

# The Andrew Clark Trust

NEWSLETTER JUNE 2016



## VOLUNTEERS THIS YEAR TO DATE

In January we were very lucky to have James & Jackie Thomas who came and did teacher training for one month. Our teachers gained a great deal from them thanks to their training.

Louise Neill & Tim came again and this time made a video of the school, which you can see on the front page of our website, and they also totally re-organised our library.

In February Garth & Meena Ezekiel came for a month again, to teach English, computer skills, sewing and knitting, and organised sports day once a week.

Also Jan Meredith came again for a month teaching English and computer skills. She also took Instagrams of some of our children amongst other things.

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In March the Aussie group came again to pay for more dunnys (toilets) to be built for villagers. Geoff, Sophie, Tim, Jo, Jane and Jamie plus lots more helpers did a great job. They also built some toilets at the government school and one at our English school. They built a new shack for an old lady, and a roof for a disabled person



Alex painted two fantastic murals, one showing how to clean your teeth, and the other of the map of the world, which Katie, Mel, Jasmine and Michael helped with. The girls gave dental health and hygiene classes, and each child was given a toothbrush for cleaning their teeth at school, and one for use at home plus some soap.

At the end of the government school year in March, our high school students taught English as volunteers.

This year we saw a very sharp rise in the number of students attending Summer School from other areas. Bus loads of kids, many on bikes and walking, came from the surrounding areas, and in some of our classes there were more than 100 students.

In June we had a group come from Rays of Youth, a project by Help without Frontiers. They came to teach child protection and child rights. It was so beneficial not only for our students but teachers also.

## OUR NORMAL SCHOOL CLASSES

We have a number of students who travel by bus from Jaydaw (several miles away), to learn English after their government school finishes. Also many, many young people are coming to learn after they have finished their high school education, even from far away, as they can get free English education, which is so important.

Computer classes are very popular and there is always a waiting list.

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Now networking is being taught also.

We are now looking for two more English teachers, as we have a waiting list for some classes, and some classes have too many students.

## HELPING FROM FAR AWAY



Ladies at the Knit & Natter club in Yorkshire knitted many woollie hats and blankets which were very much appreciated.

The students at Kingsbridge Community college, Devon, made beautiful dresses, all sewn by hand.

## TEACHER TRAINING

Over the last 3 years two young women have been studying here to become English teachers. They will leave at the end of the year, and will teach at a new school being set up in Maung Shwe Ley.

Two more young women started training here in March to become English teachers. They will study for 4 to 5 years, and then a school will be built in the nearby town of Thandwe, and they will teach there.

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## WELFARE

Although we do not believe in handouts, we are paying for some children and a couple of adults, so they can eat.

One lady without any relatives is too old to work.

One grandmother with two grandchildren aged 8 and 10 years. The parents went to China 4 years ago, and they have never heard from them since. Now there is no work for the grandmother as it is the monsoon season.

One father who is in hospital because he was working in the forest, when a big branch fell on his leg and broke it. In Myanmar any patient has to have a carer, so his wife has to look after him and cannot work. They have three children.

Two children whose parents are alcoholics, and we have housed them with another family.

Two girls who have no father, and their mother is in hospital taking care of her son, who was in an accident.

These are some that we have to help with food.

## WATER SITUATION



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During April, May and the beginning of June, there have been quite a number of villages around Thandwe who have had no drinking water at all. Each year the situation is getting worse, so many tube wells will need

to be built to alleviate the situation for next year. Now there is flooding in the areas around Thandwe, hundreds of villagers have lost their homes and are living in the hills. The only bridge to get there was destroyed in the floods, so at present we and others are trying to get food, water and shelter to them.

## HEALTHCARE



At present we have this lady in hospital having an operation on her legs. She has rickets disease. Now she cannot work, and her husband died last year. She has a 6 year old daughter.

The two older children are brothers and sisters. They both have rickets disease. Their parents are too poor to pay for them to have operations.

The smallest girl also has rickets disease but she is too young to have an operation.



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Also we have one patient having a foot operation, and another man with a broken leg in two places. Both were injured while working.

These are just some of the patients that we have in hospital at present.

**THIS IS OUR WORK IN PROGRESS**

**WE THANK YOU SO VERY MUCH FOR ALL YOUR SUPPORT.  
100% OF ALL DONATIONS GOES TOWARDS EDUCATION  
AND HEALTHCARE.**

