



STICHTING MULLAI

NIEUWSBRIEF DECEMBER 2020

Board change

Our treasurer, Hanneke Rutten, has indicated that she will step down from her position on 1 January. Of course we respect her decision, but that does not alter the fact that we regret that she is leaving.

Hanneke was involved in the establishment of our foundation in 2006 and has since then fulfilled the function of treasurer. She always did this with great precision and, where necessary, with a critical eye.



Left to right: Anton, Hanneke, Ruud en Nicole
note: picture is taken before the COVID-19 crisis

Hanneke, thank you very much for all your efforts for the Mullai Foundation! Thank you for your involvement and collegiality! We wish you all the best for the future!

In the meantime we have managed to find a new treasurer in the person of Math van den Bekerom.



Math van den Bekerom

Math worked in the police force until his retirement. In his spare time he has been active at SV Venray since 1974. Until 2005 he was youth leader of various teams. He then joined the youth board as secretary and has been in charge of the competition secretariat since 2010. He has also been chairman of the referee committee for several years. For this he was appointed honorary member of SV Venray in 2002. Since 1981 he has also been active on a national level for the KNVB, first as a referee and reporter in indoor football, later he became chairman of the working group referee affairs for indoor football and member of the working committee for indoor football. For all this he was awarded the silver pin of the KNVB.

Math, welcome to the board.

New contact persons

As known, we work closely with the R.C. Mission Congregation Oblaten van Maria (OMI) who has been providing spiritual and humanitarian assistance in Sri Lanka for 170 years.

In the autumn, this congregation held its four-yearly general meeting. Father Eugene Benedict was elected the new Provincial. As such, he is now our general contact.



p. Eugene Benedict

A new contact person has also been appointed for the Mullaitivu region, namely Father John Patrick



p. John Patrick

Covid-19 / Corona

A general lockdown was instituted in Sri Lanka at an early stage. As a result of this and also due to the source and contact investigation and the mandatory quarantine, the number of Covid-19 infections in Sri Lanka is relatively small and fortunately there are few deaths.

The lockdown has had a significant impact on families living on a daily income, especially those with the disabled.

Because the family members could not work and thus could not generate income, the people were in dire need of money and faced with food shortages.

With the help of the Mullai foundation, an initiative has been set up to look at what rights disabled people have, whose families are affected by Covid-19. Questions have been asked about this to qualified government and non-government employees. In this way it became clear what the rights and possibilities of disabled people are, how they are extended and which authorities can be approached to make use of them.

All this prompted - for the first time - to organize a meeting with the help of governmental and non-governmental organizations and the Mullai Foundation for people who did not know where and from whom they could get help to provide for their daily needs.



The people who attended on September 29 indicated that they had received an answer to many of their questions and that they were therefore relieved. They see light again at the end of the tunnel. Because this meeting was such a success, similar meetings have also been organized in other villages.

Besides co-organizing this information meeting, the Mullai Foundation also has

be able to offer help in another way. At the request of the pastor of Mullaitivu to support people with disabilities in the context of the emergency relief campaign, we made a donation to help 50 people.



At the table!

Some time ago this slogan was regularly heard in a TV commercial. But of course that's not what it's about here. But about the so-called 'Sri Lanka Table', an organization that wants to offer Dutch foundations active in Sri Lanka a platform to share knowledge with each other. Our foundation also makes use of this offer, as well

Peter Storck, who gave a fascinating presentation about Sri Lanka during the celebration of our 10th anniversary in 2016.

On December 11th. there was a Zoom meeting, especially for the organizations active in the north of Sri Lanka. Anton participated in this on behalf of the Mullai Foundation. Because this was the first time specifically for this target group, this meeting was all about mutual acquaintance. For example, Anton has told a few things about our foundation.

From the old days...

At the beginning of 2018, we started collecting second-hand items such as PCs, PC accessories, laptops, clothing, toys, tools, musical instruments, etc., which are packed in boxes and then shipped to Sri Lanka. This promotion is still ongoing. And with success! We receive a lot of support from Kusters education and training B.V. in Venray.



A hurricane



On December 4, the north and east of Sri Lanka were severely hit by a hurricane. Tens of thousands of people had to be evacuated.

Many have become homeless. There has been a great shortage of food and drink.

The Mullai Foundation started a promotion to

offer help: for € 5.00 a family can be helped with a food package for a week.

After the civil war that raged in the Mullaitivu region for more than 30 years and the Tsunami on Boxing Day 2004, now this hurricane.



An eventful year

2020 is coming to an end. In many respects a turbulent year, mainly caused by the ruthless Corona virus. Fortunately, light is beginning to dawn in the darkness as vaccines are made available.

The board of the Mullai Foundation wishes you all a beautiful Christmas, despite all the limitations, and let's look forward to 2021 with hope.

The board:

Anton Thurayappah (chairman)
Nicole Linskens (secretary)
Hanneke Rutten-Claessens (treasurer, resigning)
Math van den Bekerom (treasurer, incoming)
Ruud Willemsen (board member)

