

JOA – Gurkha Welfare Trust 2025

Project	Construction of School
Location	Nepal
Dates	15 th – 30 th March 2025
Group size	12 -14 volunteers from Jersey



Aim and Context of the Project

Since 1969, the Gurkha Welfare Trust (GWT), through its in-country field arm the Gurkha Welfare Scheme (GWS), has been working in Nepal to provide aid for Gurkha ex-servicemen, their dependents and their communities. Through a network of 21 Area Welfare Centres in the traditional Gurkha recruiting areas, each of which is manned for 365 days of the year by former Gurkha officers and soldiers, GWS staff deliver financial, medical and development assistance to pensioners and the wider community.

Since 1969, the Gurkha Welfare Trust has built 130 schools and repaired a further 1,800, installed water systems in over 1,400 remote villages, and provided a monthly pension to retired Gurkha soldiers or their widows who have no other income or means of support.

Many men in Nepali villages have departed to find employment as migrant workers. In their absence, women's groups, known as Aama Samuha, have often taken on a more prominent role in village life.

Project Details

Responsibilities/activities: With support from local project partners, the JOA volunteers will assist in the construction of a major school building project for a rural community. This area is around two hours' drive from the main town of Pokhara. It will be hard work, but there is a job to suit every ability. Participation on this project will enable volunteers to work with an iconic organisation, learn about beneficiaries' daily lives and the central role community plays in an ever-changing social landscape. Volunteers will learn about the importance of the GWT'S work in these rural communities as well as learning more about sustainable development with JOA.

Accommodation – Volunteers will be staying in the community in either basic hotel accommodation or camping in tents close to the village.