

Nagaland 2008/9

The Project Team

1. **Dr Jacky Woolcock.** MB BChir MRCP (Lond)
Medical Advisor with 17 years experience in an Indian rural hospital.
2. **Mrs Chris King.** Registered Nurse
Extensive experience in nursing in UK.
3. **Mrs Alison Buike.** Registered Nurse
Extensive experience in nursing in UK.
4. **Mrs Beryl Hoad.** Diploma in Management
Extensive experience working with youth and the elderly
5. **Revd Lynda Hulcoop.** Bsc Cert Ed (Project Co-ordinator)
Associate Minister Southwick Christian Community Church.



Akumen Village Medical Project



Help us raise £2,500

1 - 5 Roman Crescent, Southwick, West Sussex, BN42 4TY
01273 870103, Email: scc-church@ntlworld.com
Web: www.southwick-ccc.org.uk
Registered Charity No. 4292136

How can you be involved?

If you feel able to support us in developing this medical project in Akumen and responding to any of these needs, any help will be gratefully received. We would love to hear from you if you are able to supply any of the goods overleaf. If, alternatively, you feel led to make a financial gift, cheques can be made payable to Southwick Christian Missions Fund marked on the back Nagaland Medical Church. If you are a U.K. tax payer, your donation can be Gift Aided so that we can claim back the tax. Please ask for details should you need them.



Please send any donations to:

**Revd Lynda Hulcoop
1-5 Roman Crescent
Southwick
West Sussex
BN42 4TY**

**A donation of just £5
will provide medical
checks for one villager
for a year**

If you have any queries, please phone 01903 522279 or e mail:
lhulcoop@ntlworld.com

If you want to find out more about this Nagaland Project, please
visit our website southwick-ccc.org.uk and click on Missions.

Thank you so much for your interest.

MEDICAL SUPPLIES SPONSORSHIP
A gift of £5 will enable us to buy more
medical supplies for the villagers

What have we achieved so far?

In November 2005, a group of 12 people from Southwick Christian Community Church visited Nagaland as a result of links with Mrs Alemla Twiss, a Naga lady living locally. The aim of the trip was to visit the main towns and see the way of life of the Naga people there. During this, we visited the Civil hospital in Dimapur and were all shocked at the desperately poor levels of resources available. In addition, we also worked in the small village of Akumen on a range of projects: education of children and youth, building and the establishment of a medical station. Prior to our visit, we were aware that 3 children had recently died in the village due to undiagnosed causes as there was no medical provision whatsoever. Thus during our stay we were able to establish a small medical station and employ the services of a doctor to go and do monthly health checks in the village. We also held a number of training sessions in health and hygiene and birth control.

In November 2006 a second team visited Nagaland, and opened Akumen village medical centre which the villagers had built since the previous visit.

Akumen Village Medical Centre

Sponsored by Southwick Christian Community Church



In our next visit to Akumen Village in January 2008, we spent time with the doctor reviewing the past year and seeing in what ways we can develop the provision of medical care in the next phase. We also replenished the stocks of medicine. Dr Achila reported on the range of needs she had seen in the village and gave us a clearer picture of what kind of illnesses/medical conditions are prevalent. She emphasised the need for a supply of clean water near the medical centre to help with hygiene provision and training. In the future she also wants to carry out further training sessions in areas such as first aid, wounds and dressings, preventative health care, family planning etc.



Health check in progress



Dr Achila & nurse working in Akumen

Where do we go from here?

In the next phase of development we need to maintain our support of the doctor, raise the level of money available for medication and supplies, add to the equipment in the medical centre and ensure that water is supplied from a tank nearby. All this will help the doctor maintain the level of health checks for the villagers and undertake vital health education which will enhance the quality of life of the villagers.

Background to Nagaland

What help do we need to achieve these goals?

To maintain and develop the level of medical provision in the village, we need to raise the sum of £2,500 per annum for the following:

Payment to the doctor to continue monthly health checks.	£1,750 p.a.
Payment to nurse assisting doctor with health checks	£250 p.a.
Provision of medical supplies for the next year	£500 p.a.

In addition Dr Achila has requested help with the following supplies

- Sterile and non sterile gloves
- Sterile dressing trays
- Needle holders for suturing (various lengths)
- Thumb forceps
- Artery forceps long, medium, curved
- Curved and straight scissors
- Scalpels
- Syringes
- sutures
- Bandages and dressings
- Items for treating burns
- Antiseptics

Nagaland is a state in North East India, bordering on Burma to the East and Assam to the West. Although part of India since 1947, Nagaland is ethnically, culturally, economically and spiritually different from the rest of the country. The Naga people bear Mongolian features and are divided into 16 main tribal groups. Some live in the few main towns but the majority live in the 800+ small, isolated rural villages, surviving mainly on agriculture and animal rearing. In



such places, the infrastructure is very inadequate and there is limited funding from the Government. There are poor roads, limited electricity and running water, poor telecommunications and lack of educational and medical facilities. Despite all this, the people are extremely warm, hospitable and generous with a deep Christian faith.

Akumen Village

What's it like?

Akumen village is a small, isolated village surrounded by beautiful jungle with 400 adults and 60 children close to the Assam border. The village has just received electricity but there is no running water and only a narrow dirt access road dug by the villagers. The nearest bus is 3 km away.



The village infrastructure is very simple but orderly overseen by the village chief and a council of 8 men. Akumen has a small school for the youngest children, a village hall and a church providing the focus of the community. The villagers live in simple cane, wood and bamboo houses. The level of Government funding to develop the infrastructure of the village has been pitifully small and this lack makes life in the village extremely limited. Thus we see it as an important part of our mission to begin the development of a range of projects which will mean life for the villagers can be enhanced in a number of ways.