



Sailung TriNetra Newsletter No 3
July - September 2007

Welcome to the third Sailung TriNetra Newsletter. It's hard to believe we are rapidly coming to the end of the year - time really does fly! So what has been going on in the world of Sailung TriNetra during July, August and September?

The big news is that we are now fully affiliated in Australia. This has taken quite a while to sort out, but all the hard work has paid off. Basically, this means that Sailung TriNetra is a Community Partner of the Australian Federation for the Peoples of Asia and the Pacific Ltd (ABN 42002568005). Just to tell you a bit about the AFAP. They are an innovative overseas aid organisation based out of Sydney that aims to make a positive difference to the lives of people throughout

Africa, Asia and the Pacific. They also aim to raise awareness of the current situation of these regions within the wider Australian community. It is their goal to partner with in-country NGOs in each of the communities with whom they work. These partners aid the AFAP in the creation and implementation of all their programs and give a local voice to the inhabitants of the communities. The local knowledge and expertise they possess is critical to the success of our programs.

I recently attended a two-day workshop with the AFAP and other Community Partners (CP) to learn more about the work they do and how the CPs can benefit from the relationship. We learnt a lot about the incredibly frustrating red tape associated with the Australian Tax Office and AusAid - but we are spending Australian taxpayers money so you can understand it to some extent! Talks on fundraising and public liability also sparked interesting debate. I think the greatest benefit was to meet with the AFAP team and the other Community Partners. The passion and enthusiasm was palatable and it was inspiring to hear everyone's stories and experiences. The world really does need people like this in it!

Also in Australia, we have kicked off our fundraising efforts. The Wine Drive was the first event. We teamed up with Adelaide Cellar Door and purchased 69 cases of boutique South Australian Wines. We then sold this on to

friends, family and supporters. 20 cases were even shipped down to Melbourne (a big thanks to Ellen and Penny!). We then had a wine tasting night at Flinders Street Gallery (thanks Jack), where Jane from Adelaide Cellar Door came and gave a talk about each of wines. A good night was had by all (although it turned into more than just a 'tasting' of the wines!).

Back in August, Rob Grant ran in the City to Surf to raise money for Sailung TriNetra. So a big thanks to him.

Our next event, a Nepali Banquet is scheduled for 1st November. We have hired out a Nepali restaurant for the night and traditional Nepali food will be served. I'll let you know how things go in the next newsletter.

In Nepal, the political situation has yet again lurched into crisis with the Maoists pulling out of the interim government. We can only hope that they are able to work together to find a solution before the election scheduled for the end of November.

Due to the Maoist agitation, there have been a number of strikes and unrest in Kathmandu and this has impacted on the bakery. We are trying to keep things going but it is difficult in such a volatile situation.

In the villages, the land clearing continues and the villagers are working hard to prepare the land for building. Seto Gurans, a dedicated Early Childhood Development NGO is now on board and they will begin the evaluation of the project in November.

In the UK, we still need people to regularly commit financially to the project. I'd really like to have 20 people supporting the project on a monthly basis. This will give us a good foundation of support and assist with on-going costs. So if you haven't already done so please go to the donations section, fill out the pdf and send it off to CAN. Really, it doesn't take that long!

And if anyone has any fundraising ideas or want to do a fundraiser in support of Sailung TriNetra, please get in touch with me at Claire@sailungtrinetra.org. There's a long way to go with donations, so every little bit helps!

We have copies of the DVD and leaflets if anyone wants to use them for fundraising purposes. Just get in touch and I can send them out, Claire@sailungtrinetra.org

So that wraps up the third newsletter, don't hesitate to get in touch, donate or fundraise!

Love and happiness

Claire