

# Yak Yeti Yak Foundation

## the story so far

On the 25<sup>th</sup> April Nepal suffered the first and biggest earthquake in a series of quakes and aftershocks that are still continuing today.



The eyes of the world watched as historic temples crumbled and helicopters airlifted survivors from Everest, what the world didn't realise was that they were only witnessing the tip of the iceberg. Rural Nepal is desperately poor, at the best of times, most people survive as subsistence farmers. In the four worst hit regions the destruction is almost total, countless villages have lost 98% of the buildings, people are still struggling to find shelter.

Before opening our restaurant in Bath we had worked as guides and expedition leaders in Nepal, a job that involved emergency rescue and relief. In the first days after the earthquake we managed to contact friends and colleges in Nepal, they were going out into the field to help in the poorer areas, we started by sending our own money to them for supplies.



Just as we realised we couldn't keep sending money to Nepal, customers in the restaurant starting asking if they could help, so we started a collection and set about fund raising. The money we sent was used to buy aid for villagers in Gorkha and Sindupalcowk the two worst hit areas. Pretty quickly people in Nepal had a system organised with one team out in the field visiting villages and another back at home. The field team would record losses and assess what was needed, each family was given a ticket to exchange for the things

they needed, this shopping list was sent to the home team who would buy and pack the aid. The following day a lorry was loaded and left early morning for a meeting point and the aid was distributed to each family according to what was on their ticket. Thanks to every ones generosity we estimate we've helped 1,500 people, with food, blankets, shelter and seeds.





The fund raising has continued, there have been jumble sales, cake sales, cinema food, an all day buffet, BBQ with music and auction, and a festival food stall. So a big thank you is due to Box Primary School, Panache Picture House in Box, The Bell in Walcott Street, Batheaston Primary School and The Fermain Tavern in Guernsey and so many individuals that we can't mention them all but we really appreciate everything. The good news is that in addition to relief aid we have raised enough to build a school and we're on the way to a second school, work is due to start late September.



Future plans:

Firstly we'd like to welcome Philip Rouse to the team, his help is much needed as we are now in the process of becoming a registered charity.



Over the coming months we will be building the first school and fund raising, we have several events already in the pipeline. Fat Yak's Shack went down so well at Campfest that we're looking to try some bigger festivals next year.

We have a website under construction in the meantime you can follow the story on our Yak Yeti Yak Foundation Facebook page.

