

# The Andrew Clark Trust

## NEWSLETTER January 2008

The rainy season went on longer than normal, lasting about 5 months, and this resulted in more hardship and suffering than normal for the people of Lintha.

### TEACHERS – a great step forward.

However the good news is that in September we employed two Myanmar teachers to teach English so that we have continuity in teaching English. Beverley Rogers, (who is a trained teacher with a wealth of experience), returned to the Vera Thomson School as a volunteer teacher to train the teachers and establish a much needed curriculum. Now we have 48 classes a week, teaching from beginners up to advanced level. The students range from 5 years old up to adults. All the lessons are going very well and good progress is being made as both the teachers and students are so enthusiastic.



Our grateful thanks to Beverley.

We will still have volunteer teachers come, as they have proved of great benefit in the past, and have done a great job, but we realise that the students need continuous teaching.

### NEW SCHOOL BUILDING – our plans realised.

From September we rented a room in a nearby house, to use as a second classroom, whereby the children have to sit on the floor during lessons. It is less than ideal, but better than nothing. In September some land was acquired and after partial land clearance, building of a new



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schoolroom with toilets, showers, and teacher accommodation was started on 7<sup>th</sup> November. Our old schoolroom will still be used, as the new building will serve as a second classroom.

## THE ANDREW CLARK FRIENDSHIP LIBRARY

The number of people using the library has now increased to between 500 and 600 a month. The percentage of people reading both Myanmar and English books are as follows:-

40%	9, 10, 11 and 12 year olds
40%	Adults
20%	13 and 14 year olds

The younger children read in the library and are also helped by Ma Thandar the librarian, who takes great pride in running the library.

## HEALTHCARE

We have now had to stipulate that we can only help the children in Lintha with free healthcare, due to lack of funds. However the following are some patients that have benefited in the past 6 months:-

- ⌘ A 15 year old girl had a successful eye operation
- ⌘ A 6 year old was hospitalized after a heart attack and her life saved
- ⌘ A 6 year old boy was operated on tumours on his arm and stomach

These are just a few of the many patients we are able to help.

## WE HAVE BEEN ASKED?

We have been asked by one family who sponsors a boy, and who have two children around the same age, if it were possible for the boy to visit them in England for a holiday, and they would be happy to pay for all expenses.

It was a lovely thought and we are sure all would have had a great time and benefited from the experience. However it is not possible.

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What we would suggest is that if you as a sponsor or donor are able to come to Lintha on holiday, you would be greatly welcomed by the children. And we know almost certainly that you would find it both enjoyable and a rewarding experience.



The village is situated on beautiful Ngapali beach and you have a choice of staying in a guesthouse or 5 star hotels. Some people have said that Ngapali beach is the most beautiful in the whole of South East Asia. The people are so friendly. It is one of the cheapest places in the world to have a holiday, and is also one of the safest places to travel in the world. The best time of year to come is from November to May. (From June to October inclusive, it is monsoon season). If you are interested to visit please contact us by email, and we will send you a fact sheet. Please read below some comments from sponsors and donors who have been to Lintha:-

*“A visit to Lintha village is just mind blowing and makes you realise what an unfair world we all live in. It is a humbling experience to see the children with so very little materialistically but none are short of a huge smile, love, attention and appreciation for whatever you do for them. Just a small amount of money is a fortune to them and life changing. A very rewarding experience to be involved with these children and puts one’s values in life into perspective.”*

Rolando & Sarah Cinelli – Chalfont St. Giles, Bucks.

*“I visited the school in 2006 and taught English there. It was a fantastic experience – the children were so keen to learn and interested in their studies. A lasting memory for me will be one of our craft lessons when the children saw glitter for the first time – they were so excited about it and it made me realise that sometimes the simplest things can bring the greatest pleasure. The children benefit hugely from attending the school – they learn, they play but most of all, they absolutely love it. I believe the charity brings the children pleasure and joy in an otherwise pretty tough existence.*

Alenka Ward – Winkfield Row, Berks.

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*“We found the charity’s school by accident on an exotic low key beach holiday at the end of a protracted tour of the country. The education benefits to the local children were immediately apparent. English language teaching is the key to accessing text books on the usual range of school subjects and is hugely popular; as evidenced by the children waiting for the first classes at 7 o’clock in the morning. Where necessary, help is also provided for any children’s health issues. Our top insider tip for a Far East beach holiday combined with a small insight into Burmese village life and contrasts would be Ngapali Beach”.*

Ken & Gisela Ansell, Winchester, Hants.

## OBJECTIVES FOR 2008

Our main objective for 2008 is to finish the new school building, and have more facilities for the students.

Please note:- You are now able to donate also by Paypal – please see the donation page of the website [www.myanmar-aid.org](http://www.myanmar-aid.org)

MAY WE WISH YOU PEACE AND HAPPINESS IN 2008.  
THANK YOU SO MUCH FROM THE CHILDREN AND FAMILIES  
OF LINTHA.



WITHOUT YOU, NONE OF THIS COULD HAPPEN