

NEWSLETTER – May 2014

5th Anniversary Celebrations

On 27th June 2009, we opened our first orphanage in Pamunugama. And next month we are looking forward to some small celebrations to mark the 5th anniversary of this event. Needless to say we will make sure that the sisters and the children will enjoy 'a day to remember'!

In our next Newsletter we will tell you more about these anniversary celebrations.



"Me and Lanka going to a new school. I am doing maths subjects and Lanka doing art subjects. We are studying hard for our advanced level examination. And we are going to tuition classes also".

How are our children getting along?

When the children came to our first orphanage in 2009, many of them had wounds and suffered from things like eczema and head-lice. They also had received no education. If we see them today in 2014, it is clear that they are doing well. They are healthy, and should they become sick they can go to the doctor or the hospital. The children also have plenty to eat and drink as well as clothes, and they go to school. Looking back it is also good to see how the 'little ones' have grown! Two of the girls, Ganga and Lanka are now attending secondary school and Ganga sent us the following e-mail...

Both girls are working hard to obtain an entrance to the High School and as such are taking additional lessons. They are very happy... and so are we with them!



STOP PRESS!

As reported in our last Newsletter, on 7th January we opened our third orphanage in Kelaniya with some special celebrations. The start-up of this orphanage did not go unnoticed in the Sri Lankan press... as you can see from the article reprinted here.

ACTIVITIES

On the traditionally festive day which is held in Holland to celebrate the King's birthday, committee members and their families set up stalls at the 'Free Market'. As well as a lot of valuable publicity for our activities, the day also resulted in good levels of sales for home made candy floss and cupcakes... and a donation of 620 euros for the children of Sri Lanka!

Our association was also represented on Mother's Day in the village of Kloetinge.



POWERPOINT PRESENTATIONS

An attractive and interesting Powerpoint presentation has been created which details the history and current situation in Sri Lanka... and of course , the developments and positive results in the lives of our children in the three orphanages. We will be happy to show this at schools, clubs, churches and service organizations etc.. Maybe you know an organization that would be interested? If so, contact one of the committee members.

'WHO EVER SAVES A CHILD SAVES THE WORLD'

Over the past months we have been delighted by the many gifts and donations... often as a result of gifts from the wills of people who have passed away, collections in various churches, contributions from parishes' welfare work, and the fees from making the Powerpoint presentations. Whatever their source, all gifts are tax deductible because we are an ANBI recognized association. We keep nothing back... every euro we receive goes directly 'onto the plates' of the orphans.



Shortly after we had returned home from Sri Lanka in January 2014, we received a message that our regular chauffeur and agent Nixon Gomez, was sick. Sadly, in February he passed away. He was only 43 years old.

Our deepest sympathies go to his wife and two daughters. He was a truly reliable and sympathetic man and he helped us considerably with our work with the orphans in Sri Lanka. We are very grateful for all he did for us and the children in the orphanages.



In the picture, Nixon is helping Theo Schouwenaar with the purchase of equipment for a playground in Sri Lanka.

BECOME A DONOR FOR JUST 5 EUROS PER MONTH!

Changes to the Committee

Soon after the opening of our third orphanage, on 27th January 2014 Ria Milhous decided to give up her positions as Committee Member and Chairperson of the Association. As initiator of the Association, Ria can look back on a period of much valuable work and commitment for which the Association, we members, and the sisters and orphans in Sri Lanka are deeply grateful.

We are fortunate that we can also announce that a new Chairman has been appointed... Sjaak de Loof, aged 60 from Goes. He has considerable experience in development projects overseas, particularly in African and South American countries. He also speaks excellent English!

On our website www.stichtingnetherlandssrilanka.nl you can read more about our work, and you can also see some pictures of our orphanages and the children. You can also leave a message in our Guest Book or 'Like' our Facebook page.



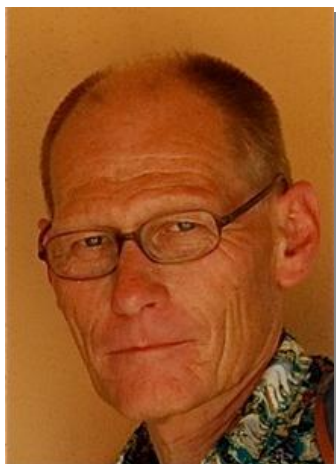
With best wishes,



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