



PIPAL
TREE

The Big Give Christmas Challenge

2nd-9th December 2025

www.pipal.org.uk

Christmas
Challenge

BigGive



From 2nd December, over 1,500 charities will take part in this year's Big Give Christmas Challenge. For one week only, every online donation will be doubled, thanks to pledges from supporters, companies and charitable foundations.

We're thrilled to announce that Pipal Tree is aiming to raise a remarkable **£172,500** - to supercharge our 2026 project work in Nepal.

Can you please help us reach this ambitious goal?



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Urban forests

Since July 2023, we have been funding an ambitious urban reforestation programme that helps clean the air in the urban jungle of Kathmandu. This not only makes it a pleasanter, healthier place to be, but also restores biodiversity.

We are achieving this through our pioneering use in Nepal of the rapid-growth Miyawaki Method that allows us to create small forests in three years rather than thirty!

We select public spaces across Kathmandu valley that have become informal dumping grounds and plant these out with native species that we grow in our own sapling nurseries. So far, we have created five forests and aim to develop another five in 2026.

We are aiming to raise up to £41,071 to support the 2026 urban reforestation programme. This also provides employment and training to vulnerable and disabled women who make up the workforce.

A woman wearing a yellow and red patterned sari is smiling and holding a purple eggplant in her hand. She is standing in a lush green field of plants. In the top left corner, there is a red triangle with the text 'Christmas Challenge' and a black triangle with the text 'BigGive' below it.

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A wildlife corridor

Since 2024 we have been developing a 12-km wildlife corridor in south Nepal. Using stepping-stone Miyawaki forests, we are restoring a traditional migratory route that provides safe passage for animals across open farmland.

Our work goes far beyond protecting endangered wildlife. For we believe that restoring nature must go hand-in-hand with community upliftment.

So, we are supporting women like Bina Yadav (pictured above) to build sustainable livelihoods through community banking, microloans and agroforestry training. Bina is rightly proud of her aubergine harvest!

This Christmas, we'd like to raise £36,965 that helps us meet a range of activities from planting trees and excavating water holes to teaching women agriculture and business skills.

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Higher education

Our programme aims to give children from the 'untouchable' community the chance of a full education and genuine social mobility. This is especially important for girls, who are at high risk of early dropout and child marriage.

We have been establishing Community Learning Centres (CLCs) that offer young children a pathway into mainstream schooling. Older students serve as part-time tutors and, in return, receive bursaries to help them complete sixth form college.

In 2026, we plan to extend support to top-performing college students so they can take up university places.

£22,857 raised in this Christmas Challenge will allow us to build a new CLC. And £10,000 will fund five students into joining university next September.



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Skills for life

When girls leave school, their options are often limited – without education or training, many end up as day labourers in the fields, trapped in a cycle of poverty that can extend to their own children.

We are breaking that cycle. Through six-month tailoring courses, we teach essential skills and equip graduates with the tools to build a better future. Each girl leaves the course with a sewing machine, table, materials and a small grant to establish her own tailoring business, opening the door to independence and opportunity.

In our last Big Give appeal we raised funds for a course in the first half of 2026. We'd love to be able to run a second in the latter half of the year.

Our Christmas Challenge goal is to raise £12,320 to fund a course. That works out at £770 per girl – giving her not only skills for life, but also a real chance to transform her future and support her family.



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Refuge care

In south Nepal we run a 20-bed shelter in Janakpur that offers safety and rehabilitation for survivors of rape – many of them heartbreakingly young.

At the centre, each girl receives legal, emotional and practical support to help her rebuild confidence, learn new skills and prepare for a safe return to her family and community.

Since 2025, we have supported a second children's home in Janakpur, which currently provides a safe and loving environment for nine very young children whose families cannot be found. We'll be there for them for as long as it takes.

We aim to raise £20,536 to help cover the running costs of the refuge for rape survivors – the only one of its kind in the Province. And £8,214 to sustain the second home and strengthen wider child welfare work in the community.



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Warm clothes

We believe that every now and then – and especially at Christmas – there’s room for simple gifts to complement our long-term development activities. Sometimes that means delivering toys to a children’s refuge or warm clothes to students at a neglected school.

In southern Nepal, the winter months bring bitter cold. Many children from the poorest families still walk to school barefoot, dressed only in thin uniforms.

As in previous years, we’re raising funds to provide warm woolly hats, pullovers, shoes and socks – helping children stay healthy and continue their education through the cold season.

Our goal is to raise £3,286 to provide hugely appreciated support to 250 boys and girls from the ‘untouchable’ community.



Despite the operational challenges in Nepal and the financial pressures here at home, 2025 has been a year of remarkable progress. Together, we've brought real, lasting change to the daily lives - and the future prospects - of some of Nepal's most vulnerable people. I've seen it first-hand on my recent visits, especially when I stopped by the small children's home we support in Janakpur.

If you'd like to learn more about our projects or explore ways to get involved – including leaving a gift in your Will – I'd love to hear from you at philip@pipaltree.org.uk



Philip Holmes OBE
Lt Col (Retd.)
Founder/CEO Pipal Tree



T: +44 (0)1548 852816
E: philip@pipaltree.org.uk
W: www.pipaltree.org.uk