

Newsletter Summer 2014

Dear supporters and dear friends of the CWA Children's Home in Pokhara, Nepal

We would like to take this opportunity to introduce to you two new children for which our Home has opened its doors. Mamata is 4 years of age and her sister Manisha, who is 6. Our Manager, Bijay, was contacted by the District Welfare Board with the request to admit these two children. The family lost their father due to a car accident. The mother is physically impaired and is not in a position to raise her children well and providing food and schooling are major hurdles to her.

After the circumstances of the family had been checked and all the necessary documents had been processed, both girls have been granted a berth in our Home in order to provide them better living conditions and a better future. We sponsored rice, dal (lentil) and oil for the mother in her dire situation. She will try to earn a living for herself and her youngest daughter by selling vegetables and fruits.



Last Autumn Sudeep and Rasila have left our Home, after 12 years of living with us. That was a very emotional happening, but was also deeply rewarding for us as Sudeep has finished his Computer Science Degree and already works as a Computer Teacher and is married. Rasila spent a year as Au pair in Germany and had already left our Home when because of a sudden illness she needed surgery and we gave her renewed sanctuary. She is doing great, is working in a cooky factory and is meanwhile looking for a job as a teacher for which she holds a degree.

The two of them are the first of our 'former children' to benefit from our 'Rehabilitation Program' as nowadays –by law– the children need to be 'dismissed' from the Home the moment they have passed their College Degree. This Program tries to ease their return to society by providing 5,000 NRP / 50 SFR per Month as bridging money for a period of 6 months. Additionally, they receive 10,000 NRP and a loan of 20,000 NRP for furnishing their first personal rooms. The loan has to be paid back from the first wages they earn.

This year we will have to say goodbye to Arjun, Kamal and Mangal. These three young men finished their two-year studies in College and are waiting for the results. Arjun would like to study Agriculture, Kamal Medicine, and Kapil Hotel-Management. They, too, will be supported by our Rehabilitation Program.



Studies in Nepal are set up in such a way that besides visiting the University, youngsters can work as after-hour teachers so that they can earn their own living. For college fees and other costs we try to find individual Sponsors case by case. We have already been successful for both Arjun and Kamal.

The three CWA youngsters in in these pictures, did their SLC exams last year and are currently visiting different Colleges: Alina studies for nurse at the Nursing-College, Sujan and Manju are studying Science at a Science-College.



In April Isha and Monica also did their SLC Exams (10th class). Within 1 month they will be informed about the results and whether they have passed the exam. Like Alina, Isha would like to become nurse, and Monica would like to study for Dentist.

All the other kids were accepted in their subsequent grade and were partly able to improve on their results.

New neighbours have settled down at the street side in front of our hostel. They built themselves a corrugated iron hut to live in. The father is a victim of Leprosy, earns a living on construction sites and forges tools. The Mother suffers from paralysis and needs a wheelchair to move. They have 6 daughters, 3 of which are already married. As can be expected, the other three girls do not go to school because of the deep poverty their parents are living in. We decided to take on the costs for schooling and training of these three girls.

At this moment in time 25 children are living in the CWA Home. Additionally, our Association supports 14 children outside of the Home by paying their school fees, college fees and health costs.



Thanks to donations we were able to start the shift to more sustainable organic agriculture. To make this change possible we needed to invest in the construction of a compost system, various tunnels had to be made, a small hand tractor purchased together with quality working tools, and a place to make organic spray mixtures and to store them. In order to secure the working materials and to safely take care of them, we built a small farm house, on the roof of which we stockpile the hay for the animals.



Important is that our organic farmer, Ganesh, transfers his knowledge and expertise to the children. In order to do this he regularly gives workshops in which the children learn much about sustainable agriculture. When some of the kids return to their villages of origin after their schooling, they are also given the possibility to improve on their agricultural yields there.

Following are the yields of our own farming activities in 2013.

Yields 2013

Rice	840 kg	Beans	77 kg
Sag / Spinach	284 kg	Zughetti	233 kg
Radish	121 kg	Cucumber	356 kg
Cauliflower	104 kg	Tomatloe	390 kg
Cabbage	393 kg	Guave	84 kg
Carrots	68 kg	Nashpati	25 kg
Potatoes	426 kg		



Milk- and Biogasproduction

Milch total	1950	lt.
For the children	1530	lt.
For Gangas family	180	lt.
For the Restaurant	35	lt.
Remainder for Ghee (Butterfat)		

Biogas 1'725 hour
 = 85 % of the needed gas for
 cooking



During the hot season our natural water well does not give sufficient water anymore. To solve the problem of water shortage work on a constant water source commenced last December. A hole of 12 meter was dug. There the water level was reached. Then we waited for the end of March, viz. the height of the hot season, and the hole was dug out 3 more meters. As reinforcements cement rings were put in place. Currently, sufficient water bubbles up for personal hygiene of the children, for farming the land and for the construction site of the hostel. In the picture on the right the water source is marked.



To secure the water supply over the long term we have scheduled for coming autumn the installation of a ground water tank of 200,000 litre alongside the wall at the side of the stream.

March this year Peter visited the Home in Nepal unannounced. As nobody knew he was coming, it was a great surprise to everyone. He found the children in good health, everything clean and the cash money equaling the cash book accounts. His main objective this visit was to check on the state of affairs of the Hostel. He came across problems of the contractor not paying his work force on time, thereby incurring delays in construction. We granted him 3 more months until the end of August to finish the building.



On site, the monsoon floods were discussed too. Unfortunately, heightening the walls at the entrance of our compound has had no visible effects. As the road committee concerned with maintaining roads is incapable, it is better we ourselves dig out and clean the rocks and dirt after the rainy season and leave the canals unobstructed.



The beginning of the year saw a lot of work in our Home. Merely a year after moving into the Building, walls of the stairwell were so saturated that water dripped down the bathroom walls. The cause, though, could not be found, and we took the drastic measure of replacing all water and drainage pipes. This took over two weeks to do and cost appr. 950 SFR. We now hope to have solved the leakage problems.

In May Bijay organized in the surroundings of Pokhara a picnic for all children and personnel. The children played games happily, swam in the river or angled for the first time ever. After a delicious home made lunch, late in the afternoon the hired bus was boarded by a happy, contented lot for the trip back to Sedi Bagar. The short change brought a smile on the faces of the children and the staff altogether.



We are very satisfied with Bijay's work as manager of our Home over the last two years. Very satisfied indeed. He makes time for weekly group meetings with the children in which when necessary SOPs see the light that are usually read out the next meeting.



During regular staff meetings work is planned, discussed and coordinated. Beforehand, Bijay sends us the agenda items and fine tunes them with us.

With this newsletter we hope to have given you a proper update of the current situation in the CWA-Home. We heartily thank all Sponsors for their support through which the Home can be maintained and new necessary infrastructure can be realized

Next week we fly to Nepal for a short visit in order to continue our work in the Home. This will only be a short visit of appr. 1 month in which a lot of organizational work is waiting for us. Yet, we are looking forward to seeing the children and spending some precious time with them.



We wish you a wholesome summer and send you our greetings, especially from the CWA Home and its management.

Barbara Reutsch

Peter Lecher