



*Helping Others
To Help Themselves*

Being Community Maintenance Volunteers

Over our first month in Baglung, we have helped in the production of two improved cooking stoves and twelve wash pits, which have been built in the homes of the children who attend the nearby school. We have begun work on another six wash pits and hope to finish these within the next few weeks. After the first month in Sima, we are looking forward to new projects and beginning to teach in the school. With the addition of our newest volunteer, who has just arrived, new ideas and new possibilities could arise and we look forward to doing what we can for the community.

An important project we will be pursuing is the fixing of various areas of the jeep road leading in and out of the villages. Due to the rain and other factors, the roads quickly fall into disrepair and become extremely bumpy or even unusable, the negative effects on the village in terms of travel for the residents and for getting some larger supplies through for building and other purposes. If the jeep roads become too damaged, villagers will have to resort to carrying their supplies on their backs, and sometimes they might need to travel for hours uphill, which leads to wasted time and energy spent in transit.

Another side project we will be partaking in is coaching the schools teachers how to use the computers correctly during the children's holiday break. BP informed us that he was interested in getting our help in this matter and the school was looking to begin proper computer teaching as part of its curriculum. We hope that by doing this we can allow children to become technologically competent and for future when internet eventually becomes available in the village and a computer can become common household appliances. This will also help them in future with things such as getting a job and doing research in higher education due to the fact they learnt how to use a computer early on in their lives.

Tom Cywinski, NZ (21) & Oliver Plunkett, AUS (19)

Community Maintenance

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