

Dear NILA friends and supporters,

Those of you who were at our NILA summer party in Hamburg, Germany, in July last year will no doubt recall Misuu's speech, our guest from Burma/Myanmar. Misuu reported that we had already implemented some projects together with her and her father, U Ohn Maung. During the evening, many of you took the opportunity to talk with her about Myanmar.

Misuu was recently honoured in Washington with the Fortune Global Women Leaders Award. Her commitment in the fight against poverty in Burma/Myanmar was recognised and her current project, the Inle Heritage Hospitality Vocational Training Centre, was mentioned. This training centre and other co-operations with local employers are the focus of our current training programme, with which we want to provide children from our orphanages with a successful start to their careers.

In addition to various measures to improve the education, health care and hygiene situation of the children we have also launched some new projects, about which we would like to inform you in this newsletter.

Pan Pyone Let orphanage

Our Pan Pyone Let orphanage established a year ago has developed very positively. The number of children has doubled during the last twelve months: we now look after 45 children (17 girls and 28 boys). Due to the associated higher operating costs NILA has increased its monthly financial support. This ensures that the children will continue to receive three meals a day and attend school.

The much needed renovations to the building provided to us free of charge are underway. The wooden floor in the living room in danger of collapsing is being replaced and the dark walls are being painted a brighter colour. Local donors are bearing all the renovation costs.

Ralf and Arne with Misuu at the summer party in Hamburg (picture on the left). The wooden floor in danger of collapsing in Pan Pyone Let and the stream flowing past the ophanage (Bilder Mitte). Die Kinder in Pan Pyone pictures in the middle). The children are having fun with the jumping ropes and the balloons (picture on the right).





The girl in Shwe Taung Tan during their daily washing and collecting rubbish in the orphanage area (pictures on the left). Mee Nge is telling stories and the children listen attentive (pictures on the right).

The water required for cooking, washing and drinking is currently taken from the stream flowing past the orphanage. The stream first flows through a village where wastewater is directed into the stream, affecting the water quality. Since the water is unsuitable for drinking, the orphanage's management approached us requesting a water pipe be built to a well approximately 1km away.

Shwe Taung Tan orphanage

Thanks to Daw Mya Mya Thein, the new senior warden, our proposals to improve the hygienic conditions are now being implemented and the living conditions in the orphanage have improved significantly. The children wash twice a day, change their clothes mornings and evenings and keep their beds tidy. We are very happy to have finally found the right woman for this key function.

Shwe Taung Tan orphanage is not yet

connected to the electricity grid. The well is powered by a diesel generator and light bulbs are supplied with power via a temporary power cable connected to the monastery.

Since the monthly cost of diesel is very high and the temporary power line is unreliable, we plan to connect Shwe Taung Tan orphanage to the local power line. We have agreed with local donors that they and NILA will bear the costs incurred equally.

Myitta Mon orphanage

Before U Tet Maung Wai, founder of the Myitta Mon orphanage, died two years ago, we had agreed with him to transform the orphanage into a foundation. However, since there is also a will in which the Baptist church is designated as a beneficiary, it has made its claims in court and the dispute seems to have been decided in its favour. The church plans to convert the orphanage into a Baptist community centre.



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The children in Parents Universal Love enjoy their Christmas presents: warm caps, toys and oranges (pictures on the left). The older children in Myitta Mon have decorated their recreation room, they play music and sing songs while the younger children are waiting patiently for their Christmas presents (pictures on the right).

Since it looks as though we shall not win the lawsuit, we are trying to delay a judgment until our NILA orphanage has been built and the eighty children in the Myitta Mon orphanage can be offered a new home.

New NILA orphanage

The Shwe Taung Tan Committee's land acquisition has been registered in the land registry since September 2013. In Burma/Myanmar, it is common to wait to apply for planning permission until during construction or after construction has been completed. However, we would like to have this before construction commences and are therefore in on-going discussions with ministry officials.

During the next few weeks we shall build a wall around the plot and drain it in order to convert the farm land into land suitable for construction. We shall also soon prepare the road leading to the plot so that we can start building as soon as planning permission has been granted.

Thank you very much for your support

Since being established in 2009, we have realised at least three projects every year, in addition to regularly supporting our orphanages. We would like to thank you for your donations, without which this would not have been possible. Unfortunately, there was a delay in sending donation receipts this year. We apologise for any inconvenience. If we have your address, you should soon find the receipts for 2013 in your letterbox.

In the coming weeks we are planning to realise two projects: the water pipe to our Pan Pyone Let orphanage and the power line for our Shwe Taung Tan orphanage. In addition, we are beginning to collect donations for the first stage of the new NILA orphanage. If you know people interested in helping us with our current projects by making a donation or a regular contribution as a patron or sponsor, please tell them more about NILA.

Yours Ralf



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Monica handing over letters of the sponsors to the children (pictures on the left). The English teacher Shirley with the boys warden (2nd picture from the right). Shirley painting pictures with Yel Lay for his sponsor in Germany (picture on the right).



Dear Donors from NILA,

thank you all for your kindness to the children in the orphanage of Shwe Taung Tan.

At this moment the 260 children are having a summer vacation. The final examinations have just finished. All the children learned a lot for the last eight months.

They had exams in English, Myanmar, Mathematics, Geography, History, Science, Physics and Chemistry. Their results will be out at the end of May.

During the holidays they have English speaking, Sports, Arts and Making bracelet lessons. The younger ones play a lot with picture cards and the boys enjoy playing football and volleyball.

All the children are helping in the kitchen, cleaning the dormitory, washing clothes and watering the plants. They all do the helping jobs by time.

We are all very thankful and glad for all kinds of donations to our orphanage.

Thanking you all!

With best wishes

Shirley



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