

AIDE NEPAL MAGNOAC: ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Thursday 23 February 2023, at Cafe Marcha, Castelnau Magnoac

The meeting opened at 17h00. A copy of the agenda, and a list of those present are attached. The Treasurer welcomed everyone, and informed them of the death of two members since our last AGM, Lesley Salchert and Marie-Josèphe Brugeron.

Apologies for absence were received from Caroline Lenaghan, Marion Robinson, Yvon and Ed Boeckx, Adam Bailey-Bligh, Mike Cushing, Patty Reindersma, Johanna Maslic, and Karenza-Monica Case.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Much has happened since the last AGM.

The two schools which we built have been operating independently since the start of 2020. The President visited both in Spring 2022 and handed them over officially to the local authorities, whose responsibility it will be to maintain and support them. ANM will keep a watching brief.

Nepal's economy was badly affected by the pandemic. Based on tourism, it suffered from the absence of visitors. Companies and organisations had no money for charitable works. In the course of 2020, our representative in Nepal brought to our attention many cases of severe hardship, and ANM stepped in to help where possible. At one stage, we were supporting 24 families in different ways (medical support, providing lodgings and food, and some educational help).

At the end of 2020, we learned of the desperate situation of the OM home in Kathmandu with 19 mentally and physically handicapped children, no longer receiving support from the tourism sector and service clubs, and in danger of eviction. ANM paid arrears of rent, staff wages, food and equipment and medical support. The cost was €600 per month. This continued until mid-2022, when the local supporters resumed their earlier financing. We now have no regular commitment, but will continue to support specific needs of the home. The President visited the home during a visit to Nepal in 2022.

At the end of 2020, we learned of the plight of the Sister Home, in the southern city of Dang. The home, established by a local woman, Sayni Chaudary, had previously been supported by an overseas sponsor, on whose death the home was left without support. Sayni was using the last of her own savings to prevent closure. At that stage, the home had 11 children, all orphaned or abandoned, and was in danger of closure. ANM stepped in to provide food, clothing and school fees (education being a priority for these children, to give them the chance of a decent future). In 2022, the

President visited the home, (now with 24 children) and the local school attended by the children. The home needs approximately €600 per month, and ANM is committed to that level of support.

The President said that the last three years has been a very lean time for organising fundraising events, but thanks to a small number of events, and the generosity of our supporters, both in France and overseas, we have survived and provided help to a large number of persons in distress. He thanked our supporters for their generosity. He also thanked the members of the committee for all their work.

TREASURER'S REPORT

The Treasurer began by saying that the last three years had been rather complicated, in that finding ways to transfer funds economically to Nepal had at times been problematic, and varying rates of exchange had added to the difficulties.

The local account had been relatively straightforward, however, and the Treasurer summarised the activity since 1 January 2020. The summary of the accounts for the three years is attached. At the end of 2022, our bank balance stood at €6920.60.

A good deal of our fundraising takes place in the UK, and money is transferred directly from a UK bank account to Nepal. Before 2020, transfers were for capital expenditure, but that changed in 2020. Finding the cheapest option for making transfers proved difficult, and we used a variety of means, including Paypal. At the end of 2020, the President discovered a means for charitable associations to transfer funds to needy countries. The facility, named Remitly, makes no charge, and funds are transferred instantaneously.

During the years 2020-2022, we supported a wide range of needy families and homes, but by 2022 we were helping only two children's homes at an unsustainable cost of €1200 per month. OM home has now been taken in charge by local entities in Nepal, and our regular support is limited to the Sister Home in Dang, at a cost of €600 per month.

The Treasurer informed the meeting of the amounts of money transferred to Nepal since the last AGM. These were as follows:

2020	Wells Fargo Bank USA	US\$869 (£666.05)
	Paypal	US\$6246.97 (£4880.37)
	Remitly	£2117.03
2021	Remitly	£16564.75
2022	Remitly	£10079.55

Thus, since the last AGM, we have transferred the equivalent of £34307. 75, which is a considerable effort, and has made a difference to the lives of many people, most of them children. This is, after all, the declared objective of ANM.

ELECTION OF THE COMMITTEE

As required by the association's statutes, the committee needs to be re-elected every three years. The President Roy Francis, the Treasurer Charles Mochan, the Secretary Ilse Mochan and committee member Margot Ellingworth presented themselves for re-election and this was approved unanimously. Jan Russell also stood for election to the committee and was elected unanimously.

APPROVAL OF A DELIBERATION ALLOWING AIDE NEPAL MAGNOAC TO ACCEPT A LEGACY

The Treasurer explained the inclusion of this item in the Agenda. Lesley Salchert was a member of ANM. After her death in September 2021, ANM learned that she had donated her moveable property to ANM to be sold to support our activities. This was done, mainly by means of "Vide maisons" over two weekends. The proceeds of the sale had to be transferred to the French Government via the Notaire in Castelnau Magnoac. In order for ANM to recuperate the percentage (40%) of the sales permitted by French law, ANM is required to obtain the approval of the members, in a formal meeting, to accept the legacy.

The Treasurer set out the formal language of the deliberation, which approves acceptance of the legacy, and gives power to a member of the committee to sign all necessary documents and carry out all formalities relating to the legacy. The meeting approved the motion unanimously, and designated the Treasurer, Charles Mochan, to deal with this matter. The text of the deliberation is as follows:

The association is the beneficiary of a particular legacy granted by Mrs Lesley Hyde, divorced from Mr Salchert, living at Campusan (65230), and deceased on September 6, 2021, under the terms of her will dated at Campusan on 13 August 2021, concerning the profits made on the sale of her movable goods.

The association decides to accept the benefit of this particular legacy and gives all powers to Mr. Charles Mochan to sign all acts and accomplish all necessary formalities

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

There was no other business.

The meeting closed at 17.55 and was followed by refreshments.

