



## **Kidshelp Kambodscha e.V. Newsletter, Issue August 2018**

Dear members, dear godparents and supporters,

Please allow us to start with some important organizational remarks:

A significant part of our readership will already be aware of the so-called General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) of the European Union. Be it in their private or in their own professional life. What is often neglected in the debate on the much-criticised regulation is that data protection on the Internet has so far been ignored for the sake of simplicity. But the subject is really important.

Hardly anyone you ask directly wants their profile, interests, contacts etc. to be collected without consent and to be made available to third parties. The various scandals around Facebook in the recent months have clearly shown that this has, however, oftentimes been the de facto reality when it came down to handling personal data online. This is why Kidshelp welcomes the attempt of the EU to address this issue.

That the actual implementation would entail a huge amount of work for website operators, was to be expected and ultimately inevitable. We therefore ask for your kind understanding with regard to us taking some extra time until we released our next newsletter.

For us, the implementation of the GDPR means that we have to recapture all your email addresses. Under the new regulation, a newsletter may only be sent to recipients who have given their consent via a so-called double opt-in process. This means for you that after the usual registration through our form on the homepage (first opt-in) you will receive an additional e-mail asking you to confirm that you have indeed ordered the newsletter (second opt-in).

Adjusting our newsletter to the GDPR resulted in us being forced to delete the email addresses of more than 400 subscribers. We therefore have to now ask all of our supporters to please re-register for the newsletter, in case they have not already done so.

As a recipient of this issue, you have, obviously already, successfully re-registered yourself. It would be great if you could spread the word and inform friends and acquaintances, who have supported Kidshelp in the past and point out to them that they have to register themselves the same way you did. In September and October, we will once more be looking for sponsors to provide scholarships for at least 10 new students. Through our newsletter we had always reached a good number of potential sponsors and we would like to do that again this year.

So please kindly go ahead and help us to advertise for our newsletter. You can find the registration link under this link:

<https://www.kidshelp-kambodscha.org/newsletter/>



Picture of the visit of the Clowns without Borders (read more further below)

### **Kidshelp Meeting in Cologne in June 2018 – Cooperation with „Köln hilft Kambodscha e.V.“**

As announced in our last newsletter, we had invited our members to a meeting in Cologne at the end of June. In a parish hall of the church *Neu St. Alban* that was kindly made available to us, we welcomed a record number of supporters, who first listened attentively to the activity report of our country director and then raised various questions and ideas that were addressed in an open discussion.

Attendees included members of "*Köln hilft Kambodscha e.V.*", an NGO founded by students of the *Rheinische Fachhochschule Köln* and their lecturer Prof. Horst-G. Lippold. The latter did not miss the opportunity to later join us personally later on and to discuss possibilities for cooperation between the two organisations. "*Köln hilft Kambodscha e.V.*" also aims at improving the living conditions of Cambodia's rural population, but works in a different locality not far from Siem Reap and deals with a wide range of topics such as improving infrastructure, building educational facilities or introducing environment friendly waste management systems.



Both organisations see potential for cooperation, especially in the areas of education and waste management. We, therefore, used the meeting as an opportunity to lay the foundation for a first joint project starting in autumn 2018. We are pleased to announce that members of both NGOs will meet in Cambodia in early October to address preparatory questions for a project on waste management starting in November.

During this month we will be visited by an engineer from Germany who wants to talk intensively with the students and teachers about waste. At the same time, he will install a new, closed garbage incinerator at the school. In contrast to the open metal barrel that is currently used for burning waste, the new system will be able to reach extremely high temperatures, which will reduce to a minimum, the formation of harmful fumes.

Why is that even necessary? Apart from Siem Reap and the capital Phnom Penh, there is no comprehensive waste disposal in Cambodia. Plastic waste in particular is often either incinerated, disposed of in the nearest water body or buried. The damage to people and the environment is catastrophic.

We are therefore very pleased about this new cooperation with "Köln hilft Kambodscha e.V.".

A big thank you to everybody who joined the meeting and the following get-together at a nearby Italian restaurant. We had fun and were able to give Michael many good ideas to take back to Cambodia.

### **Computer donation by DHL Express Cambodia**

We are really pleased that by now reports on joint initiatives with DHL Express Cambodia have become a reoccurring element in our recent newsletters.

This issue is no exception, as the DHL Express Management Team visited our school in May 2018 to donate new computers and laptops.

Not all computers will be used directly at the school. Especially the laptops will be passed on to existing and new IT students from poor families. They often do not have their own computers and lack the funds to purchase one and they therefore oftentimes face significant problems at the beginning of their studies.

Once again, a big thank you to the entire DHL Express Cambodia team.



DHL Express Country Manager Prayag Chitrakar and his team handing over the PCs to Khemara and Michael

### **Visit of Clowns without Borders**

One of *the* highlights of 2018 was simply not mentioned in the last newsletter to avoid the last issue becoming too long. High time to catch up:

What we are referring to is the visit of the Clowns without Borders. Or rather, clowns without borders Germany. Like many large international NGOs, the organisation has subsidiaries in various countries that plan, finance and implement their campaigns and appearances independently.

The goal of Clowns Without Borders is to make children in developing countries and crisis regions laugh and to help them forget the oftentimes sad reality they are living in for a while. On top of this they sometimes train local "specialists" or, as one might say in their case, "specialist clowns", so that they can continue to make children, e.g. in hospitals in Syria, laugh.





Snapshot from the show

When the clowns from Germany contacted us and asked if they could present a show in our school, we didn't have to think long.

At the beginning of March, Carola, Heiko and Andreas visited us and quickly turned into their red-nosed alter egos, while photographer Ollie was busy taking some wonderful pictures of our children.

However, these photos could never have been made at the very beginning of the show. Why? Because the majority of the kids had never seen a clown before and therefore had a lot of respect for these strangely dressed "Barangs" (Khmer for "foreigners"). But because our three guest clowns put their heart and soul into the show and were able to draw on their experiences from the previous week of their Cambodia tour, this initial hesitation quickly turned into roaring laughter and enthusiasm.

Again, a big thank you to the clowns Carola, Heiko, Andreas and their photographer Olli!

Additional pictures can be found on the Facebook pages of [Kidshelp](#) and [Clowns Without Borders Germany](#).



### **Jutta and Laura hand over to Florian and Leonie**

Jutta and Laura, two very committed volunteers left us at the beginning of June. Both did very good work despite or precisely because of the temporary lack of teachers at the school. Neither of them ever lost motivation at any point in time and always found a way to improvise when it was necessary. The latter is a very important virtue for anyone who wants to work successfully at our school but also in Cambodia in general.



**Jutta and Laura at their last teacher meeting**

At the end of their stay Laura and Jutta took their classes for a trip to Kirirom National Park. You can find a full report on this in the Kidshelp Blog.

**We thank you very much and wish you all the best for the future!**



Laura and Jutta handed over their work to our new volunteers Florian and Leonie. Both graduate social workers and personnel officers have several years of professional experience and are used to speaking and holding seminars in front of groups. Both have been at the school since the beginning of June and will stay with us for 3 (Leonie) and 6 months (Florian) and have done excellent work since their arrival.



**We are very much looking forward to our further cooperation!**





### **Midway House United – our new football team**

Anyone visiting Phnom Penh or Cambodia these days will not be surprised that football has become by far the most popular sport in the Kingdom. Thai and Khmer boxing may still be able to keep up with TV ratings, but when it comes to how many people actually do the sport, there is nothing that mobilizes the masses like football. In addition to the first and second leagues, there are now countless private leagues and teams catering to both beginners and advanced players.



Teamlogo - Midway House United

It is therefore not surprising that our students have also found interest and fun in the sport. As some of our sponsors know, their students are big fans of various European clubs. In the meantime, however, many also have found a local favourite club to support. We think this is a very positive development.

We also found it very positive when the students approached us and asked us if they could create a new team made up of students from Kidshelp and Chibodia. As already mentioned in a previous newsletter, we run the dormitories together with Chibodia, a partner organization based in Phnom Penh. It therefore makes a lot of sense that our students want to play with together with their housemates. Impressed by the self-initiative, we agreed to the project.

Just a short time later Michael found designs for a logo and shirts for a team called "Midway House United" in his inbox. *Midway House* because we call the dormitories midway houses and *United* because it is a team consisting of students from two organizations.

We think that the shirts, the team name and the logo are incredibly well done and hope that the boys (and hopefully soon also the girls) will show the same commitment they put into creating the team on the pitch.





Team picture after the first training session

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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 –