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## Newsletter from the foundation "Stichting Netherlands Sri Lanka"

December 2013



# **HOW ARE THE CHILDREN?**

In Sri Lanka they have a national children's day and this day was celebrated exuberantly in September. Our children's homes had no less than 2 invitations and therefore the children went to the celebrations in 2 separate groups. One half to the festivities at the American Embassy and the other half to the government festival. The children were welcomed with a delicious lunch and they enjoyed all kinds of fun games.

In this period of the year the children have to work pretty hard because they have their exams to consider; so it's quite an exciting time for them. We hope they all do well, so that they can advance to the next grade. After the exams they can enjoy their Christmas holidays.

# "Whoever saves a child, saves the world"

#### VISITS TO OUR CHILDREN'S HOMES.

It often occurs that people from the Netherlands want to visit one of our children's homes. We appreciate that very much. It is quite nice that while you are on vacation in Sri Lanka, you are able to go and see how things are developing in our children's homes. It also pleases us if you are prepared to share your experience with us and post messages on our website.



#### **YASANTHI**

In our newsletter of May we reported that Yasanthi was doing well after her heart surgery. Unfortunately, there is less good news now. Yasanthi is ill again. Soon she will have to go to the hospital for further investigation and then it will be decided whether she needs to be operated on again. We feel with her in these uncertain times.





Photo above: the old children's home Photo below: the new children's home

## KELANIYA

The construction of the 3<sup>rd</sup> children's home in Kelaniya is progressing well. The last building term has been paid and at the end of this year we can offer 50 more children a safe shelter.

U CAN BECOME A DONOR FOR 5€ PER MONTH.



## **DONATIONS**

We were again very happy to receive the monthly contributions of our loyal donors. We also received a contribution from a "Birthday Bridge", a 70th and 75th birthday anniversary, several church collections, Powerpoint presentations, sales on markets and from the participants of a travel organization. We also received wool for knitting the socks and children's clothing we sell at the markets. We are very pleased with this; it enables us to continue our work for the children.

### SPONSOR RUN AND SKYPE-MEETING

In October, the Princess
Beatrix school in Goes
held a sponsor run for the
children in Sri Lanka. A
wonderful amount was
collected. The children
converted the Euros into
Rupees and when the
amount was announced to
the children in Sri Lanka
in a skype-meeting, there
was an immediate loud
applause from Sri Lanka.



Both for the children in Sri Lanka and for the children in Goes this was a great learning moment seeing and hearing how children live on the other side of the world. Nice questions were asked back and forth and when one of the children asked how they celebrate their birthday in Sri Lanka and that it was actually his birthday that day, "Happy Birthday" was sung spontaneously in Asia and was heard in the classroom in Goes. That was a moment that we all actually felt goose pimples.





## POWERPOINT PRESENTATIONS

We would be very pleased to offer you a Powerpoint presentation, in which we will tell you all about Sri Lanka and the children's homes. Should you be interested, please contact one of us.

#### **SEPA**

Due to the introduction of the new rules regarding payment transactions within Europe, called SEPA, and the introduction of BIC / IBAN bank account numbers, we can inform you that we have received a Collector Identification Number under number: NL78ZZZ220584640000.

You can find more information about our work on our website: <a href="www.stichtingnetherlandssrilanka.nl">www.stichtingnetherlandssrilanka.nl</a>. You can also view photos of the children and the children's homes. We would very much appreciate it if you placed messages in our guestbook.

# WE WISH YOU ALL A WONDERFUL CHRISTMAS AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR.

Kind regards,

Ria Milhous, chairman 0113-228723 Dick Keizer, secretary 0113-232280 Theo Schouwenaar, treasurer Elsbeth Sanderse, board member 0113-221725 0113-214816



