

KEY MESSAGES

Main message

The Gurkha Welfare Trust provides vital support to Gurkha veterans, their families and communities in Nepal.

Extended message

The Gurkha Welfare Trust provides vital support to Gurkha veterans, their families and communities in Nepal.

We enable people to live with dignity by delivering essential financial and medical aid and work with local communities to provide access to clean water and education.

SERVICE MESSAGES

Supporting Impoverished Gurkhas

We deliver a package of care to Gurkha veterans and widows to ensure they can live with dignity.

Our Pensioner Support Teams journey into the hills of Nepal on motorbikes, in 4x4 vehicles and on foot to pay them a pension, check their health and deliver medication in their own homes.

Medical Aid

We provide an international standard of healthcare and medication to Gurkha veterans and their families living in Nepal. We do this through our regional medical clinics, via home visits by specialist staff and by arranging subsidised treatment at carefully selected national hospitals.

Clean Water and Sanitation

Our water projects bring clean water and sanitation to remote communities in Nepal. We install individual tap stands and toilets to households and schools. By ensuring a safe water source and providing a comprehensive education programme on the importance of sanitation we see sharp drops in water-borne diseases such as dysentery.

School Projects

Our schools programme builds, repairs and improves schools in remote regions of Nepal and in turn provides access to education and a better future for Nepali children.

Earthquake Resilient Homes

It's not if another earthquake hits Nepal, it's when. We are taking pre-emptive action by building earthquake-resilient homes for Gurkha veterans and widows.

Residential Homes

Our two Residential Homes provide round-the-clock care to Gurkha veterans and widows who would otherwise struggle to live alone. With no comparable facility in Nepal, they set the standard of care for the elderly. The Residential Homes also provide in-patient hubs for our Rehab Services with bed spaces dedicated to rehabilitating beneficiaries on a short-term residential basis.

UK Advice Services

Since the revised settlement ruling in 2009, many Gurkhas and their families choose to live in the UK. In collaboration with Headquarters Brigade of Gurkhas (HQB), we established two Gurkha Welfare Advice Centres (GWAC) in 2010, one in Aldershot and another in Salisbury, to provide advice and signposting to government and charity support for those choosing to settle in the UK.

SPECIFIC MESSAGES

The Gurkhas

The Gurkhas are soldiers from Nepal who are recruited into the British Army (or the Indian Army), and for the last 200 years have committed themselves to the service of the British Crown. Gurkhas are known to be as fearless in combat as they are good-natured in daily life. To this day, they remain renowned for their loyalty, professionalism and bravery.

Welfare Pension

We pay a pension to thousands of impoverished Gurkha veterans or widows in Nepal who are not eligible to receive a British Army pension. The rate is calculated each year using a 'shopping basket' of basic goods such as rice, vegetables and firewood. For many people, this is their only source of income.

Disability Support Grant

For disabled dependents of our core beneficiaries, we offer a regular monthly grant similar to the Welfare Pension. Without this financial support, and in the absence of a developed-world health system, disabilities can pose an insurmountable obstacle in Nepal.

Emergency Hardship Grant

We are needed the most during moments of tragedy. When disaster strikes in the form of fire, flood, landslide or earthquake, GWT is ready to provide immediate assistance, by offering financial and other support.

Winter Allowance

Our Winter Allowance is an additional annual gift distributed to all of our pensioners to ensure that they are equipped to endure the colder months of winter.

Home Carers Allowance

Sometimes, family members of our Pensioners care for them full-time. When this happens they are able to apply for a grant from us to support them as they are unable to work.

Medical Camps

We provide free medical camps for people living in communities in the remote hills of Nepal. For many, this is the only medical assistance they receive. Relatively simple procedures like cataract removals and tooth extractions can make all the difference to those living in discomfort.

Disaster Preparedness

Nepal is particularly prone to earthquakes and was hit most recently by a devastating earthquake in 2015. Many of our veterans and widows were affected and nationally the death toll was high. After distributing emergency aid in the immediate aftermath, and subsequently helping to rebuild communities, we have turned our attention to our longer-term strategy.

Resilience for the next earthquake is central to our thinking. We have delivered training to our own staff and in due course will expand this to include the communities we serve. We are distributing essential items across Nepal and we have improved our ability to communicate in the event of a disaster.