

Milhous Jayakody Children Home
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This time there is a lot to tell. Our treasurer Theo Schouwenaar and his wife Mieke were married for 40 years and celebrated this with their children and grandchildren in Sri Lanka in August. Naturally, the children's home was visited where they received a warm welcome with congratulations, flowers, dance, food and a T-shirt with the names of all children printed on it. The management was very satisfied with the clothes, shoes, quilts, bubble blows, notebooks, sidewalk chalk and other toys.

The children are healthy, happy and joyful. Regular "small" inconveniences occur as wounds, eczema and normal childhood diseases. If necessary, a doctor will be consulted and even a visit to the hospital. Sisters Rakela and Rajini give lessons to the less fortunate children of the village in our children's home during the holidays.

The 26th August was a busy day for the Schouwenaar family under the motto "A donation from the Schouwenaar children and grandchildren for the orphans". In Negombo a pyramid, a double seesaw, sand, stones, cement and four old tuk tuk tires were bought. This was transported in an open one truck to the children's home where, in the tropical heat, the men single-handedly dug holes in the ground and made cement. This way the new playground equipment was professionally installed. The ladies, children and grandchildren, together with the children from the children's home, made necklaces and bracelets from the beads that they had bought in Negombo and the faces of the children were also painted. Of course there was candy and chips and lemonade. Furthermore, a new larger bicycle was donated. That day was a big feast for everyone. The kids, however, had to be patient and wait for the cement to harden. But when that was OK the new playground equipment was used to the full.

On this day our treasurer also presented a check from the Ichtusschool in Wolphaartsdijk. The children of this school had offered their weekly mission money to our project. The amount will be spent on the purchase of reading books. Our children are very eager to learn, they are good at school and a number of children were the best in their class in English at the end of the school year. Again people came with "almsgiving". These people have great admiration for our work and want to make more donations in the future. This shows that our project is more and more appreciated by the local population. Theo also discussed "household affairs" with the sisters. For example, it appeared that the gas appliance had been broken for some time and now cooking was done on a wood fire. Immediately a new cooker was purchased. Also a window in the dormitory was broken and was replaced and several multiple connectors were purchased and more household matters. Because water is very expensive, a water well has been dug. Water is pumped up and stored in large tanks on the roof and now we have good water without extra cost.

So you will now understand that the children's home is in full swing, people live, work, live, have fun And all is well with the children and the sisters.

However, we can only do our work with your help. In the past period collection proceeds from two churches in Goes we received and there were two couples who celebrated their forty year wedding anniversary and a lady who celebrated her 90th birthday and both had asked their guests to donate their present as a financial contribution to our foundation. We are very pleased with these activities, but we will remain to ask for your financial support, because only then can we continue our work. And you can be sure that your donations will end up for 100% with the children.

Due to the visit of the Schouwenaar family, we have added some photos to this newsletter and other photos will be posted on the website. So check out our site www.stichtingnetherlandssrilanka.nl

With kind regards,

The board of the foundation “Stichting Netherlands Sri Lanka”:

Ria Milhous-Willemse
Berg
Dick Keizer

Elsbeth Sanders-van den
Theo Schouwenaar

