



As another busy and productive year draws to a close, I would like to take the opportunity to express our sincere gratitude to you, the supporters and community of Meg's Children Nepal. Your goodwill and generosity allow us to continue to improve and enrich the lives of a wonderful group of vulnerable children and young adults in Nepal.

This year has seen our children continue to grow and thrive, as more of them step forward into higher education and establish careers. The achievements of two of those young people - Sita and Reema - are featured in this newsletter.

At home we've been delighted to resume pre-pandemic activities and have hosted a range of successful and very enjoyable fundraising events - kicking off in May with a live music event (the exceptional Danny Phegan and Band) and charity auction, followed by a Spring luncheon hosted by Matt and Margot Pitzen at Holbrook, and wrapping up with the Henty Bakery ladies' night and Christmas markets. I thank all of those who helped to bring these events to life!

On behalf of the Meg's Children Nepal Committee, I wish all our Meg's Children Nepal friends and supporters a wonderful Christmas, and a happy new year. Enjoy a restful Christmas break, and we look forward to catching up with you in 2024!

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

Congratulations Sita!



We are very proud of Sita Nepali, who recently passed the entrance exam for a three-year diploma to become a qualified medical laboratory technician. Sita comes from a minority caste in a small village in the remote Humla region of western Nepal (where the literacy rate is less than 50 per cent), and her enrolment in tertiary studies is considered very significant by her extended family.

Sita will live with her older brother and his family in Kathmandu while she undertakes her studies, supported through the Meg's Children pay-back scholarship program.

Albury MP Justin Clancy visits Meg's Children Nepal

In November the Member for Albury, Justin Clancy MP, visited the Meg's Children family at Noble House, and spent time with Sagar, Hari and our partner organisation Siddhi Memorial Foundation. Justin is the NSW Shadow Minister for Skills, TAFE and Tertiary Education, and his visit to Meg's was part of a 21-day trip to India and Nepal, cultivating parliamentary, business, education and training ties. Justin is a great supporter of Meg's and we were delighted that he took this opportunity to visit our children and team in Nepal, and was able to see the difference that the community of Albury has made to the lives of these children and young adults.



An earthquake hits western Nepal

In early November a significant earthquake in the Jajarkot District of western Nepal killed more than 150 people and brought destruction and suffering to many more. The earthquake was widely felt in western Nepal, including the remote Humla District, where Reema (pictured - with a baby she has just helped to safely deliver!) is working as a nurse in a government hospital. After an anxious wait we were so grateful to hear that Reema, who was one of our original children and grew up at Meg's, was safe and sound.

We're very proud of Reema's achievements and the person she has grown into. It's wonderful to see her set on a path to a rewarding career. No doubt Reema's nursing skills are being put to great use as the Humla Region rebuilds. With cold weather now setting in, the suffering of those who lost homes and livelihoods during the earthquake is heightened, and our thoughts are with those communities.



Want to know more about Meg's? Take some time to browse our website www.megschildren.org.

We're steadily updating information, children's stories and sponsorship recognition. While you're there, subscribe to our blog and you'll receive updates on upcoming events and news features! And don't forget to follow Meg's Children Nepal on Facebook!

Education is a basic human right.

www.megschildren.org





Tickets available for Christmas raffle!

This beautiful handmade Christmas stocking could be yours to keep or gift to a loved one!

\$5 per ticket. Raffle to be drawn on **December 15**.

Email us or text 0418 635 004 for details to purchase tickets!



Thank you to Penny for this generous donation, which highlights her superb needlework skills.

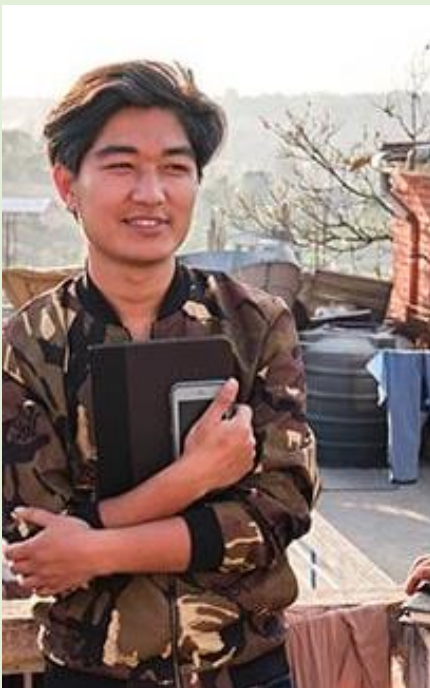


Christmas gift idea!



Thinking of Christmas gifts and wanting to support Meg's? Have you considered a Meg's **Donation Certificate** as a gift? Make a donation to Meg's and we issue you with a certificate that includes the recipient's name, donation value (of your choice) and a personalised message, for you to gift to a friend or family member. What a way to share the good story of Meg's! Email us at megschildren@gmail.com for further details or complete the Donation Certificate contact form on our website www.megschildren.org

A note of thanks from Sagar



We would like to share an excerpt from an email recently sent by Sagar, our invaluable in-country manager of Meg's Children (as many of you know, Sagar grew up as part of the Meg's Children family):

"...I am mentioning all these here today because [many] kids who grew up in Megs are now independent and making their lives. ...

So today for all these and on this beautiful occasion of Dashain I would like to thank each one of you who has been supporting Megs Children Trust in Australia for all these years. We are always thankful for all your generous support and help. Sending you much more love and greetings.

*Happy Dashain** 2023 and hope you all stay safe and healthy."*

In October the people of Nepal (and many people around the world) celebrated **Dashain, considered the biggest festival in the country and marked by a 15-day public holiday! During Dashain people often travel long distances to celebrate with family and friends, and several of the children from Noble House went to visit their relatives during the festival. It's important that the children are supported to build connections with their relatives and home communities, particularly to help them establish a network once they finish school.

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