

# **<u>BikeforDGH</u>** – A cycling fundraiser in aid of <u>Dr. Grahams Homes, Kalimpong India</u>

Rev. John Webster of Arran, Scotland was at one time the farm manager and chaplain at Dr Grahams Homes (Homes/DGH). After he left the school in the 1960's his heart was still with the Homes and has been tirelessly fundraising for the place he cherished, doing numerous marathons, cycling and other fundraisers in support of the Homes. It was on a trip to Bhutan with his son where the idea was conceived to do a bicycle fundraiser for the homes. Shortly after the Bhutan trip the first Bike for DGH fundraiser happened in 2006 from Kolkata to Kalimpong covering some 400 miles. Since then, seven BikeforDGH fundraisers have taken place beginning in Kolkata, Kathmandu, Bhutan and the most recent in 2022 from Siliguri to Kalimpong via Gangtok covering about 250 miles. Funds raised from past BikeforDGH events have been allocated for the following objectives:

- 2007 choir trip to the U.K. for over 25 children and staff
- 2012 Earthquake repairs to the campus infrastructure
- Sponsorship of needy children to the Homes
- Support to the school's alumni group, <u>Global OGBs organization</u> (GO) in 2022
- Supports the <u>U.K DGH committee's</u> child sponsorship funds

In 2017 after his final BikeforDGH event, now in his early 80's John passed the baton to others to continue this charitable fun event.

# Ready to make an impact and ride for a cause? The 2024 BikeforDGH event is for you!

Join us in this incredible experience and help us make a difference in the lives of underprivileged children and support an institution that has cared for children since 1900. We are thrilled to have you participate in an extraordinary cycling adventure from Paro, Bhutan to Kalimpong, India. This unique event will take you through the breathtaking Himalayan villages and cities of Bhutan and India, offering not only a challenging and scenic ride but also an opportunity to make a significant impact on the lives of many children in need through your efforts.

# Why Participate?

- Scenic Adventure, you see the world better on a bike: Experience the stunning beauty of Himalayas, from lush green valleys and landscapes of the world's only carbon neutral country, Bhutan and world-famous tea gardens of the Doars in West Bengal, India. The route will take you through the best of what Bhutan and India has to offer in terms of terrain and biodiversity.
- **Community Impact**: Your participation will support Dr. Graham's Homes, an institution that has cared for underprivileged children since 1900. The funds generated from this event will help in restoring the aging

infrastructure that though they have stood the test of time, needs serious updates to be able to continue its mission.

- **Personal Challenge**: Train and get healthy for a better YOU. Test your endurance and cycling skills on a route that combines challenging climbs, exhilarating descents and scenic landscapes.
- **Make new friends** with likeminded from people all over the world riding and interacting with people from the local communities along the way.

## The 2024 route. Paro, Bhutan - Kalimpong, India

- 250 miles (+ -)
- Ride begins from Paro, Bhutan on Sep 18th, 2024
- Ends at Dr Grahams Homes, Kalimpong, India on Sep 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2024
- 5 days riding through the best of what the Himalayan regions has to offer.
- Fully supported ride with back up vehicles available throughout
- Logistics provided by Jigzen Travels in Bhutan
- Logistics in India provided by DGH alumni organizations.



# The commitment

- Commit to raising USD 1500 for DGH
- It's not a walk in the park, so you need to train a little (don't worry we do this together).
- Bear all personal expenses which will warranty that all money raised through this campaign goes directly to benefit the intended project
- Bring your own bike

### Resources

To state your interest to participate or to sponsor this event, please email: bikefordgh@gmail.com

### Event website

#### Videos of previous BikeforDGH events

2017 event: <u>https://youtu.be/ChgW3rAf5RI</u>
2022 event: <u>https://youtu.be/wkigepdD9o4?si=lbrOrCLkRCNews4d</u>
2014 event: Kathmandu to Kalimpong <u>https://youtu.be/IjN2qgi5EPA?si=V8Qqtdo1vD1RCXvq</u>
Rev. John Webster and past rider Janice small talk bikeforDGH: <u>https://youtu.be/dh2JQ0ZuNzU</u>



