



*"There is no better exercise for your heart than reaching down and helping to lift someone up."*

*- Bernard Meltzer*

Editor: Jen Kim

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## NEWSLETTER

### Clownin' Around at Papa's House



Always a tough act to follow, Ron Fowler -- known to some as the Flower Clown -- stopped by Papa's House in April to the laughter and delight of all of its residents. There was not a dry eye in the house by the time Ron was in full swing, creating silly balloon animals and even cracking jokes and puns in Nepali!

Ron, a frequent visitor to Nepal, was also in Bhaktapur during last year's major earthquake. Within hours, he took to the streets and performed, providing locals with some welcome relief and entertainment from the devastation.

We are so grateful to Ron for taking time out of his busy schedule to make us giggle!



## Documentary Update!

Exciting news! The film trailer for the NOH documentary "What it Takes to be Extraordinary" is now available online! [Watch the film trailer here](#). Please visit the film's [Facebook page](#) for more details

about the film.

Canadian supporters will have the opportunity to watch the full documentary on CBC's *documentary* channel on **Monday, June 13, 2016 8pm ET, and 11pm PT**, please spread the news!

Throughout the year, NOH will be holding special private screening events in support of



the children of Nepal Orphans Home, with the hopes of reaching supporters in the US, Australia & around the world. For updates, please visit the film's website at: [www.whatittakestobeextraordinary.com](http://www.whatittakestobeextraordinary.com)

- **U.S. Screening: Tuesday, June 7 at 7pm - Private screening at the Capitol Theater - CLEVELAND, OHIO**

NOH VP Carola Drosdeck, and Board Director/ Filmmaker Toni Thomson will both be in attendance with a Q&A to follow. There will also be items from

Nepal available for purchase.

Please contact Carola Drosdeck at [cdros@sbcgobal.net](mailto:cdros@sbcgobal.net) to reserve your seat.

## **Dispatches From The City of Glory: Children Share Their Experiences at Papa's House (part 1)**

When we asked the Class 10 students to tell us about their life in Kathmandu, they were thrilled to share their personal stories. The students partnered up and wrote essays in English, detailing their experiences and perspectives on school, family, friends and life at Papa's House. We loved reading them and we hope you will too.

### **The Hostel Life: Girls Houses**

By Bhumika and Yashodha



When I was first brought to Kathmandu from my village I was surprised to see vehicles, crowds of people, big buildings and other amazing things. When I came here I was a small girl and on the first night I cried because I was away from my home and I missed my family.

On another day I was provided with new school uniforms and bags. I was really happy to get those. A few days later I was able to make many friends, and the aunties and Papa used to ask questions. Then I just used to say "yes" and "no" to every question. We had so much fun playing football with my friends, Papa and aunties.

I have the unforgettable memory of celebrating each and every girl's birthday with so much fun and joy. Papa has given so much love and care to us. He is both father and mother. He used to say bedtime stories like "The Pea and the Princess." It is a really interesting story. The best part of living with so many sisters is that we

never feel lonely. There is always someone to cherish one another.

It has already been nine or ten years, but I have never felt like leaving the hostel. Rather I feel like I'm living with family—a big family with lots of care and love to each other. I feel like that because, more than my family, I have spent my life in NOH, and Papa and the aunties care for us like their own children. I feel so much pride to receive love from all of my sisters, Papa, and aunty. We are such a helpful family. Wherever there are any problems, we will stand for each other and try to solve them.

We all are part of a family and will be in the future too. One day we will have to depart and that time will be the most emotional part. We may go north, south, west or east, but no matter how far we go or how big a person we will be, we will always have the feeling of family love. Our love will never die for NOH because it is the home which made possible education in our life, which taught us to smile if we were sad. We will always be thankful to Papa and all the NOH members. Thank you all for adding beautiful color into our lives. For the rest of our lives, we will never ever forget this gift.

### **The Hostel Life: Boys' House**

By Sandesh and Lalit



For more than nine years, I, Sandesh Gurung, and my friend, Lalit Sunar of Nepal Orphans Home have been residing here at the home of Michael John Hess, which has always been filled with lots of love, affection and hugs.

This hostel was opened by Mr. Michael John Hess, who is an American citizen. He has been running this hostel since 2005. There are four hostels run by him. Among the four, three belong to the girls and one hostel belongs to the boys. In each hostel, there are very kind, loving and helpful managers. In our boys' hostel, Sam brother is the manager. We call him "Sam brother" because he looks after us. He is also a very good and helpful manager.

There are a total 21 boys in our hostel. There are different ages and classes of boys. There are different kinds of rules and regulations. We all have to follow the rules and regulations. We all have to wake up at five o'clock and change our clothes and have a cup of tea.

Our small brothers have to study in the studying room. We senior boys have to read in our own room. Then, after eight o'clock we have breakfast, brush our teeth and get ready for school. Then the rest of our days are spent at school. After school we go to vocational class. We learn different kinds of skills like: tailoring, math, software and hardware class, etc.

After we finish these classes we return to the hostel. At six o'clock we have dinner. Afterwards, we brush our teeth, do our homework then are in bed by ten.

This is the daily routine followed by each hostel. But we also have two special days of the week, which are Friday and Saturday. On Friday and Saturday we eat special food and watch a movie.

On Saturday we all go to the big hostel and play football, basketball, etc. We think that the boys' hostel life is more interesting and enjoyable than the girls because the boys are a little more mischievous and entertaining. Sometimes we do wrong things so we get scolded. But we also get advice from our Sam brother.

I think this will be the most memorable thing in our life. We have many friends. We are now in grade 10. After we finish grade 10 we should leave the hostel and be independent. We think that that day will be a difficult day for us because we don't want to leave our friends, our loving managers and our loving Papa. We were very small when we came to this hostel, but now we have grown up like one family.

We also have many good friends who help each other when there is trouble or a problem. There is a good relationship between our friends in our boys' hostel. We also have good roommates. We have good bunk beds, which are a most interesting thing for us. When we have a refreshment tour from our school, all the hostel boys get together to have a party.

Altogether there are 20 grade 10 students at Papa's Houses. 10 are girls and 10 are boys. At picnic time we share a little money and have a great picnic day. We think that all these things will be memorable. We boys are always together because we are all good friends. Among us there is always mutual cooperation.

Hostel life is a life which teaches us different kinds of knowledge. We also get love and affection from younger kids, older kids and our managers. We don't want to be apart from each other.

### **Chelsea Education and Community Center**

By Ankit and Mahendra



The Chelsea Center was established by Glenn Detrick in 2012 in memory of his beloved daughter. He has established two education centers and among them, one is ours.

Here we can learn life skill training. In our opinion, the reason why the Chelsea Education Center was established is that Glenn loved his daughter so much, he wanted to share that fatherly devotion with other children.

The Chelsea Center is where we learn life skills to become independent and take various classes like: shoemaking, computer hardware, web designing, adult women's class, tailoring, Khan Academy and math tuition, and special Class 10 classes.

By learning these different classes we can be perfect and make our life brighter. There are many staff members who support the center to make sure it runs

smoothly.

Many staff members and all the members of Papa's House support the children to be

skillful. Thanks to this organization, we feel very happy and lucky.

The main goal of the Chelsea Center is to learn skills and knowledge to help us live an independent life. These skills will help us become more responsible people in the future. The Chelsea Center is important because learning without skill is like a monkey without a tail.

### **After SLC**

By Sarita and Sangita



Nepal Orphans Home is an organization which provides food, shelter and education to the poor, the needy as well as orphans. This organization was established in 2005 in Nepal by founder Mr. Michael Hess, our "Papa." There are more than 120 students and around 42 staff members.

The students are divided into different houses. We have three girls' houses, one boys' house, a volunteer house and a transitional house.

There are several rules and regulations that need to be followed by students and staff. Here we are going to discuss one of the main rules.

After earning the School Leaving Certificate (SLC) [which is awarded after passing a set of rigorous tests] we should move to the transitional house and search for a job. It is not to keep kids far away but to make them independent. The rule should be followed strictly. When they

earn money, it will be deposited into their own account. They will be given the money when they return home and leave the hostel.

Students whose parents live in the Kathmandu Valley should return to their home after SLC and Papa will pay their school fee for two years. But those who live in the transitional house must manage their food and clothes themselves. This year a large number of students will take the SLC and move into the transitional house. We have 10 girls and 10 boys. Sometimes we gather and discuss this situation.



## Grade 10 Life

By Kaushila and Bishnu

We are Bishnu and Kaushila, and we are both in Grade 10. It's been about 1.5 months since we started grade 10.

**Kaushila:** I came to Papa's House when I was seven years old and started my school learning from LKG. I will never forget those days that I spent living at Papa's House. I still remember when I first met Papa at Bhaktapur. When Papa talked to me, I didn't understand when he was saying. I was speechless because I didn't know a word of English. And slowly Papa taught me. Papa used to give us chocolate. I still remember the words that I said to him. Instead of saying, "I love you," I used to say, "Me love you." Isn't it funny? Time passed so fast that I'm already in grade 10.

**Bishnu:** I was eight years old when I started living at Papa's House. I was not as nervous as Kaushila was at the beginning, as I had with me some friends,

who came from the same village. I started the school in grade 3. I had an interest in basketball, but at the time, I had no clue. Now I am in grade 10 and see myself as a basketball player as well.

Now let's talk about grade 10. We have 60 students in our class, 20 of whom are from Papa's House. Our class is divided into two sections "A" and "B", since it is best to learn in smaller groups.

As grade 10 is the final level at our school, we have taken full responsibility for our juniors. We have had such a great experience in grade 10 so we are sad to leave our friends in grade 9 and a few friends who have left school. Grade 10 has taught us about the importance of friends as well. I think I'm gonna miss them so much after we finish grade 10.

*Note: We will share more students' stories in our next newsletter!*

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## DONATE

Nepal Orphans Home receives no government support and relies on the contributions of individuals sharing our mission to provide for the welfare of children in Nepal who are rescued from slavery, orphaned, abandoned, or otherwise not supported by their parents.

Please help support our amazing kids by [making a donation](#) in any amount at [our website](#). A [wish list](#) is available for those who want to make contributions for specific purposes. Alternatively, various gift packages and descriptions of current projects are available at [Universal Giving](#).

If you would like to make a donation of stock, please contact Barbara Hess, Treasurer of NOH, Inc., at [bhessnc@aol.com](mailto:bhessnc@aol.com) to obtain the routing number for our account.

Contribute just by conducting internet searches using the Goodsearch search engine at [www.goodsearch.com](http://www.goodsearch.com) and designating Nepal Orphans Home as the recipient of the funds raised by your searches. Goodshop, an affiliate of Goodsearch, can also be used for online shopping, through which leading companies donate a portion of the sales to Papa's House.

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