

December

Donations in lieu of flowers at Jim's funeral are funding a refresher training course for healers and a mass health event for people in Nepal. [More](#).

The 2009 evaluation and 2010 proposal (pdf 265KB) have arrived for the Undernourished Tribal Children project in Pune, India. Please see the webpage for details.

As a way to tackle global warming, family planning is eight times cheaper than solar power and four times less costly than wind power. The UK-based charity Optimum Population Trust (OPT) calls for the population issue to be featured in the global environmental debate at the climate summit in Copenhagen. The OPT is launching the PopOffsets project, as well as the new website, Swap your Carbon for Contraceptives (<http://www.popoffsets.com>).

Check out the new BODHI Times (pdf 1023KB).

Hot off the press: Medical Director's Desk No 37 (pdf 247KB).

Visit Colin's blog to have your say about population, climate change and ???

November

We're finalising a health promotion component to Green Tara Trust's maternal and child health work in Nepal.

Mobile Medical Clinics have now begun in the CHT, Bangladesh.

BODHI is contributing to a science lab at the SNEHA School in AP India.

Visit Colin's blog to talk about population and climate change.

October

French environmental health association ASEF has selected Colin to be one of the 100 Doctors for the Planet in a project that highlights the links between the environment and health. One interview a day will be released in the 100 days leading to the Copenhagen Climate Summit in December. Please visit ASEF's website for Colin's interview in French or download a pdf (25KB). Please join a discussion with Colin on population and climate change, and just about anything else.

September

BODHI's Environmental Adviser Senator Bob Brown has been awarded the Australian Peace Prize by the Peace Organisation of Australia in recognition of his longstanding commitment to peace, nonviolence and global justice. For more please see <http://au.news.yahoo.com/a/-/latest/6076486/bob-brown-wins-australian-peace-prize/>. Photo from AAP

Colin addressed the World Medical Association in Copenhagen after speaking in Delhi on climate change & food security at a meeting of the SEARO countries, the southeast Asian division of WHO.

Mr Susanta Chakma has sent some delightful photographs (pdf 293KB) of SNEHA students picnicking in NE India

August

Prof Goldstein's Trial Revolving Sheep Bank Trial Report is in! There'll be more to tell us, including photos and a sequel to Prof Goldstein and Dr Cynthia Beall's wonderful book, Nomads of Western Tibet, in due course. Stay updated by visiting the Revolving Sheep Bank.

Please see Kanika Chakma's moving account (pdf 51KB) of her childhood experiences of prejudice by the Indian government in Arunachal Pradesh. BODHI's Human Rights page provides more information.

Good news from Prof Melwyn C Goldstein, who's just back from Tibet: 'The Revolving Sheep Bank is fantastically successful. Nomads in the far west, near the Indian border, have travelled many miles to the area to learn more about it.'

21 July 2009

We're updating and modernising the website and appreciate your patience.

14 July 2009

We have just finalised support for another year of support for the SNEHA School in Diyun, Changlang, Arunachal Pradesh, India. For details, please see SNEHA.

[[humanrights.html](#)]

12 July 2009

Colin is the keynote speaker in Delhi in August for a World Health Organisation meeting on health implications of climate change in the SEARO (Southeast Asia Regional Office) region.

On his way to Delhi, Colin is speaking in Taiwan on food security in Asia-Pacific, and also on population displacement.

7 July 2009

Graphic Ark [<http://www.graphicark.com.au>] is designing us a new website at a massive discount as part of its commitment to community development.

If you've got any ideas for how we can improve our website, please let us know.

We realise that links have been broken below. Please contact us at bodhi@bodhi.net.au if there's anything you'd like to view.

6 July 2009

Please visit our new webpage called Minutes, BODHI Australia Annual General Meetings, [[bodhiaustraliaagms.html](#)] for minutes from BODHI Australia AGMs 2007, 2008 and 2009.

5 July 2009

A 2009 article in Science reveals the results of a recent study of people with Kashin-Beck Disease (KBD), [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kashin-Beck_Disease] a mysterious disease in parts of China and Tibet. Dr Francoise Mathieu notes the complex nutritional picture. She co-founded the Kashin-Beck Disease Foundation [<http://www.kbdfund.org/>] to carry on work in Tibet after Médecins Sans Frontières [<http://www.msf.org.au/>] pulled out in late 2002. Her team has documented not only iodine and selenium deficits but also low levels of calcium and vitamins A, D, and E. The biggest clinical improvement, they have found, happens when children with KBD consume a more diverse diet including nettles, a traditional food full of vitamins that is largely eschewed by younger Tibetans.

We realise that links have been broken below. Please contact us at bodhi@bodhi.net.au if there's anything you'd like to view.

Posted 19 June 2009

The minutes of BODHI Australia's Annual General Meeting, held Sunday 14 June, are now available.

Posted 7 June 2009

BODHI is twenty years old this year. His Holiness XIV Dalai Lama accepted our request to be our Founding Patron in 1989. Here is His recent letter of congratulations.

Posted 5 June 2009

Dr Maurice King, BODHI's Medical Adviser, has co-written as part of a consortium from the Great Lakes University of Kenya a new paper entitled 'The demographic entrapment of Middle Africa.' For information on Dr King's latest activities, please visit his website.

Posted 2 June 2009

'North and South', Colin's entry in the International Encyclopaedia of the Social Sciences, 2nd Edition, is now on the Hot Topics page.

Posted 1 June 2009

The latest edition of our newsletter, BODHI Times, is now online. For previous newsletters, please visit our BODHI Times webpage.

Colin's latest Medical Director's Desk, called 'Ban banksters, reach for the sun' is now available online.

Posted 31 May 2009

We are pleased to announce two new projects: support of Moanoghar school and orphanage at the request of the Australian Jumma (indigenous Bangladeshi) and development of a health clinic/mobile medical camps project with Moanoghar. Please visit these new webpages, Moanoghar and Moanoghar Health Clinic and Mobile Medical Camps, for details and photographs.

We plan to publish a perspective of the plains Bengali population who live in Bangladesh.

Posted 24 May 2009

Dr Steve Salmony comments favourably upon Colin's editorial in the Health Promotion Journal of Australia entitled Population, Globalisation, Ecology and Conflict.

Posted 23 May 2009

BODHI supporter and friend Prof Colin Soskolne writes from Canada, 'It was a great experience to have met Joanna Macy last night. At 80, she has a very engaging, compelling, and truly transformative (creative) approach to addressing the current revolution called The Great Turning ... as distinct from the Agricultural Revolution and the Industrial Revolution), from individual to collective action from values and ethics to law and action on so many levels.'

Posted 13 May 2009

Here's some good news for a change, from the Australian Broadcasting Corporation (ABC):

Australia's foreign aid spending in the 2009-10 financial year will keep faith with the government's commitment to grow the overseas development budget over time to 0.5 per cent of Gross National Income. It will rise from \$3.7 billion to \$3.8 billion.

Please click [here](#) for more.

Posted 10 May 2009

BODHI honours Mother's Day with something entirely different ... [The Pig Page](#).

Colin was a delegate to the recent International Scientific Congress on Climate Change in Copenhagen, 10-12 March, entitled 'Climate Change: Global Risks, Challenges and Decisions.' Please see Medical Director's Desk for details. This congress was a run-up to the United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP-15) in Copenhagen in December, 2009.

Colin was also the keynote speaker at Aarhus University's recent 'Beyond Kyoto: Addressing the Challenges of Climate Change – Science Meets Industry, Policy and Public', 5-7 March in Aarhus, Denmark. His topic was the environmental and health reasons for reducing meat consumption. Please Medical Director's Desk for more.

Posted 4 May 2009

Colin is giving a talk entitled 'The Global Environmental Crisis and the Sustainability of Civilization: Time for the Buddhist World to Awaken' at the United Nations Day of Vesak in Bangkok, Thailand tomorrow, 5th May.

Posted 3 May 2009

In a special report published yesterday called, Binayak Sen and the cost of dissent in India, the Lancet has joined the call for release of Dr Binayak Sen, jailed Indian doctor and human rights activist.

Posted 26 April 2009

The Royal Australian College of Physicians presents Physicians Week 2009 in Sydney, 17-20 May. The topic of the Joint College Plenary is 'Eroding the Foundations of Population Health'.

The Joint College Plenary, led by Professor Tony McMichael will explore the theme of climate change, the adverse effects on human health and the health sector's response. The plenary will also provide the College with an opportunity to acknowledge Professor McMichael's recent appointment as the incoming Chair of the new WHO International Advisory Board on Climate Change and Health.

Professor McMichael will be supported by Professor Tony Capon, the newly appointed Convener of the National Adaptation Research Network for Human Health and by Associate Professor Colin Butler, BODHI's Medical Director.

Posted 19 April 2009

Please see a World Health Day press release to free Dr Binayat Sen, an activist doctor imprisoned in Pune, India, in 2007. Doctors, health activists, food rights activists and social activists from various parts of the country converged in Raipur the day before World Health Day (7 April) to conduct a peaceful Satyagraha to 'Allow the people's doctor to work for people's health.'

Colin will be participating in the Conference of the International Council of United Nations Day of Vesak, held in Bangkok, Thailand from 4-6 May. He will be on the 'Buddhism and Environmental Crisis' panel and present a paper entitled, 'The Global Environmental Crisis and the Sustainability of Civilization: Time for the Buddhist World to Awaken'.

Posted 27 March 2009

See an interview on the Revolving Sheep Bank with Susan Woldenberg Butler and Dr Colin Butler by the ABC (Australia).

Posted 15 March 2009

To make donating easier for you, we have set up PayPal to accept funds in both Australian and U.S. dollars.

Thanks again to volunteer Michelle Engelsman for her hard work in helping BODHI to reach new audiences. Another article by/about her and Mitini Nepal appears in the February edition of LOTL.

Health education and deworming are being finalised for the children at the SNEHA School in Arunachal Pradesh (AP), NE India. BODHI has just donated emergency funding for the school's recognition with the Government of AP.

Posted 14 March 2009

Susan is joining Colin in Canberra, Australia's capital, where last August he began a four-year appointment at NCEPH at Australian National University as A/Prof in Climate Change and Human Health, and in Climate Change and Food Security. Susan has found a part-time job in Canberra as Development Officer with SEE-Change (www.see-change.org.au). She and Colin are finalising the interstate move.

Updating of BODHI's website (and this page) is limited until late April. All banking details remain the same. Please address correspondence to BODHI at UG01/86 Northbourne Avenue, Braddon, ACT 2612, telephone (02) 6247 1227. Thanks for your patience and understanding.

Posted 24 February 2009

CMS report of medical camp has arrived.

Posted 23 February 2009

Updates on the Over 40 Women's Health Project in Pune, India: Year 1 evaluation, Year 2 and addition of Thakar women outside Pune.

Posted 22 February 2009

Thanks to the hard work of volunteer Michelle Engelsman, Mitini Nepal is publicised in an 18th February article in SX magazine entitled 'Against the tide.'

Posted 20 February 2009

Kabita Chakma on behalf of the CHT Indigenous Jumma Association Australia, has prepared a Proposal for Improving Water, Sanitation, Health and the Environment of the Kaptai Lake Chittagong Hill Tracts (CHT), Bangladesh. Kabita has also submitted a follow-up of the CHT Indigenous Jumma Association Australia meeting with Hon Bob McMullan MP and Margaret Watt Chief of Staff. Appended are media releases.

Posted 18 February 2009

Mr Susanta Chakma has submitted a Progress Report of the SNEHA School in Arunachal Pradesh, India, after BODHI's three years of involvement.

Posted 17 February 2009

The United Nations Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review held its fourth session from 2 to 13 February 2009. The review of Bangladesh was held on 3 February 2009. The Working Group's Draft Report is available.

Posted 3 February 2009

Your webmaster will be away from the computer for two weeks. See you later!

Posted 31 January 2009

Please visit our updated Photo Gallery for photographs of current volunteers, friends and past projects.

Posted 28 January 2009

* Please see Colin's response to reporter Andrew C Revkin's New York Times blog, "Family Planning and the Path to Progress".

* BODHI is thrilled to be exchanging links with the Netherlands-based International Fellowship for Reconciliation (IFOR), which was founded in 1919 and has branches and affiliates in 48 countries. We hope it will lead to deeper links. IFOR's website says: 'Perceiving the need for healing and reconciliation in the world, the founders of IFOR formulated a vision of the human community based upon the belief that love in action has the power to transform unjust political, social, and economic structures.'

Posted 27 January 2009

Please visit Medical Director's Desk for an edited version of Globalisation, population, ecology and conflict, the keynote address Colin gave at the 2007 Australian Health Promotion Association Conference. Posted 26 January 2009

The New York Times has a new blog called Dot Earth in which reporter Andrew C Revkin 'examines efforts to balance human affairs with the planet's limits ... [in an] interactive exploration of and ideas with readers and experts.' Colin responds to Revkin's January 24 blog, "Family Planning and the Path to Progress." See Response 21, Editor's Selection.

Posted 23 January 2009

Mr Susanta Chakma has sent some great current photographs of the children from SNEHA School in Arunachal Pradesh, NE India. Posted 22 January 2009* Christina Larson published an article in yesterday's Christian Science Monitor about climate change in Tibet entitled, Tibet shepherds live on climate frontier, Shrinking glaciers mean longer hikes to water flocks.

* The Thai Government has refused a request from the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees to meet with 126 Rohingya asylum seekers from Burma. For a transcript of this ABC (Australia) Radio interview, which ran this morning: UNHCR told it can't see asylum seekers in Thailand. Posted 19 January 2009

Dr Jane Stephens has sent some new photographs. Laxmi and Meera tell us why learning English is so important to the members of Mitini Nepal. Posted 18 January 2009

Please visit the updated SNEHA School pages. We're nearly finished updating all our Current Projects.

Posted 17 January 2009

* Have a look at our new Human Rights pages, and please continue to trawl regularly through the rest as we're continually updating.

* We've updated the Yadana Man Aung Monastic Education School, Monywa village, Myanmar/Burma page and added a Myanmar/Burma Photo Gallery.

Posted 16 January 2009

Please visit our updated home page.

Posted 15 January 2009

* BODHI is now on the list of charities at LookToTheStars.org, the 'top celebrity charity news site [which] strives to raise awareness for great organization such as yours by highlighting the good works of celebrities.'

BODHI is listed because of the support of His Holiness the Dalai Lama and Australian Olympic swimmer and BODHI volunteer Michelle Engelsman.

* In London recently, Kabita Chakma met with Lord Avebury (human rights campaigner and Co-Chair of the CHT Commission, Chair of the Parliamentary Human Rights Group UK). She updated him on activities in Australia regarding the Chittagong Hill Tracts, Bangladesh. Posted 14 January 2009

Phase 2 of Health Project for Undernourished Nomadic Tribal Children in Pune, India has been updated.

Posted 13 January 2009

Please visit our updated How You Can Help pages. Posted 12 January 2009

A photograph of a TDR (Special Programme for Research and Training in Tropical Diseases) meeting Colin attended called Environment, Agriculture and Infectious Diseases of Poverty in Beijing in October, 2008 is now on the Medical Director's Desk.

Posted 11 January 2009

Dr Manda Mune has sent photographs from the first year of the Over-40 Women's Health Project.

Posted 9 January 2009

BODHI has long wanted to work in Burma. Please visit our new webpage, Literacy and Life Skills to Burma's Poorest Children.

Posted 8 January 2009

Colin has been invited to give a talk at his alma mater, the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, in March, 2009. An abstract of his talk, 'Climate change and future global food security: even worse news for the poor?' is available.

Posted 7 January 2009

Please visit our updated webpage for Health Project for Undernourished Nomadic Tribes Children in the Dapodi slum, Pune, India.

Posted 6 January 2009

* BODHI's Founding Patron His Holiness XIV Dalai Lama has issued a statement beginning, 'I am greatly encouraged by the launching of a Charter '08 by academics, artists, farmers and lawyers in China on the occasion of the 60th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.' For the complete text, please visit Statement from His Holiness the Dalai Lama.

* Please visit our updated Founding Patron page for some of His Holiness the Dalai Lama's speeches.* Please see our Human Rights page for updates.

Posted 5 January 2009

Please visit our new webpage for Zangskar, NW India, where BODHI has donated funds for provision of medicines to a traditional health clinic.

Please visit our new webpage for Chakma Mahila Samity, a women's group in Mizoram, NE India to which BODHI has donated funds for health purposes.

Posted 4 January 2009

Please visit our new webpage for Health Project for Undernourished Tribal Children in the Dapodi slum, Pune, India. Subject to satisfactory evaluation and remaining negotiations, BODHI hopes to fund this project for another year. BODHI will be funding this for another year. We are pleased that the staff are planning to add family

planning awareness programmes this year, and that there is a strong educational component to this programme. The project offered nutrition, breast-feeding and general hygiene programmes for adults, which were well attended.

Posted 3 January 2009

We're busy updating and modernising the website. Hope you like it. As always, your suggestions and comments are welcome.