

March 2022

Dear Friends,

It's time to share some more news and ideas for prayer as we head into a much warmer season here in Besisahar. Winter clothes will not be worn again until November! We've had a fairly eventful couple of days so here's a 'day in the life of Anandaghar' (Anandaghar means House of Joy, and it's what Joy called our house before we came – a great name!).

So yesterday, Joy and Phillipa set off on the scooter to ride and walk to two schools. The road in a couple of places is worse, more bumpy and less scooter-friendly. I decided to get off and walk while Joy rode over a landslide. Happily we arrived at our roadside destination and were able to leave the scooter and helmets in the care of a teashop owner. Walking down a steep, dusty slope to the footbridge to cross the river, we both slipped and hurt our knees, my foot and our pride. Thankfully a kind teacher came along just at that moment, helped us up and escorted us to the school, by which time we were feeling okay(ish). We enjoyed the opportunity to meet teachers and follow-up on the training from last November. It is encouraging to see some of them try out ideas, like this teacher



using real rhododendron flowers to teach about their anatomy in a grade 4 science lesson, and some others trying out group work. We were also able to speak with the principals about Grade 8 KISC students coming from Kathmandu for their



activity week; they will lead some activities with classes in six schools over three days, at the end of March. After samosas for lunch and the second school visit, we returned home ready for a cuppa and some of Joy's yummy date flapjack. My badly grazed foot became alot more painful and Dr Dan dressed it for the night. Thankfully this morning it's feeling better; thanks to those who prayed. Meanwhile, Dan was very relieved to hear that after a few stressful weeks, his bank transfer to purchase a motorbike has been finally traced with the help of a local friend of a friend. He also began working with his new colleague, the Sunita Project Coordinator, Varden, who is now living here in Besisahar. Apart from helping Dan with his very complicated motorbike purchase, Varden's first task is to oversee setting up the newly-rented office space, ready for other staff to arrive from April 1st. One more thing, the water supply that comes to our house to fill our roof tank has slowed down almost to nothing, so we're on minimal flushing, no laundry until further notice!

We spent last week in Pokhara, starting with the formal opening of the Palliative Care Unit at Green

Pastures Hospital. It has been working now for well over a year, but due to Covid it has only just been possible to arrange this event. It was a wonderful celebration of God's faithfulness and what has been achieved, with a great sense of hope for the future. Dan was able to spend plenty of time with his team working on the Sunita project plans and many administrative requirements for the funding partners. The three-year Sunita project officially starts on April 1st, by which time several more appointments will have been made



and an introductory workshop will get things off the ground. As the Sunita Project starts, Dan is also hoping to work with doctors at District Hospital Lamjung (DHL) in developing systems and processes for integrated chronic disease management, including palliative care, and delivering some on the job training. He is looking forward to getting back to some clinical work as part of that process and discussing with the leadership how that will work.

As members of INFInternational, we are looking forward to a retreat weekend in April and Phillipa has volunteered to run a programme for the children, about 11 of them, aged 4-16. The theme for the weekend is prayer so we will also explore this with the 'young INF-ers'. Please pray that each one will be encouraged in their own faith and have a fun time. It's likely to be really hot, so afternoons in the hotel pool will probably be the hightlight!

The Nepali New Year (2079!), falls mid-April and this is also the start of the new school year. KISC EQUIP team members from Kathmandu will come to Lamjung again from 24th April, for Phase 1 of the next year's training programme. This time the focus will be for teachers of Grades 6-8. At some point in the coming year Phillipa will also collaborate with colleagues to deliver general training in differentiation and inclusive education. This will offer such a great opportunity to share a worldview that values each and every child and how this can be implemented in the classroom.

Along with everyone throughout the world we are so shocked and saddened by the events in Ukraine and praying for peace. We don't know what the outcome will be for countries like Nepal, but rises in commodity prices could hit the poorest very seriously. We are thankful that all is in God's hands and we can trust him for the future.

Greetings from us both,



Dan and Phillipa

March 28-April 1. April 1	KISC Activity Week Start of Sunita Project
April 4 – 8	Introductory Sunita
	Workshop, Pokhara
April 8-10	INF Retreat near
	Pokhara
April 24-May6	KISC EQUIP
	Lamjung training
	Programme.