



## A busy and fruitful first-half of 2023!

What a change a year can make. Putting the pandemic years behind us, a group of committee members made a much-anticipated trip to Nepal in January – the first visit in almost three years. It was a joy to catch up with the children, their carers, and our program partners, and to see the children growing and prospering.

In May we were thrilled to be able to hold our first major fundraiser since 2020. This event was a resounding success thanks to the talent and bigheartedness of Danny Phegan and Band, the generosity of our sponsors and the enthusiasm and deep pockets of our guests!

Our next fundraiser coming up on 2 September is the Beechworth Theatre Company's performance of "What We Said", at the historic Bungowannah Hall. With a home-cooked supper, market stall, raffle and lucky door prizes, it promises to be a great night out! For more information, please contact Chrissy via [megschildren@hotmail.com.au](mailto:megschildren@hotmail.com.au).

The children at Noble House are well and busy with their new session of the school year. Four of our oldest kids have now finished secondary school and will soon commence their 'Plus 2' studies, leaving 12 kids at Noble House, the youngest in grade three and oldest in grade nine. The kids are achieving great results academically and in sports and are happy and healthy.

As always, the children send their love and gratitude for the support they receive from the Meg's Children community in Australia. Your generosity is making a meaningful difference and helping to create a brighter future for this wonderful group of children and young adults in Nepal.

With gratitude,  
Trish Ryan - Founder, Meg's Children Nepal



*Pictured - staff, children and committee members at Noble House in January 2023*

*Education is a basic human right.*

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## Congratulations to our secondary-school graduates!

Four of our children from Noble House - Nabin and Laxman (pictured), Sita, Binita - and Outreach Program student Anisha completed their Secondary Education Examinations (SEE, year 10 equivalent) this year, marking the end of their secondary school journey. We congratulate the students on their hard work and are delighted to advise that all five passed the SEE with good marks!

Each child intends to embark on 'Plus 2', which is year 11/12, undertaken at vocational and technical colleges to prepare students for tertiary studies. The admissions process is almost complete, and the children are due to commence their studies shortly. This new chapter will mean moving out of Noble House and into shared accommodation closer to their chosen colleges - but still under the care of Meg's.



Binita and Sita are planning to study Plus 2 in management/education, and Laxman, Nabin and Anisha will all study a science based Plus 2 program, setting them up for further studies in fields such as engineering and IT. Through our Higher Education Budget Meg's Children will support each of the children by covering tuition fees, stationery and books, uniforms and a living allowance.

## Visit to Nepal and a new MoU with the Siddhi Memorial Foundation

In January committee members Trish, Kate W, Marie-Lou and Ali travelled to Nepal to catch up with the children and sign a new five-year Memorandum of Understanding with our partner organisation Siddhi Memorial Foundation. Our working relationship with Siddhi is critical to the success of our efforts in Nepal. The COVID pandemic had prevented the committee from travelling to Nepal for almost three years, so there was a lot of catching up to do!



*Pictured: Trish Ryan and Shyam Sundar Dhaubhadel, founder of Siddhi Memorial Foundation Nepal, signing a revised MoU for the on-ground operation of Meg's Children.*

## Major fundraiser a roaring success - thank you to Danny Phegan and Band

More than 140 people attended our first major fundraiser since 2020, held at the Albury SS&A Club on Friday 26 May. Our guests danced and sang to music by the fabulous Danny Phegan and Band and enthusiastically put up their hands during the charity auction - delivered with great skill and humour by Danny and his father Warren Phegan.



We were humbled by the generosity and wowed by the talent of Danny Phegan and his band, who put on an amazing show. We were also humbled by the donation of an extraordinary range of auction items, which elicited very competitive bidding! The overall financial result was an incredible outcome for Meg's Children and the event was a great boost to morale.

Hats off to the committee, who worked tirelessly to bring the event together, and to one and all who made the effort to come along and embrace the occasion and the cause!



## Outreach Program update

The kids who participate in our Outreach Program - which covers the costs of education for disadvantaged children living with their families in the community - are faring well.

Siblings Malina and Bibesh have been supported through this program since leaving Noble House several years ago and settling with family in Jhapa, eastern Nepal. Sagar (our boots on the ground, pictured!) recently visited Malina and Bibesh to discuss their next steps after finishing high school. Both are working full time jobs that cover their living expenses and are planning to stay in Jhapa, where they will embark on tertiary study in hotel management (Malina) and business accountancy (Bibesh), which will be funded through the Meg's Children pay-back scholarship program.





## Vale to a cherished member of the Meg's Children family

It was with great sadness we learned Gauri Karmacharya, the much beloved and tireless 'house mother' to our children at Noble House, passed away earlier this month following a battle with cancer. Our thoughts and prayers are with Gauri's family, particularly her husband Manohar - who worked alongside Gauri at Noble House - and their daughters.

*Gauri (second from right) pictured earlier this year with Manohar (far right), Sagar (back) and our house mothers at Noble House.*

## Sponsorship Program - how to get involved

Hearty thanks to those generous people who have become regular donors to Meg's and achieved recognition under our Sponsorship Program.

As you know, the vulnerable children in the care of Meg's Children rely on funds raised through our Trust to provide for their daily living needs and deliver on their right to educational opportunity.

Tax-deductible donations made to Meg's Children enable each child to feel valued and to have equal opportunities while in our care. Any donation equal to or greater than \$240 per annum will allow the sponsor to be recognised under the following Sponsorship Recognition Levels.

**For further information about how to become a sponsor**

go to [www.megschildren.org](http://www.megschildren.org)

email [megschildren@hotmail.com.au](mailto:megschildren@hotmail.com.au)

or call

**Trish Ryan (Founder) 0418 999 917**

**David Hicks (Treasurer) 0419 251 036**

Bronze

\$20 per month or  
\$240 annually

Silver

\$40 per month or  
\$480 annually

Gold

\$80 per month or  
\$960 annually

Platinum

\$2500 per annum

*Save the date!*

You are invited to join us for an  
upcoming **garden lunch** fundraiser  
in **HOLBROOK**  
on **Saturday 28 October**

*More details to come*

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