



Kidshelp Kambodscha e.V. Newsletter, Issue September 2017

Dear members, dear godparents and supporters,

In the last newsletters we pointed out the need to introduce a sustainable financing model for the organisation and explained why we increased the monthly contributions for new sponsors from 12 to 17 euros. We also emphasized that existing sponsorships are not affected by this increase in contributions, but we are of course happy when long-term members voluntarily raise their contributions.

And that is exactly what many of you did. **A big thank you from the whole team in Germany and Cambodia!**

Time to look at what happened during the last weeks:

Free eye-care for the villagers:

Many people in the Cambodian countryside suffer from eye disease and various visual impairments. Cataract for example, a disease that leads to the clouding of the eye lens, can ultimately result in total loss of vision if not treated properly. Since the majority of Cambodians do not know what cataracts are and cannot pay for diagnosis or treatment of the disease anyway, you come across many people suffering from impaired vision if you travel through the Cambodian countryside.

Many villagers in the communities we work with are suffering from various eye problems. We were therefore very glad when Khmer Sight Foundation, an organisation that provides free eye care for people in need, offered to the people of our villages, check-ups and treatment wherever it was deemed necessary. Khmer Sight Foundation is a Cambodian NGO that simply wants to help Cambodians to see again. They do this by inviting and enabling





missions consisting of eye specialists and volunteers from countries around the globe, who provide free treatment and surgeries at various Cambodian hospitals during their stay in the country.

Khmer Sight also works with Cambodian volunteers and med students to provide them with the training they need to become eye specialists in the future. Six of these students visited our school on a Saturday in August and with the help of Khemara, Matthias and Phil, they provided free check-ups for more than 150 villagers. Aside from conducting eye tests, the volunteers immediately started handing out eye drops and the right glasses to whoever needed them. Many patients that were diagnosed with cataract and pterygium have already received free surgery and report a significant improvement in vision. They told us that they are very grateful for the opportunity to receive these treatments.

While having lunch with the Khmer Sight volunteers, we learned that they go to a different village nearly every weekend. The fact that these young Cambodians do this on top of what must be very stressful studies was very impressive and inspiring. It became clear from the beginning, that all of them do this with a lot of dedication and that they are aware of how important this work is. These people made a lasting impression on us and we want to express our sincerest thanks towards them and the [Khmer Sight Foundation](#)!





Staff turnover at the school

The four months Phil spent at our school seem to have flown by in an instant. He had settled in at the school in no time and as a trained teacher he had no difficulties to plunge fully into the lessons. Aside from teaching English, Sport and above all football have always been part of his daily routine at the school. The innumerable farewell messages from our students on Facebook testify to the fact that Phil has done a tremendous job and made a lasting impression.

Many thanks from the whole team and all the best for your future Phil!



A few days before Phil's departure, he and Matthias were able to welcome Tom Westrich, our new volunteer in Phnom Penh and at the school. Tom graduated from high school in 2017 and had been busy studying South East Asia during the year leading up to his final exams. Since he wants to deepen his knowledge of the region and is thinking about studying teaching, he will be living at the school for six months to learn what it means to work with a class full-time. Being rather young does not mean that he is inexperienced. He has been an active member of the Jiu Jitsu Association Zen-Bogyo-Do e. V. Otterbach for more than ten years and is training one of the children's groups since 2012. The



experience he gained while doing this will help him in the classroom and enables us to offer an additional Jiu Jitsu class from now on. Aside from this, him and Matthias will continue to conduct various seminars for the students in Phnom Penh.

Welcome to Kidshelp, Tom!

New school signs



Our member Patrick was kind enough to have new signs for the school made in England. These signs have now arrived in Prek Dambang and not only look good, but are also easily renewed and particularly resistant to fading due to UV radiation.

Many thanks for the extra commitment to Patrick and all those involved in bringing the signs to Cambodia!

New class photos

A few weeks back, our volunteers Matthias and Phil had suggested to take and print photos of each class and to put them up in the classrooms and all together on an outside wall. It might seem like a small project, but really helps to make the school a place where children and teachers alike like to come and work.



This is exemplary for the many small and big ideas kick-started by our volunteers week after week. **Thank you very much for your efforts and keep the ideas coming!**



More news about Kidshelp and pictures from our recent activities can be found at [Facebook](#) and our [Blog](#).

– Your Kidshelp Kambodscha e.V. Team in Cambodia and Germany –



Please allow us to end this newsletter with a little advertisement:

If you follow us on Facebook, you will have noticed that earlier in the year our children were busy creating their own Christmas designs. These drawings serve as the basis for the very first edition of Kidshelp Christmas Cards, that you can order NOW via info@kidshelp-kambodscha.org. Cards are selling fast so please do not wait too long or you may be disappointed.



Each set contains 12 cards with the different designs you can see on the poster on the next page and comes with matching envelopes. The cost for these sets (including post and package – if ordered to an address in Germany) are:

- 1 Set €12
- 2 Sets €23
- 3 Sets €33
- 4 Sets €43

If you order 5 packs or more we will charge €10 per pack and Kidshelp will cover the cost for post and package. Cards collected from Nanette will also only cost €10 per set. All profits will be used for our projects in Cambodia! You might also consider ordering cards to sell on to your friends and family.



*Frohe Weihnachten
und ein
Glückliches Neues Jahr*

Der Erlös aus dem
Verkauf der Karten geht an



www.kidshelp-kambodscha.org

Alle Karten wurden von Schülern der Khemara Kidshelp School entworfen.