night sleep!

We loaded the Bus with cookers, gas, and a variety of food. Then we were on our way to Godwari and the Botanic Gardens. When we arrived we parked in a picnic area outside the gardens. While the helpers set up cooker and fires and started to prepare food the children played and did gymnastics! We then headed into the gardens where everyone enjoyed the space and all the attractions. We then played some games and the children practiced their Taekwondo.

We traveled to Kanti Children’s Hospital to see how this project was progressing which we are co-funding with the Norwegian Psychiatry Association, FORUT-Norway and CWIN.

This project started in December '18 and will conclude in early 2020.

This is a dream coming to reality for Dr. Arun Kumar who we met about three years ago. It has been a long struggle for Arun over these years dealing with bureaucracy and the engineering challenge of the construction of this building. The site which was given by the Nepali Government is at the back of the hospital looking down some 20 meters to Kathmandu city and this is in an earthquake environment! The foundations which are nearing completion consist of 40 concrete/steel pillars going down 20 meters and 20 pillars going down 10 meters into the valley below. This was all done without machinery.

Kanti Child and Adolescent Psychiatry Centre of Excellence



TOUCH Ireland Project - Kanti Child and Adolescent Psychiatric Outpatient Clinic, Centre of Excellence January 2019



We are all so happy to see this project moving forward now and when finished it will be of great value to the vulnerable children of Nepal. For information on the project please click link below:

<http://touchireland.net/child-and-adolescent-psychiatry-ce.../>

Misisi Community School, Lusaka, Zambia

Misisi Compound is a [shanty town](#), which is located in [Lusaka, Zambia](#). Misisi has been identified as one of the five worst slums in Sub Saharan Africa. Due to a lack of resources there has been poor record keeping, but according to best estimates, there are between 80,000 and 90,000 people living in the area. New School Block, Library/Kitchen & Toilets This community struggles in a very dignified manner to raise their children in an extremely poor environment.



TOUCH F.C. Kaoma, Zambia



TOUCH FC Captain Receiving Cheque for €500.00 from TOUCH Ireland through TOUCH Zambia. TOUCH FC was founded by TOUCH Zambia and supported by TOUCH Ireland in 2012. Its aim is to support vulnerable youths that lacked recreational facilities. It identifies their talents and also helps them keep away from illegal activities such as drugs and alcohol. This team consists of out of school youths and school going youths. The club was registered with Football Association of Zambia in 2014 in the Div. 2 of the Western Region, League. The club consists of both boys and girls that participate in Football, basketball and Volleyball. We are always looking for a sponsor for this club so if you are interested please contact us.

Not every project has to be a School, Drop in Centre or a Clinic!

This is Kwalela, her child and her new House! She was living in a Grass Hut that was leaking badly during the rainy season. Now she has this solid house funded by TOUCH Ireland and constructed by Harrison Walubita of TOUCH Zambia. (Well done Harrison!) At night she can close and lock her door and keep her child and herself secure in a nice dry home! Now she has a good environment to raise her child thanks to your support to TOUCH Ireland



Kwalela's House, Kaoma



A huge congrats to everyone that participated in RUNAMUCK especially the people on the TOUCH Ireland Team. For some it was a bit of fun, for others it was the biggest challenge they have taken on to date!! You took on the challenge and you conquered it! Huge thanks to Hazel who organised the TOUCH Ireland Team, Well Done!



Well done to Damien Ward who recently completed the Art O'Neill challenge for TOUCH Ireland. We would like to thank Damien and everyone who supported him.



Funds raised went straight to TOUCH Ireland's roof repair project in Sri Lanka

We would like to thank Mike Gleeson and Downda Road Productions For their support with this Event <https://www.facebook.com/downdaroadproductions/>

The Fate Restaurant Education Bursary Fund is in aid of third level education for Children in Zambia. This bursary was set up as a result of a 'Meal Night' held every year in Fate Restaurant Naas, Co. Kildare. It supports youths through College and Skills Training courses in Zambia.

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