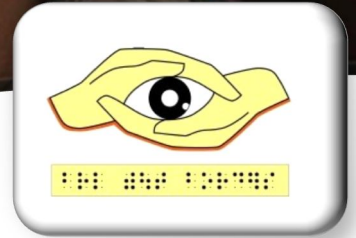


Braille Without Borders

Quarterly Newsletter 4 -2013



Dear friends and supporters,

Looking at how children become adults seemingly overnight we see how time flies by. As if it were yesterday we remember our first students; the thoughtful nine year old Tendsin, who already at that time, planned how to support his family in the future.

The inquisitive 11-year old Gyendsen who always asked for more English and Math classes. 10-year-old Yudon who enlightened the whole school with her laughter and Nyima, when he joined he was 15, always friendly, humorous but also assertive.

So what become of them? Well, Tendsin nowadays owns a successful Massage-clinic. He got married this summer and became father in fall. Gyendsen manages the Braille-Book-Library and printing press. He also got married recently and he and his wife Kelchoe expect their first child in the coming spring. Yudon became a teacher at the school whereas Nyima is the coordinator for the entire project. This year Nyima and Yudon found each other and will be getting married next summer

Self-integration:

This last quarter saw Nyima Choekpa, a visually impaired BWB graduate and graduate of the government high school in Shigatse, received a full college scholarship for the Chengdu Medical College in mainland China. She is currently studying there and has been elected to serve on their Student Council.

Operation

The BWB team is happy for Tashi Dawa's successful eye operation. In November, doctors discovered a malicious tumor in his eye that required urgent surgery. Yudun accompanied Tashi to a hospital in Shanghai in December. Thanks to the support of the Jade Buddha temple, the operation was performed successfully. Tashi and Yudun will return to Lhasa again soon. .



Gyendsen



Nyima and Yudun



Tenzin's Son

Carpet weaving

In the BWB vocational training centre, one of the skills that are being taught is "carpet weaving". The blind students learn how to mark the colours of the threads and to count the cross lines so amazing multi colored carpets are being created. And this is often done under the clear blue skies!



Music Hall

The new multi-purpose hall, let's call it the Blind Performing Arts Center, was inaugurated in November. Many thanks to the SunRain Company and their CEO, Mr.Xu, for this. And last but not least credit goes to our blind music teacher, Ngudrup. He is also a BWB graduate, who through his patience and personal talents built the musical team that so impressed SunRain and everyone that hears them.

Day of the white cane

October 15 is not only a day to remember the blind, it rather should be understood as a request for mobility and independence of blind people.



In most countries around the world only a few blind people have a chance to get proper mobility training and therefore have to stay at home most of the time. Braille Without Borders regards mobility - apart from learning the Braille - as the number one priority for every blind person. Every year our blind children walk the street on October 15 and demonstrate their will to be independent. In order to spread awareness, they use humorous theatre plays, flyers and give interviews with the media.

Dear Friends and Supporters,

*On behalf of all students and colleagues we say **THANK YOU** for your ongoing support!*

We would be grateful if you can share this newsletter with your family members, colleagues and friends. We wish all of you a wonderful Christmas and an even better new year!

With warm regards,

The entire BWB team, Sabriye and Paul