

# The Andrew Clark Trust

## December Newsletter

TW/news/21.12,2025

Sunday, 21st DECEMBER 2025

Dear Sponsors and Supporters.

Hello. I do hope that all is well in your world and that you are looking forward to Christmas.

Once again, I send you my heartfelt thanks for all the wonderful emails I have received in response to mailings. Your emails are a joy to read knowing that they have again brought interest and a better understanding of the situations that I am able to write about. I hope that for as long as I write them, that you will continue to enjoy them and find them interesting and uplifting. I do my best to make them so for you. Thank you reading.

The year seems to have passed so quickly and yet for many who are suffering, so many who are sad, who are hungry, who are sick, who are alone, who are afraid - young or old, for them each day is so so long, and each day will have seemed endless.

2025 has been a challenging year for so many people around the world in so many different countries, but we remember our beloved Myanmar especially as the year closes, and we maintain our continued wish for the coming year, that with hope, there will be something to celebrate soon.

So as the end of 2025 in sight, I hope that you might take a little time to remember and reflect on the news that I have sent you over the year. Some very sad stories but along with the sad stories, some happy stories too, some children's stories, some stories from the old people's home and then the stories of the wonderful fund raising event of Gary's marathon challenge and of the huge efforts of Oliver from Chef's without Borders and his team of amazing volunteers in supplying food and much general aid, across wide areas of the country to help the hungry and displaced, and then remember too, along with these good news stories to please think about your own good news stories too – those good news stories you have created by your own continued support of us, all the good that your support enables us to carry out, all that we have been able to do to make the lives of the people of Myanmar a little easier, a little better and a little bit brighter. Your kindness and generosity will continue to inspire us and for sure, we would not be able to do what we do without you. It is a symbol of your love, and your love will always make someone feel loved. It is a gift, and I thank you sincerely for your love.

I mentioned in my November edition that we had taken a last-minute decision to visit Myanmar and we left here on 30<sup>th</sup> October heading for Yangon. We arrived there to real heat and then torrential rain – the first rain that we had seen and experienced in Myanmar since we first journeyed to the country in 2009. It was quite a strange experience but not a bad one, it would come suddenly and with great force - then stop. The sun would shine and the ground would dry up almost instantly and then it would happen all over again. We have often wondered what it would be like to be there during the monsoon season and even now, after what we were told were just simply 'showers' realise that we would have very very wet feet and everything else too without rubber boots and a strong and wide umbrella! Aside from the rains that only lasted for four days, we made the most of our time and did lots of walking, we spent time talking with locals – always interested in where we were from. We spent a day at Yangon Zoo and met lots of visiting children. We were able to travel over to meet up with

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those teachers from our school that had temporarily relocated to Yangon, and we had days out visiting pagodas and temples with some of our long-standing dear friends. On several occasions we were able to meet up with some of our older ex-students from Lintha who were safe and working in secure employment. It was a joy to see them all and we were so happy that they are doing well. And of course, we met up together on most evenings with Sue and Sahin when we were able to enjoy many conversations over dinner and spent many happy hours with them. But I will write all about our visit in more detail when I send you my January newsletter and I am sure that it will be something that I know I will look forward to writing, and for you, something that you will hopefully enjoy reading. There will be some really sweet inclusions to make you smile and bring a little new year cheer.

But for my final paragraph, for my final newsletter of the year, I also bring you our very own glad tidings of great joy too - that has a wonderful surprise which will end 2025 off wonderfully well as I give you details on the pages that follow, exciting news of a great celebration. As you turn the page, enjoy the wonderful news.

So, to close, I send you my sincere and heartfelt thanks for your wonderful, continued support of our children and our charity. I wish you all a very happy Christmas and all bright hope for a happy new year to follow.

With my love and thanks.

*Tilly*

Tilly Wilkinson  
Trustee Administrator.



The Andrew Clark Trust is a Registered Charity, Registered in England. Registration No. 1104134  
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## BREAKING NEWS BREAKING NEWS

It was mid-year when we heard and read in the King's Honours List, that Sue – our school's founder and trustee - known to our teachers, our children and many others as "Mummy Sue", had been nominated to receive an honour for 'Services to Children's Education and Healthcare in Myanmar'. She was to be recognised with an MBE (Member of the Order of the British Empire). Sue's investiture took place at St James's Palace in London on Friday 5<sup>th</sup> December when Princess Anne presented Sue with her award.

On learning of her award, Sue said "I feel honoured and also shocked at the same time as I believe there are many more worthy people than me. The school is my life. I never look back on what has been achieved but always focus on what needs to be done."

Many many Congratulations Mummy Sue



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Meeting Princess Anne At St. James's Palace to be presented with her award

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Susan Ozturk MBE

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Afterwards, here is Sue along with her family – husband Sahin, son Giles and good friend Carl – Chairman of our school.