

The Andrew Clark Trust

NEWSLETTER June 2007



We now have 151 sponsored children, and our oldest boy is going to the Government Technical Institute studying to become an electrical engineer. Next year we are hoping that one of our sponsored girls will have high enough marks in her exams to go to medical school, as she wants to become a doctor.

There are now a number of children who are speaking English quite well, but as yet the numbers are still low. However this is mainly due to the fact that we do not have volunteer teachers on a continual basis. Now we will be recruiting two full time teachers to teach English but will still have volunteers to assist and help, as their work is also invaluable.

Beverley Rogers, a trained teacher who has a lifetime of experience, taught at the Vera Thomson School for two months as a volunteer. This year, she will return and train the new (local) teachers, as without continuity only the brightest of children will learn English. Beverly will also advise on an English Language curriculum.

Unfortunately we had 19 children drop out of school, as they had to work to help support their family.

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This year we have again had an adult class and this was very popular.

SUMMER SCHOOL



Summer School Temporary Classroom

Summer school saw hundreds of children coming not only from Lintha village but from the surrounding areas, and we had 5 classes.

During this time we had 6 Myanmar volunteers from Yangon and also 2 volunteers from England. One makeshift classroom was built with a roof of tarpaulin, bamboo sides and rush matting, and the children had clipboards to write on.



Role models

Summer School was a great success. At the end of it the teachers organised a performance of dance and song from the pupils, and there was prize giving, and role models were awarded from each class.

Our thanks to the following volunteers for giving their time, hard work, care and help:-

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Jeannie McNeill	England
Hilary Lennox	England
Abigale	Myanmar
Cynthia	Myanmar
Myat Mon Phyo	Myanmar
May Htar	Myanmar
Patrick	Myanmar
Hanson	Myanmar
Beverley Rogers	Australia

Thanks also to Saya John & Sarah for giving DVDs, to Beverly who purchased a lot of English language study books for the students, and to the British Council for donating videos.

HEALTHCARE

Success stories include a little girl with a cleft palate, (no roof to her mouth), who had a successful operation in Yangon. Also two babies with tumours had successful operations. A number of children with malaria were also successfully treated.

Dental Hygiene

In February we had a volunteer dental hygienist from Austria, Aygol Bubaki, teach the children how to clean and take care of their teeth. Our thanks to Aygol.

Children Helping their Community

Now, some of our children take sick patients to either the doctor or the hospital, make notes in English of what is wrong with the patient, the diagnosis and treatment, and write down in detail

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including the cost of bus fare, doctor's fees and medicine etc. They are very happy to do this, as they are helping their community and it is giving them responsibility and confidence.

Medical Journals

The Royal College of Surgeons and Physicians in Edinburgh donated medical journals, our grateful thanks to them.

Medical Donations

The Belmont Medical Centre and Uxbridge Health Centre are donating two sterilizers and medical instruments, thanks to Dr. Derek Copland, who visited Lintha earlier this year which we are very grateful for.

LIBRARY

This year we have purchased more books, and the American Centre, part of the American Embassy have donated children's books to the library. The library is being used by more people.

FUTURE PLANS

- Plans are under way to build another schoolroom and teacher's accommodation.

- To have a computer in one schoolroom where the older children can learn basic computer skills. The older children to use that schoolroom to do their homework and study quietly, as most do not have anywhere at home to do so.

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- To have a playground and a vegetable plot, where they will be taught how to grow fruit and vegetables, and this will then be distributed amongst the children, to give them better nutrition.
- To extend the library so that the new extension would house the books, (as the library is very damp and is destroying the books). The old part would be used for people to read, and we intend to put in a computer in the new part, when funds allow.

WITHOUT YOUR HELP NONE OF THIS WOULD HAPPEN.
THANK YOU SO VERY MUCH FROM ALL THE
CHILDREN AND FAMILIES IN LINTHA VILLAGE.



The rainy season is here...