



We seek a .....

## **New trustee for the Himalayan Trust UK**

### **Particular responsibility: Joint Health Programme Leader**

The Himalayan Trust UK has been working since 1989 to help the mountain people of Nepal. We strive to improve health and education in the mountainous regions of North eastern Nepal, particularly in the Taplejung region.

We still hold to the guiding principles laid down by Sir Edmund Hillary when he founded the first Himalayan Trust in 1960:

- > To focus on basic infrastructure – education, health, environment
- > To do only that which is requested by the mountain people
- > To involve the mountain people themselves in the work – “self help”
- > To minimise all unnecessary cost and to facilitate direct transfer of funds
- > To look for long term sustainability and independence for the mountain people

Visit our website to read more about our impact and current work – [www.himalayantrust.co.uk](http://www.himalayantrust.co.uk)

The HTUK currently has an annual budget of about £130k. We wish to increase this by about 40-50% to allow us to expand our health-related activities, to extend the educational training supported by HTUK and to meet growing needs for improved facilities and resources in both schools and health clinics.

HTUK is a small charity which prides itself on keeping administrative costs below 3% of donations. For this reason we do not employ anyone in an executive role. It is expected that each trustee will be involved in the general work of the Trust (overseeing the strategy and direction of the organisation, reviewing the activities of our NGO in Nepal, supporting events etc) and will also have a specialist role in line with their own experience and qualifications. There are, for instance, small teams on the Trust which monitor and help to develop our programmes in education and health as well as a Chairman, Hon. Secretary, Treasurer and people with marketing and legal expertise.

The vacancy arises due to the retirement of Dr Debbie Eklund, a retired Public Health consultant, who has served as a trustee since 2013 and initiated the health project. She has worked closely with Dr Kate Keohane, a retired GP who became a trustee in 2015. Dr Eklund formed a partnership with Action for Nepal (AfN), an NGO based in Kathmandu who oversee our projects. We have focussed much of our work on improving Maternal and Child Health outcomes.

#### **The nature of the role**

- To attend two Trust meetings each year (usually in London) and other meetings from time to time.
- To work closely with Kate Keohane, Joint Health Programme Leader, in agreeing with Action for Nepal the ongoing strategy and budget for the Health stream of the work of HTUK in Taplejung District.
- To assist in regular reviews of the work of Action for Nepal and in communicating with its staff. A monthly zoom meeting is held with Dr Jangmoo Sherpa of Action for Nepal.
- To travel to Nepal from time to time, with fellow trustees and volunteers, to support the work of Action for Nepal, visiting health posts in person and noting the impact of the work of HTUK. Education and Health trustees work in close cooperation on such visits. Kate Keohane visited Taplejung, together with the Education trustees in 2016, 2018 and 2022. The next planned trip is for November 2024.
- To help develop relationships between the various Trustees and across Work Streams to ensure cohesion and to help identify issues that need resolution.
- To contribute to the overall strategy and direction of the work of the HTUK.
- To support events and other initiatives as may be organised by the HTUK.

**President:** Sir Christian Bonington CBE | **Chairman:** Graham Wrigley | **Deputy Chairman:** John Walton | **Honorary 1953 Patron:** Mary Lowe

**E:** enquiries@himalayantrust.co.uk | **www.himalayantrust.co.uk**

Charity No. 1000153

### Person specification

The ideal candidate will

- Have an interest in the country and people of Nepal and be highly motivated to support them.
- Have first-hand professional experience in Health in the UK or abroad and a passion for improving the Health of the mountain people of the Taplejung District.
- Be ready to prepare reports for fellow trustees on the work of Action for Nepal and on progress with our agreed strategy.
- Work with other trustees to promote the Health work of HTUK and Action for Nepal through our website and in any other ways that are appropriate.
- Be familiar and adept with the use of Excel in budgets and financial statements.
- Enjoy working with and supporting others in a team.
- Be keen to play an active and creative part in the development of strategy and initiatives.

### Rewards of the role

The HTUK trustees are a committed group of people who enjoy each other's company, support each other's initiatives and share a strong motivation to meet the aims of the Trust. There are some dedicated funds to contribute to the expenses of trustees who wish to visit Nepal to support HTUK's work in the Taplejung area. Seven trustees have made such visits in recent years and have not only enjoyed the experience immensely but also returned better able to understand and support the work of the Trust.

2023 was the 70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the ascent of Everest and we lead a very successful fundraising campaign and have a new strategy process underway that will make this a great time to join.

### How to apply

You should send a CV and letter of application to Kate Keohane (Health Trustee) outlining your suitability for the role and relevant experience. Application should be by email to [katekeohane11@gmail.com](mailto:katekeohane11@gmail.com). Deadline: 31<sup>st</sup> January 2024. If you would like to talk to Kate for more information please contact her initially by email to arrange a call.

### Interviews

First-round interviews will be in late February with two trustees over Zoom. Second round interviews will be in March and in-person either in London or at a mutually agreed location convenient for those involved.

