

pestalozzi

NEWSLETTER



Autumn/Winter 2014

www.pestalozzi.org.uk



Update from Sue Walton, Chief Executive



Behind the scenes

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As our students arrived for the start of the new academic year, full of hope and enthusiasm, I started thinking about what makes a Pestalozzi scholarship so different to other scholarship programmes.

The answer that will immediately spring to mind as you turn the pages of this Newsletter is "our students" but it is far more complicated than that.

The young people that we work with, like our first Indonesian students Roseline and Yanti (see pages 7 and 8), come from some of the most challenging economic backgrounds and simply would not be able to continue their education without the full support that a Pestalozzi scholarship provides. Whereas other scholarship programmes will pay for board, lodging and tuition fees, a Pestalozzi scholarship must cover this and much more in order to reach those students who have no other educational opportunities open to them because of their financial circumstances.

With your help, a Pestalozzi scholarship funds selection of students in the nine countries that we work with and pays for the TB tests and IELTS examinations that are required before a successful candidate's visa can be applied for. It meets the visa costs themselves then finances the airfares to and from the UK. It covers the dental and optical treatment that many of our students require when they

reach the UK and supplies suitable clothing so the students are prepared for our variable and

unpredictable climate. It provides the course books and every piece of stationery that is required for study, meets the costs of every examination including the SATS that will help these young people secure onward scholarships to US Universities and it ensures that each student is able to take up meaningful volunteering and work experience placements during the two years that they spend with us.

All of this makes a Pestalozzi scholarship special but it is students like Bhawana Bochmann (see pages 5 and 6) that make it unique. Their commitment and dedication really do make a difference in the world, not just through the direct impact of their chosen careers but through their support of those, like Chhiring Lama, who follow behind them to become a part of the vibrant and diverse community that is Pestalozzi.

As you can see, with your help these young people do make a difference in the world. So thank you all for your continued support and for the donations that enable us to make a Pestalozzi scholarship so different in so many ways.





About Pestalozzi

Our mission is to make a real and lasting difference by applying the Pestalozzi principles of educating the Head, Heart and Hands.

Pestalozzi awards scholarships to exceptional 16-19 year olds who are academically gifted but have limited educational prospects in their home countries.

These young people have all demonstrated their commitment to making a difference in their communities. Currently we select students from nine countries: Belize, Bhutan, India, Indonesia, Nepal, Uganda, Zambia, Zimbabwe, and the Tibetan communities in exile.

Pestalozzi students live for two years in a multi-cultural, multi-faith community in Sedlescombe, East Sussex, where they welcome difference and embrace diversity. They study at Sussex Coast College Hastings and undertake a broad range of extra-curricular activities, gaining an holistic education focussed on the Pestalozzi principles of Head, Heart and Hands.



Pestalozzi scholarships give these young people an opportunity they would not otherwise receive – the chance to develop their potential, pursue their ambitions and go on to make a real and lasting difference in the world.

Pestalozzi receives no government funding and we rely wholly on the generosity of our supporters. You can be part of our story. Visit our website to find out how:

www.pestalozzi.org.uk/



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Leavers' Ceremony



Congratulations!

A huge "well done" is in order for our Pestalozzi 2014 graduates, who achieved a 100% pass rate in the International Baccalaureate Diploma this year. Graduating Pestalozzi students have been offered places at Brighton, Duke, Stanford, MIT, Yale, Princeton, Smith, MSU, Swarthmore and NYU – Abu Dhabi.

This is the second consecutive year that Pestalozzi students have achieved a 100% pass rate and we are extremely proud of them all.

Thank you

To: Julie Walker (Finance Manager and Host Parent)

From: Washington Mudziviri

🔊 Ndatenda
Makaita basa!

I am so grateful for the love and care that your family have shown to me. You gave me a home away from home.



Some highlights from the speeches given at the 2014 Leavers' Ceremony:

"I know Her Majesty is delighted with the work organisations such as Pestalozzi do and applauds the way in which it seeks to support all of the world's communities." *HM Lord-Lieutenant, Peter Field.*

"The Pestalozzi scholarship and education I have received at Sussex Coast College Hastings have enabled me to pursue my dreams. I am very grateful for the opportunity given to me by the charity and to the excellent teachers I've had over the last two years." *Pratiksha Sharma, Nepal.*



"Our experiences and immersion into different cultures and beliefs has made us global citizens, citizens who are not afraid to go anywhere, because we have a multicultural spirit within us." *Timothy Mazai, Zimbabwe.*

"It is not only grades that I acquired in Pestalozzi but something much more valuable: a chance to shape myself and gain the skills to help build a better world." *Aravind Swami Yeduvaka, India.*



Dates for your diary

Here is a list of upcoming Pestalozzi events, readily planned for you to pop in your diary. We have a terrific schedule, from cultural evenings to a Christmas market, so make sure you don't miss out!

- **Thursday 20 November:** Nepali Cultural Evening
- **Saturday 6 December:** Pestalozzi Christmas Market. A cosy afternoon of family fun with tasty treats, seasonal activities, carols and our big raffle draw!
- **Wednesday 10 December:** Lewes Friends of Pestalozzi Carol Concert at St Michaels Church in Lewes
- **Thursday 29 January:** Zimbabwean and Zambian Cultural Evening
- **Thursday 19 February:** Belizean Cultural Evening
- **Saturday 7 March:** International Celebration
- **Thursday 9 April:** Tibetan Cultural Evening



For more information see:
pestalozzi.org.uk/events



On the estate

As ever the summer is a very busy time for the estate team. There has been summer bookings, deep cleans and a lot of grass to cut!



Volunteers

We welcomed back Concordia Volunteers this summer to help with work on the estate. Along with the generous help of the Faraj family, who were staying at the estate, we have cleared a large area around the staff and volunteers house, painted the outside of Swiss hall and rediscovered an old pond which used to supply water to the manor house.



For more information see: pestalozzi.org.uk/estate

We have started working with The Conservation Volunteers this autumn to continue to make improvements across the estate.

Changes



We have some big plans in place for Pestalozzi Village. Swiss Hall recently had the serving area rejuvenated and it will soon receive much needed repairs to its roof. The Pestalozzi Centre build will start in earnest, too. This new learning space will sit between the old Trogen and International houses which will be demolished over the winter. A new car park is also planned and it is hoped

that these changes will enhance the experience of students and visitors alike.

If you feel you have skills that could help us on the Estate, don't hesitate to get in touch with Alex on 01424 870444 or alex.whittington@pestalozzi.org.uk.



A note of gratitude

Thank you so much to my English parents Sarah and Tom Norris for hosting me. I had a great time with exciting trips to Port Lympne and Odeon as well as swimming in the sea and the great cook outs among others!



Audrey Koti, Zimbabwe, 2014

Meet our new trustee, Stuart Laing

With an impressive background in education, our most recently appointed trustee, Stuart Laing, hopes he can make an impact for further Pestalozzi opportunities within British universities.



'I have recently retired from over forty years of working in Sussex universities, which is how I became involved with Pestalozzi. I was assigned to lead the initial discussions between the University of Brighton and Pestalozzi regarding the possibility of scholarships and this resulted in the successful scholarship scheme that is in place today.

I hope that my knowledge and experience in these areas can assist in opening up some further scholarship schemes in English universities. I am very much looking forward to learning many new things from my fellow trustees and from the students, too.

I admire that despite the challenging financial situation, Pestalozzi has always embodied great optimism in the values of education and in the development of mutual understanding as a solution to our global problems. To be able to share in this will be a great privilege.'



From student to sponsor: Making a difference

Educating our students and providing opportunities that can lead to them investing in communities and making a difference in the world is something that Pestalozzi strives toward. Bhawana and Chhiring's story is a perfect example of this circle of success.



Imagine being given a potentially life changing opportunity to study towards your future dreams, at a time when the cost of secondary education puts it beyond your grasp. Imagine taking full advantage of

that opportunity, progressing to university and then into the career of your dreams. Now imagine being able to provide that opportunity to someone else, to an aspirational 16 year-old, not so dissimilar to your younger self. This is exactly what happened to Bhawana Bochmann.

Now a successful medical researcher, mother and charity director, Bhawana Bochmann (formerly Poudel) was once a Pestalozzi scholar herself. After graduating in 2004, Bhawana wanted to help

people in Nepal pursue their education so she and her husband set up their charity, Bildungsforderung Nepal (Supporting Education, Gifting Future.) Bhawana believes that her journey of success is thanks to the help of educational scholarships such as that given by Pestalozzi.

'I have funded my entire education with the help of external

funding. I started my educational journey at a school in Kathmandu with the help of a government scholarship. During this period, I was fortunate to receive another offer from Pestalozzi International Village to do an IB Diploma at Hastings College. I then moved to Germany to do my bachelor's degree with the help of another fellowship.'

'Today I feel successful and very happy with my life and I would not be who I am today without the help of these scholarships. This is what made me realize that I would like to do something in return for others. I felt that I owe my sponsors a "thank you", and how else could I have done this better than giving similar opportunities to others who are in need?' she says.

Bhawana's NGO was sponsoring the education of four girls in a school in Kathmandu. One of these girls was Chhiring Lama who now resides in Sedlescombe, in surroundings very familiar to Bhawana. 'I am extremely happy, glad and relieved that our contribution to education granted Chhiring an exceptional opportunity to pursue further education at Pestalozzi. I know that she is now in great hands that will guide her to shape a better future,' says Bhawana.

'I would advise her to enjoy Pestalozzi and to make the best use of the opportunities, embrace the differences in people/culture and be a global citizen. I would also ask that in the future, please be kind and do something for others when you are in the position to do so.'

Chhiring believes that Bhawana's sponsorship gave her the confidence as well as the





financial support to enable her to achieve her Pestalozzi scholarship. She has settled into her new lifestyle, where she has learnt a lot about the multiple nationalities of her fellow students:

'The experience you get at Pestalozzi is a lot more whole, you learn a lot. I hadn't heard of countries like Belize or Zambia and now I have come to know them.'

Chhiring is embracing opportunities and starting to fulfil her dreams to become a doctor, hoping to continue to university or medical school after graduating from Pestalozzi.

'I would like to study medicine because where I live at home (in the district of Humla) is one of the most remote parts of Nepal. There is one hospital in my district and not many health workers or doctors so people die from minor illnesses. Like Bhawana, if I am able to, I would also like to help get other children the opportunities they need in the future,' she says.



Pestalozzi 200

Since launching **Pestalozzi 200** in 2013, a number of people have made a commitment to support Pestalozzi by making a regular donation of at least £200 per year. A big thank you to the following **Pestalozzi 200** members for helping us ensure we continue to make a difference in the world:

Julian and Quenelda Avery; Alan and Jean Brown; Miss Betty Charles; Lord and Lady Clarke; Peter Duncan; Mrs Ursula Ensmann; Paul and Gill Evans; Dr Edward Henderson; Arnelda John; Peter and Janet Kennedy; David and Margaret Macaulay; Bridget and Richard Maidment; Mr and Mrs M Marceau; Mr and Mrs Richard Meade; Ms Gloria Redston; Miss Rhoda Nkonjela; Annette and Bill Shelford; Mrs Marilyn Shone; And all those donors who wish to remain anonymous.

If you'd like to join **Pestalozzi 200**, please call our team on 01424 870444.



Love ladybirds? Passionate about Pestalozzi? Our new mug is the perfect gift. You can buy yours online via our Zazzle store here: <http://bit.ly/1ESJW7u> and don't forget to use easyfundraising, too!



An introduction to Indonesia

This year saw the arrival of our first ever Indonesian students, Yanti Manurung and Roseline Simanjuntak, and we were delighted to welcome them to Pestalozzi!

Both Yanti and Roseline come from the Batak community and are part of a Christian minority within a largely Muslim country. They are keen lovers of biology, and both Roseline and Yanti are excited about the educational opportunity that their scholarship with Pestalozzi provides – and also about the chance to learn to play a musical instrument!

Thanks to Dr. Mike Grey, a Pestalozzi contact with a good network in Indonesia, a relationship was developed between the Del Foundation and Pestalozzi. The Del Foundation have many students which fit the Pestalozzi selection criteria; those who are academically gifted but from very low

income backgrounds, and with limited educational opportunities.

An initial challenge of the Indonesian student recruitment was that English is not the medium of instruction for secondary education. The Del Foundation had to provide additional English support, to potential Pestalozzi candidates. This was hugely successful as Yanti and Roseline both speak English fluently.

Dr. Mike Grey and Pak Patuan, Chairman of the Del Foundation, are hopeful of the possibilities that this initial partnership can lead to for future student selection:



Indonesian fact file

- Indonesia is a country made up of over 17,000 islands
- There are over 300 ethnic groups in Indonesia, each with their own customs, traditions and dialects
- Java is the most populous island in the world
- Indonesia is situated on the Pacific Ring of Fire and is home to around 150 volcanoes



'Yayasan Del is most grateful to Pestalozzi for affording Roseline Simanjuntak and Yanti Manurung the opportunity to undertake their "A-level" education in England. These two talented young students are from low income backgrounds from the remote Lake Toba area in North Sumatra and shall greatly benefit from association with the tremendous platform Pestalozzi has created, through assisting their development both academically and in gaining wider understanding of international cultures and practices. Many people need to be made aware of the excellent work you do.'

The Del Foundation and Pestalozzi share the vision of inspiring students to give back to the community. This is something that our 2014 Indonesian students have already considered. Roseline aspires to use her education to aid with her country's environmental issues:

'There are so many industries built in my country

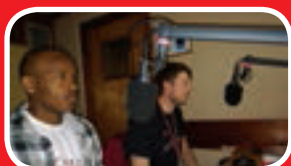
over the last few years and many of them are large scale. From an economic point of view, it is an improvement for Indonesia because they need a huge number of workers which contributes to reducing unemployment. Unfortunately, most of the industries have fewer concerns about their waste and the impact of it for the environment. I hope with the knowledge I have, especially in biology, I can meet this challenge and protect Indonesia's environment.'

For Yanti and Roseline, a Pestalozzi scholarship is a spring board to the future. It offers them the opportunity to reach their full potential, achieve their aspirations and to make a difference in the world, whilst enjoying every minute of the journey.

'It is great to be here at Pestalozzi with people from very different cultures and backgrounds. It is exciting to be one of the first Indonesian students here but I am sure there will be many more to follow,' claims Yanti.



 **Donate to Pestalozzi:**
pestalozzi.org.uk/donate



Thanks

We would like to thank the following Trusts, Foundations and organisations for their fantastic support:

Ashcroft Charitable Trust; Benham Charitable Settlement; C Brewer and Sons Ltd Trust; Charlotte Marshall Charitable Trust; D Hooley Charitable Settlement; Eastbourne College; Fat Promotions Ltd; G M Morrison Charitable Trust; Hastings Bonfire Trust; Hastings Direct; Herstmonceux Quakers Meeting; Homelands Charitable Trust; Ian Askew Charitable Trust; Isle of Man Friends of Pestalozzi; Joseph Strong Frazer Trust; Miss PM Ireland's Charitable Trust; Mrs A Lacy-Tate Trust; Mrs EE Brown Charitable Settlement; Lewes and District Soroptomists; Lewes Friends of Pestalozzi; Raymond & Blanche Lawson Charitable Trust; Rural Past Times; Sir Gerald Newman Settlement; St Mary's Frensham Trust; Starbucks Youth Action and UK Youth; The Albert Van Den Bergh Charitable Trust; The Andrew Turnbull's Trust; The Boltini Trust; The Dixie Rose Findlay Trust; The Dorothy Howard Charitable Trust; The Elizabeth Bennett Charitable Trust; The Grieg Foundation; The R H Scholes Charitable Trust; The Titcomb Foundation; The Wellington Reynolds Charitable Trust; Wonky WI; And all those donors who wish to remain anonymous.

Thank you

To: Richard Hermon (Maths academic volunteer)

From: Sandra Martha Batakana
🔊) Webaale

You helped me catch up with my maths following my late arrival. Thank you very much for your endless support.

Why I support Pestalozzi

Richard Hermon, Academic Support Volunteer

I first heard of Pestalozzi in 2006 when my wife brought home a leaflet she had picked up in Priory Meadow shopping centre in Hastings.

I was a retired teacher then, and had just bought a house in Hastings. I used to teach and examine higher level International Baccalaureate Mathematics at a school in London and I had also worked in Ghana and Kenya in the more distant past, so my sympathies with both Africa and the IB were strong.



I e-mailed Pestalozzi asking if there would be any call for some help with IB mathematics. It took about two minutes for a reply to come, asking if I could start the next day, so I did. Since then, I have dropped by on a Wednesday evening to see students and help them with their maths – trying to solve problems with them, look at extended essays and coursework (without overdoing the assistance). It helps me to keep my brain working, especially since the students are really rather bright so if they have problems, they are not easy ones...

I enjoy coming to Pestalozzi for all sorts of reasons – the

students are so energetic, confident and keen to succeed and they appreciate the opportunity the scholarship gives them so they make the most of it.

Although I began with maths help, the Pestalozzi community has much else to offer and I have now taken on writing maths entrance tests, marking these, attending student selection meetings and also annual development meetings, so it is possible to have some say in how Pestalozzi develops. There are also cultural and national events where the students can parade their many admirable talents!

Pestalozzi is an amazing community, outward looking and building for the future. Its students form a bridge, connecting their home countries to the rest of the world and opening eyes in both directions. If you want to experience international development right here in Sussex, there are all sorts of volunteering opportunities at Pestalozzi, and the work (if you can call it work!) is wonderfully rewarding. Find out for yourself!



Volunteer with Pestalozzi:
pestalozzi.org.uk/volunteer



Updates on our alumni

Sheetla's story

Indian alumna, Sheetla Patle, graduated from Pestalozzi in 2007 and has now returned to her home country to obtain her 'dream job'.

When I had my selection interview for Pestalozzi back in 2004, I said that I would want to come back to India and work for the development of the country. Now I have taken my first step in that direction. After graduating from Jacobs University Bremen, Germany, I started preparing for entering the Indian civil services. This year I was selected and learnt that I would be joining the Indian Administrative Services, in which only 180 students from the whole country are selected to join this year. The Indian Administrative Service is the highest government service in the country and the exam taken to achieve the position is considered to be the toughest in the country.



Sheetla celebrating Holi festival at Pestalozzi

I started my training on 1st of September and it lasts for two years. With this I have achieved my dream job. From the start, I wanted to change some things in my dynamic country. The mission which Pestalozzi follows has been a great inspiration. My feeling that one must return something back to the world deepened during my time at Pestalozzi. It gave me a chance to experience the developed world, which I can now utilize to creatively solve some local problems here in India.

Thank you

To: Andy Sullivan (Friend of the Pestalozzi estate)

From: Madhumita Some

🔊 Onek Dhonyobad

Thank you for supporting both students and staff at Pestalozzi. You have been amazing.



Quick updates

Tenzin Paldon is now at Smith University (USA).

Lachana Hada has finished her Masters degree and will be beginning work as a software developer for Brainlab shortly.

Tenzin Ngadon is now studying psychology at Meredith College, North Carolina.

Khushbu Mishra won an award for 'best paper' in her second year of study and was also crowned Miss Nepal USA 2014.



Nkole Chisanga (*above*) has been working with an NGO back in Zambia – read more about his gap year here:

<http://bit.ly/1mGu961>

Chonpel Tsering has been appointed as the new Representative for the Office of Tibet, London.

Aldrin Shumba, Chandan Mishra and Susmita Ghimire are all studying at University of Brighton this year..

whilst Ugyen Wangchuk, David Mtonga (*right*) and Pradosh Bista will be preparing for 2015, after being awarded scholarships to study with the University of Brighton next year. Read more here:

<http://bit.ly/1ywKYFG>



Donations



£10 could make a student's birthday something special during their stay with Pestalozzi.



£55 can provide medical and healthcare support for a student during a year of their study.



£130 could be used to purchase a years' worth of educational equipment and supplies for a Pestalozzi scholar.



£310 could pay for a student's visa, enabling them to embark on their Pestalozzi opportunity here in the UK.

Student summer volunteer

During their summer break from college, our students return home to see their families, friends and communities. We encourage them to complete structured volunteering placements, developing the Pestalozzi principles of education for the Head, Heart and Hands, whilst making a positive difference in their home countries.

Syed Ansari (India)

It takes a lot of courage and confidence to put the hands inside the mouth of a lion to help it overcome the pain and sufferings.

Swaraj Foundation, an NGO which deals with a variety of issues in various affected areas in the state of Jharkhand (India), gave me the opportunity to work as a 'Field Mobilizer'. I worked in the deep villages, totally isolated and I felt as if I was in the Stone Age. As a Field Mobilizer, my job included all the possible ways to eradicate illiteracy and maintain the health and sanitation through areas like teaching in governmental established schools, checking for malnourished children, explaining the purpose of education to uneducated parents and launching the 'Right to Education Campaign' in some areas.



This summer volunteering project has helped me look into the lives of people totally deprived of lavish living and understand them. I was moved when a child said to me: "My heart says that I should study and achieve high but my stomach says that if I collect coal and wood, I get to eat. What should I do?" Each day I learnt a new lesson whilst back at home. Thank you to Pestalozzi for teaching me the three principles of Head, Heart and Hands. They have really helped me.



ing projects

Bwalya Kasanda (Zambia)

During my summer in Zambia, I volunteered at a newly established local clinic called Chainda. It was built mainly for underprivileged people that live in the surrounding areas. I mostly worked at the registry and the dispensary, taking measurements of height, weight and temperature at the former and dispensing medicine at the latter.

I had a lot of fun during my time there and I particularly enjoyed working with children. Although I did encounter a scenario that made me reflect on the level of literacy in my country, when a lady of 32 came to the clinic with three children but she was unable to write any of their names.

The experience invoked a certain restless feeling in me; to see that there are less privileged people than I am made me appreciate what I am and what I have and realise there is a lot that needs to be done for my community.



Tenzin Dophen (Tibet)

I completed my volunteering at Shree Saraswati School, located in the foothills of Himalayas in the district of Mustang in Nepal. The art of public speaking has always fascinated me and the LIMUN conferences gave me the perfect platform to enhance it. I introduced the art of public speaking to the students of my previous school and concentrated on helping them develop their reading skills while also encouraging them to practise delivering speeches.

This art has always been relevant to me in terms of giving my voice for the Tibetan struggle and also to the importance placed on dialogue in the Middle Way Policy – a peaceful, non-partisan approach adopted by His Holiness the Dalai Lama.

I now realize how far I have come in terms of my confidence and leadership qualities since studying at Pestalozzi. I am not yet done with my project, it is just the start and I hope to carry on during the coming years.



LIMUN

LIMUN stands for London International Model United Nations and is the largest annual university-based Model United Nations conference in Europe. LIMUN has a reputation for its exceptional standard of debate, and welcomes over 1500 delegates from across the world to debate some of the most pressing issues within the global agenda.

Young people work together to find solutions to international challenges, acquire new knowledge and skills, and build relationships that cross borders of background, cultures and nationalities. (LIMUN 2014)



Star donors

Many wonderful people help us provide scholarships to our exceptional students. A special thank you to those individuals who have donated over £200 in the last year:

Mr Robin Archer; Miss N E Baker; Peter and Valerie Ballard; Stephen and Kathy Barbour; Mr and Mrs David and Beryl Bartter; Jo Berger; Miss A M Bolton; Mr A L Boyd; Nan Brenninkmeyer; Sir Richard Butler; Mr T Clark; Mr Ralph Cook; Miss P A Cotterell; Mrs Patricia Davenport; Mr and Mrs Glen Davies; Mr and Mrs Alan Disney; Ms Sharon Ebbs; Miss A M Filer; Lady Gore-Booth (Mary); Penelope Hamilton; Mr David Harries; Dr & Mrs Harvey; Mr and Mrs C Harvey; Tony and Mary Herbert; Miss Ellen Hill; Mr John Hodgson; Mr and Mrs Hole; Mrs and Mr Howells; Anne and Andrew Hudson; Mr Andrew Hunter Johnston; Dr Wesley Hydes; Mrs Yolande Imrie; Mr H J M Izzard; Mrs J M Jackson; Mrs Rosemary James; Mrs M Jones; Mr Malcolm Kemp; Mr and Mrs Kusel; His Honour Judge Michael Lawson QC and Mrs M.H Lawson; Mrs Helen Leale-Green; Mr Kenneth Mahood; Josie Mayers; Miss Peangduen Meeumpon; Mrs Jenny Millar; Mrs M C A Monteith; Mr & Mrs C Morrell; Ms A Morrison; Mr Grahame Mountford; Mr and Mrs Noah; Mr Alan Olin; Miss Owens; John Page OBE; Jane and David Pennock; Mr and Mrs Seton; Patricia Shephard Rogers; Mr Nigel Thomas; Marianne van Niekerken; Mrs S M Walton; And all those donors who wish to remain anonymous.

Meet the team: Miss Yangkey

After 44 years at Pestalozzi, Miss Kalsang Yangkey, better known as Aunty La, is more like part of the furniture than a member of the care staff team. She has seen Pestalozzi evolve as a charity and loves spending her weekends in the company of the students!



I left India in 1963, lived in Denmark and Sweden and then came to England in 1967 with 10 friends. I was studying nursing and learning English when I first found out about Pestalozzi. A Tibetan friend at the time introduced me to the charity around Tibetan New Year. Back then, Pestalozzi was very different and had younger children in 'houses' of different nationalities. There was a Thai house, a Tibetan house, a Nepalese house, a Nigerian house and an Arab house and each house had its own housemother.

Eventually that is what I became. I worked amongst the different houses and was housemother of the Tibetan house around 1980. I was here in 1975 when His Holiness the Dalai Lama came, too and that was a lovely thing for me, being Tibetan.

Things are very different now but I still enjoy it very much. My daily routine includes checking all the buildings, replenishing the kitchen, taking the students to dinner and sometimes looking after them when they are sick. I also have the shrine room to look after and make sure no-ones birthday gets forgotten!

I love that the students trust me and talk to me about all kinds of things, from their studies through to their friends and I make sure I always remind them to make the most of their opportunities. I keep in contact with lots of alumni through other students and through Facebook, they often make me so proud.

They call me Aunty La because Aunty is affectionate, like a mother's sister and like family and La shows a mark of respect where I am from, which is nice. I remember years ago as a housemother the children used to call me Amala, which means Mother, and one time when I had to escort them home for some time, it was tricky to explain at the airport why 16 different children with varied nationalities were all calling me their Mother!



The hardest part of my job, even now, is watching them leave after two years. I worry about them and that they won't get a university place or will not achieve their grades. You do get very attached.



Help us meet our fundraising challenge!

Donate

If you have enjoyed reading this newsletter, please consider helping us cover the cost of the creation, printing and postage, by texting PIVT11 followed by the amount you wish to donate (maximum £10) to 70070. For example, if you wish to donate £5, text PIVT11£5 to 70070.



Fundraise

In need of some retail therapy? Sign up for easyfundraising.org.uk, support Pestalozzi and your online shopping can become (almost!) guilt free. You can earn donations for us simply by buying online. See, it really is easy! <http://bit.ly/1pIROnN>



Pestalozzi 200

Pestalozzi 200 members contribute £200 or more per year, as a commitment to helping Pestalozzi inspire young people to make a difference in the world. It's an exciting opportunity to gain a closer relationship with Pestalozzi, with special invitation-only events and acknowledgement in our newsletter and annual report. Please call 01424 870444 to find out more.



MAKE A DIFFERENCE IN THE WORLD DONATE TO PESTALOZZI

Title: Given name:

Family name:

Address:

Postcode:

Telephone:

Email:

I enclose a cheque for £ made payable to Pestalozzi International Village Trust

I wish to give regularly and have completed the Bankers Order Form (below)

I am a UK taxpayer and I have completed a Gift Aid declaration (below) to help my donation go even further

Please stop claiming Gift Aid on my donations as I am no longer a UK taxpayer

BANKER'S ORDER

Please send to Pestalozzi, not to your bank.

Your bank:

Bank address:

Postcode:

Sort code: Account number:

Account name:

Please pay to Barclays Bank plc, 207-208 Queens Road, Hastings, TN34 1QP. Sort Code: 20-27-91
For the credit of Pestalozzi International Village Trust, Account Number: 60716383

the sum of £

(please repeat in words)

Please take my gift: Once Monthly Annually

Commencing: until further notice

Signature:

Date:

GIFT AID TAX DECLARATION

I would like Pestalozzi to reclaim tax on

All donations I have made in the last four years, and all donations I make on or after the date of this declaration

All donations I make on or after the date of this declaration

The enclosed donation of £ only

I confirm I have paid or will pay an amount of Income Tax and/or Capital Gains Tax for each tax year (6 April to 5 April) that is at least equal to the amount of tax that all the charities or Community Amateur Sports Clubs (CASCs), that I donate to, will reclaim on my gifts for that tax year. I understand that other taxes such as VAT and Council Tax do not qualify. I understand the charity will reclaim 25p of tax on every £1 that I give.

I understand I am under no commitment to make any further donations and I may cancel this declaration in respect of future donations at any time.

Signature:

Date:

