

HELLABEEM FOUNDATION

school for 60 disabled young people aged 12-18 in Sri-Lanka

NEWSLETTER 9 – MAY 2006

THE PROJECT SO FAR

Our long-time dream is getting more and more real. Last month we sold our house in Bussum and at the end of the year we will move over to stay!

Last April Jan and I were in Sri Lanka to see how the land lies, so we can keep a close track of the building of Hellabeem. As it is, everything goes well, though there is a minor delay in our planning. The Long School and the Hexagonal School are nearly finished now, only some minor details have to be fixed. I myself have taken my position behind the sewing machine and have sewn the curtains. (see photo)



In the classrooms of the Long School the six-meter wide counter cupboards are finished now. (see photo) These eight cupboards have been donated by the Lotusflower Foundation. In December, when I live permanently in Sri Lanka, we can start the furnishing of the classrooms.



The beginning of the living area for the first twenty children is there. The sand has been dug off and on May 11 the actual building started. This living area is sponsored by Wilde Ganzen and our supporters. In January 2007 the first children will come to live here. In case this house will not be finished in December, we will still start with ten or twelve children and temporarily use the Hexagonal School as dormitory.

Work has been at a standstill for a couple of weeks this month, for April is the month of the celebration of the Singalese and Hindu New Year. Everybody is on a holiday for at least a fortnight, and so were our workmen. Everybody is visiting and enjoying refreshments. We have been invited twice by the caretaker (he manages the coconut plantation on the Hellabeem grounds) and once by the building contractor. They both treated us to the most delicious dishes. Next year it is our turn!

During our stay Lions International and the local Lions paid us a visit. We hope to receive from them the amount of money we need to start the building of the next house. Now we have room for about 28 children, with the next house we can accommodate another 28 children. Probably these bodies will sponsor half of the amount needed. One of the conditions, however, is that we start the project in the meantime. The remaining amount we will try to collect from other resources: it always is an intensive job to do!

VOLUNTEERS

Very good news: Mayke van Klaveren, her six-year old son Roel and Dirk Houttuin will come and live with us from January. Mayke and Dirk (you can read their CVs on our website) will stay with us for at least two or two and a half years to help us get Hellabeem started. We are really glad to have them. The four of us will study Singalese on the spot.

More good news is that Gijs van Maarseveen has adopted our website as a schoolproject. We are very happy with this as well!

We are looking for

Until recently Eltiffin has been doing the bookkeeping of our project free of charge and very well. Unfortunately this has come to an end because of personal circumstances. We are now looking for a good bookkeeper who would be prepared to do this for us free of charge. Could you help us?

In December we could do with some volunteers in Sri Lanka. Awaiting the arrival of the first children, we are looking for people to help us cleaning and furnishing and people who can do some repair work, e.g. wheelchairs. Work in the morning and the beach in the afternoon. You can stay in Sri Lanka for a month at the most with a tourist visa. We cannot offer board and lodging, but you can easily book an inexpensive room in the Koggala Beach Hotel via Fox Travel.

We are also looking for a physiotherapist who is willing to work for us from January 2007 in exchange for board and lodging.

We want to have new brochures made and hope to find a printer and a designer who could sponsor Hellabeem in this way. Can you help us?

FINANCE

We are very happy with the fact that Plan Nederland will double the amount of money we collect for the kitchen. Each contribution will be doubled, so also yours!

In the beginning of this newsletter I already told you: our house in Bussum has been sold. The interest of the proceeds will go to the project yearly, for years to come. In this way Hellabeem's existence is guaranteed after our deaths.

We received money from several supporters, money they received as a birthday – or wedding present. Thank you very much! We would also like to thank the Vrijzinnige Geloofsgemeenschap in Hilversum and Bussum for their generous gifts. Our supporters group, people who give us money on a monthly basis via a standing order, has grown. Sport '81 gave us all kinds of games equipment.

For all of you: thank you very much!

We go on building Hellabeem. There are still many projects that need sponsoring, like the water cistern, the well, the sewerage, the pipe lines, the road, the drain pipes and the staff studios.

If you would want to sponsor one of these projects, with your company or your friends, you can contact me about this. We could really use your gifts!

Kind regards,
on behalf of Mahrooza, Lahir and Jan,

Helène Heijen



Mahrooza en Lahir



Jan en Helène

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Deze stichting is goedgekeurd door de belasting zoals bedoeld in art. 24 lid 4 van de Successiewet.

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