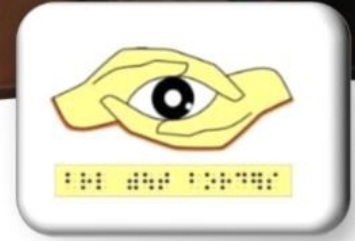


# Braille Without Borders

## Quarterly newsletter 2 -2017



The summer has arrived.. So it is time for the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarterly newsletter of 2017. Gyendsen, Nyima and Mike have shared an overview of the highlights of the past quarter at the Braille Without Borders projects in Lhasa and Shigatse.

### Lhasa

#### Braille reading competition

In May, the local blind association and the Tibet library arranged a Braille reading competition, many of our blind students and graduates attended. There were students from local special education and BWB, also the blind masseurs. During the competition, Tsamden got first award. Tsamden is the smallest blind girl and BWB student. She is seven years old and initially she was a little bit shy. The award gave her a great confidence boost. The second winners are one from special education school and two from BWB. The first winner received two thousands CNY and a gift.

#### Children's Day celebration

BWB organized an event for children's day. The entire team did intensive practice on singing and dancing. Some teachers and many students performed shows on June first. We invited many people from different organizations and offices in Lhasa. There were more than 120 people. Dachung's blind music band gave a heart-warming performance too.

#### Operation successful

Tsering Dondup is seventeen years old and now in the rabbit class. He had foot problem for many years and could not walk properly. Last year, our management team noticed that he could have treatment if financial condition allows, therefore we contacted some of the donors to fund his medication fee. Thanks to the donors, Tsering was able to do three surgeries successfully. His last and the final surgery was done on June 15<sup>th</sup>. He now returned to Lhasa from Chengdu and is recovering. Tsering is very happy about this treatment. He said "I have the problem since I was very small, but unable to do the treatment, because my family don't know that I can have treatment, also they have no enough money. I feel very lucky that I can walk properly now".



Childrens Day in Lhasa



Childrens Day in the BWB farm



Guizhou Forerunner College



Computer / Internet Lab

### Self-integration into University

Wangla is a former student of the BWB preparatory school, he enrolled in regular school six years ago. Upon graduation from Shigatse high school last year, he was able to successfully enter the university. He has a lot of (sighted) friends in university. Wangla is now studying Tibetology, we are very happy for his success. Local newspaper reported his story many times and it has brought a positive impact and a mind-set shift in the society. We hope there will be many more students like him in future. BWB Vocational School/Integration Students Belshung (Shigatse), Tibet.  
Second Quarter (April - June, 2017 )

### 'MUSICIANS THREE' TO MAINLAND CHINA

Panden, Samdrup and Tashi Puntsok from our music component have been accepted by FRC College in Guizhou, China. The College offers a variety of courses for both blind and sighted students. The courses are designed primarily for a profession and include three years of pre-collegiate studies recognized by the government as equivalent to a high school diploma.

### BLIND FRIENDLY COMPUTER /INTERNET LAB

Our vocational component has added a computer lab for vocational trainees and integration students. It features blind friendly audio in Chinese and English and WiFi. Sonam Wangdu -- whose family operates an internet business in Lhasa -- is our blind instructor and the inspiration behind this endeavor.

### HEADED FOR HIGH SCHOOL

Three of our girls have just this month written their High School admission tests. Dechen Drogar, Tsomo and Dadron have come up through the BWB 'system' beginning at the school in Lhasa and through the government regular schools, primary and middle, here in Shigatse. They are awaiting their results and while we keep our fingers crossed, the three of them are happily confident.

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*Dear Friends and Supporters,*

*On behalf of all our students and colleagues, we say thank you to everyone for your continuous support and wish you all a spicy and exciting summer!*

*With warmest regards,*

*the entire BWB team, sabriye and paul*

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You can support the work of Braille Without Borders [here](http://www.braillewithoutborders.org) - THANK YOU VERY MUCH!  
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