

Eliya Children Home Newsletter December 2023



The last few months have been really busy at the Eliya Children's Home! Both among the residents and in the buildings!

The hormones of a number of the pubescent children went crazy, which made it very difficult for them to live together and even put the existence of the Eliya Children's Home at risk. So solutions had to be found before it was too late!



Some young people have moved out by decision of the youth welfare office or by a court order, like the two big girls Desha and Dehemi, who have their new home in girls' homes in Galle and Matara. Also the two big boys Pasindu and Maleesha moved out to complete a craft apprenticeship in a youth home for boys in Hikkaduwa.

At the same time, eight new boys moved in at once.

Two more new members arrived, two goats, Ludwig and Linda! The two of them are supposed to keep the grass short, but they much prefer to pluck the delicious leaves from the bushes!

Whatever - they are doing very well at the Eliya Children's Home and are very nice company that encourages one a lot to laugh!



In the Eliya garden, which has become very dry due to months of severe drought and a lack of water from the tap (partial water blocks), the first dragon fruit was harvested nevertheless!

The intern accommodation Maribu Garden Bungalows, the Eliya main building and all outbuildings, so the Eliya youth house, the Eliya bungalow, the water storage house, the small tool house, the garage and also the Eliya kindergarten on the grounds of the village temple in approx. 200 m distance, were freshly painted and repaired, what four local men did.



The Eliya family is very happy about the renovated children's home, which looks like new again!

We were able to do that because of a generous donation from our loyal friends from Zoeterwoude, in the Netherlands, from the organization "Veiling met een Missie", Auction with a mission! Thank you!

Visit their website: [Eliya Children home in Sri Lanka - Veiling met een Missie \(missieveiling.nl\)](http://www.eliyachildrenhomeinSriLanka.com)



Since more boys (currently 20) than girls (currently 9) have been living in the Eliya children's home for some time, the girls have moved from the first floor of the main building to one of the outbuildings, the Eliya Bungalow, which is now called the girls' house. The older girls now live there, very proud, on the first floor and the younger girls together with our new helper Suvineetha on the ground floor.

For this move to the girls' house an additional bathroom was installed on the first floor, also here we thank you very much for the donations!

The little boys got their rooms up on the first floor of the main building, together with our well-proven home mother Anoma and cook Malanie. All the older and teenage boys live on the ground floor of the main building, with the funny and noisy home father Gamenie.



The rooms can still be beautifully freshly painted, the best thing the children like is of course playing outdoors and "hanging out" on the playground! Especially after the heavy and prolonged rains in September and October.

In many places there were floods because the rivers had overflowed. The Eliya Children's Home is conveniently located on a hill, far enough away from the lagoon river flowing into the sea.

The rainy season was used to plant over 30 young palm trees on the site, thanks to the betterplace donors!



The youth house is currently occupied by our second home father and secretary Sandun, by our gardener and helper Raman (former children's home child). Moreover the computer room, as well as a pantry room (with cupboards for clothes and school supplies etc.) is located in this building.



We are pleased that Pathum has completed the theoretical part of his training in Colombo as a ship cook and is now diligently completing his practical part in a large hotel in Negombo. Ravindu follows the good example of Pathum and has been learning cook, since he finished school this summer. The training takes place near the children's home, so he can continue to live in Eliya.

By the way, Ravindu and Raman currently make the driving license for the car, the motorcycle and the tuktuk - as usual here without mandatory hours, neither highway nor night rides. For an affordable price of 150,- Euro per person!

For some time teacher Rupika has been teaching all Eliya children and adolescents in spoken English, because the English lessons in school are not sufficient. She divides the children into suitable groups and practices speaking in English.

Thanks for the donation to the brothers of the Fernando family!





In recent months we organized many very successful excursions and actions, such as the picnic on the beach of Ibisbird Beach Bungalows, a safari trip to the Bundala National Park, a visit to the cinema in Tangalle, an Olympics on the Eliya site, Pizza baking in a wood-fired oven, a beach game day and much more.

Many thanks to our diligent interns for the support and the fundraising, so that the excursions and events could take place!

We would also like to thank all other donors, sponsors, volunteers and members who keep the Eliya Children's Home running! As you know, Eliya lives only on donations.



The planned Eliya children's home anniversary celebration for the 12th anniversary, which was planned for 18.11.2023, unfortunately had to be canceled.

The night before, our Eliya co-founder and manager Ranjith, husband of Angelika and father of her two children (6 and 9 years) did not wake up from night sleep. Due to sudden and unexpected cardiac arrest, Ranji only turned 52 years old.

We are very upset, sad and can't believe not having our Eliya hero around anymore.

Nevertheless, hope, courage and love remain! This connection carries and Angelika will stay with her children in Sri Lanka! Everything will continue as before!



We wish all of you a wonderful Christmas time and a particularly good and blessed New Year!

Best regards from the Eliya Familie in Tangalle

and from **Angelika Riedlinger**

(Manager of the Children's home and Kindergarten)





Eliya invites you to the culture market in Kaiserslautern 2023

Also this year Eliya is represented with a booth at the culture market in Kaiserslautern.

**We invite everyone cordially to visit us there from December, 11th to 23rd 2023!
Open daily from 12 - 7 pm.**

Our boothnumber: 24A

[Click here for more information...](#)



Visit our website for more information or send us an email:

info@eliya-kinderheim-srilanka.com

<https://eliya-kinderheim-srilanka.jimdo.com/>

Would you like to support us with a donation?

Our bank connection:

Eliya Kinderheim e.V.
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