CREATING A BUZZ IN NEPAL

WITH
THE BISHOP OF ST ALBANS’ HARVEST APPEAL 2020

Meet Manish: Pastor, Beekeeper, Entrepreneur

‘FOR THE LORD YOUR GOD WILL BLESS YOU IN ALL YOUR HARVEST AND IN ALL THE WORK OF YOUR HANDS, AND YOUR JOY WILL BE COMPLETE.’

(DEUTERONOMY 16:15B NIV)
Dear friends,

The UN tells us that, of the one hundred crop species that provide 90% of the world’s food, more than seventy are pollinated by bees.

Promoting beekeeping is, therefore, not just good for the people of Nepal directly affected by this project, but also good for the well-being of their country and its ecology, and that of neighbouring countries.

St John of Chrysostom said: ‘The bee is more honoured than other animals, not because she labours, but because she labours for others.’

Please join me, this Harvest, in honouring not just the people of Nepal, but also the humble and essential bee who sets an example to us all in these times.

+Alan St Albans

The Bishop of St Albans’ Harvest Appeal 2020 is set in South Asia, in the beautiful, mountainous, landlocked country of Nepal.

It’s only five years since Nepal suffered two major earthquakes, devastating lives, infrastructures and livelihoods. Like many people there, Manish – a husband, father and pastor – struggled to recover from the devastation caused, especially as the village’s water supply was severely damaged. Families were forced to make four trips a day to neighbouring villages to collect enough water to drink and wash, leaving little time or energy for their normal farming work. As result, this farming community was in dire need of extra income to feed and provide for families.

Beekeeping was the solution. With the benefits of training offered through the local church, Manish and his family’s lives have been transformed through beekeeping. The approach of this training programme, Church and Community Mobilisation (CCM), is to assess what resources are readily available to a community (for example, land, livestock) and use these to implement a plan out of poverty. In this case the answer was bees.

Before the earthquakes, Manish had an interest in beekeeping and owned a beehive. With the support of CCM training, Manish saw the potential to generate new income for his family, and quickly expanded from owning one to six beehives. He learnt how to look after the bees properly, and began to sell organic honey, candle wax and other bee-related products.

Encouraged and motivated, Manish is growing his beekeeping activity and now runs a successful business. He keenly passes on what he has learnt and encourages others in his community to get involved and work together. Manish’s faith in God and entrepreneurial attitude have inspired many other people to build a sustainable livelihood for their own future, too.

This year, with your support, around 900 people can be helped to rebuild their lives through beekeeping businesses. Bees are an important part of our natural world, particularly now in Nepal, where communities are still recovering from the tragic earthquakes, and with concerns of climate change, deforestation and the need for pollinators, bees are a very valuable commodity.

Will you help other Nepalese people, like Manish and his family, this Harvest?
YOUR GIFT WILL MAKE A WORLD OF DIFFERENCE

Your support to this year’s Bishop of St Albans’ Harvest Appeal will help many Nepalese people who are rebuilding their lives following such devastation and loss.

A gift of £53 could organise a CCM national and district level facilitators’ meeting or make a difference in 30 people’s lives.

A gift of £900 could cover the cost of running a CCM workshop for facilitators to come and learn about the process.

A gift of £260 could organise two monthly learning and sharing meetings for church leaders to share what they have learnt.

SENDING IN YOUR GIFT

Where possible, participating churches and schools should send their donations (including any reclaimed Gift Aid) by BACS transfer – details for this transaction are:

- Bank account no: 20776041
- Sort code no: 20 – 05 – 03
- Payment Ref: NEPAL4100101

If a BACS transfer is not possible, cheques can still be accepted. Cheques should be made payable to St Albans DBF and sent to ‘The Bishop of St Albans’ Harvest Appeal 2020’, c/o Holywell Lodge, 41 Holywell Hill, St Albans AL1 1HE

An individual wishing to give to the Bishop’s Harvest Appeal can use the online giving facility on the dedicated webpage: www.harvestappeal.org – where indicated our Appeal partner, Tearfund, will collect the Gift Aid on these donations.
Harvest Appeal Prayer

Mighty Creator, Loving Heavenly Father,

Thank you for the wonder and beauty of your world and for your extraordinary love, poured out for all people.

We ask you to equip and strengthen the Nepalese communities that were impacted by the brutal earthquakes of 2015, to re-build their lives with hope and purpose.

We pray that they would know your generous provision and your guiding presence with them.

Bless the beekeeping initiatives, may they flourish and, through them, we pray that lives would be enriched and communities transformed.

In Jesus’ name we pray.

Amen

OUR HARVEST APPEAL PARTNER

The Bishop of St Albans’ Harvest Appeal is partnering with Tearfund, a Christian international development agency, which seeks to meet the needs of some of the most vulnerable people around the world. Working alongside local churches and other locally-based organisations, Tearfund works in more than 50 countries, helping people step into their full potential and realise plans for a better future.

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