



# **Newsletter HoPe Foundation**

*July 2013*

## **Preface**

Dear donor,

Herewith we are sending you the mid-year Newsletter of the HoPe Foundation. HoPe Founder Walter Meeke is making a tour around early projects, we are giving you some examples of fund raising in the Netherlands, and we've added a report of a teaching program. We HoPe you'll enjoy this information.

Thank you very much for your support and your interest in our projects in and around Cusco. We wish you a pleasant summer season.

With kind regards,

Fundación HoPe Holanda – Peru (Peru)  
HoPe Foundation (USA and Canada)  
and Stichting HoPe Nederland (The Netherlands)

## **New DVD**

In 2007 HoPe made a DVD in which we showcased the projects HoPe had going on at the time. Six years later a lot of things have happened and a lot of things have changed as well. The DVD is rather outdated. It is time for a new audiovisual document to show what HoPe is focusing on nowadays.

In February, March and April I visited a lot of HoPe's projects along with HoPe volunteer Geja Kuiken. Geja is a professional photographer and filmmaker and she has made some stunning footage. We anticipate that the new DVD will be ready and available for the enthusiasts shortly.

To get all this footage we travelled around quite a bit. We visited a large number of HoPe's current projects not only to capture them on film, but also to check on the status of projects HoPe has completed years ago. A small evaluation of sorts. HoPe has either built or renovated 151 schools over the last couple of years. Overall we've worked on more than 200 schools. We've trained hundreds of teachers and gave thousands of

children the opportunity to enjoy a solid education.

It was good to see that the vast majority of the schools are looking good: well maintained classes and well taught kids. Unfortunately we also encountered a few schools that were not in the best shape. Where teachers and parents had not taken the time to maintain the building or in some cases clean the place. Luckily it was only a hand full. The day care employees are poorly paid by the government, which leads to a high turnover rate. This steady stream of new employees is not conducive to create a solid bond between the day care worker and the school.

One of the most beautiful experiences during the filming was the visit to Villa Maria's elementary school, our very first. We completed this little school in 1996. There is still a sign hanging from the façade, which states that Tineke and I are godparents to this school. The sign was nailed to the façade during the opening ceremony and has not left its place since. The school is looking tiptop, there are lots of children and they're working hard. It's awesome to see a project still going strong after all those years. We made a short clip of our visit (unfortunately in Dutch). <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JPhLjWSataw>



We also made a small video clip from our visit to the elementary schools of Chaullacocho and Chupani. These are both schools HoPe supported over the various years, but in the last several years we've lost almost all contact with them. HoPe helped the schools with their infra-

structure, furniture, classroom materials and most of all with the training of their teachers. It was good to see that the investment was not made for naught. There were many kids attending, and teaching standards were high as well. The classrooms, teacher sleeping quarters and bathrooms were looking well maintained. Only the hot water system (solar powered) had broken down, this was clearly noticeable in the children's hygiene. HoPe will be fixing this system in the coming weeks. See (English spoken) [http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=l9uDS\\_JxEsU](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=l9uDS_JxEsU) Most notable though was the fact that the Peruvian Ministry of Education in the meantime had upgraded a lot of the Pronoei's (day care centers) that HoPe has built and supported to official elementary schools. Instead of an uneducated day care supervisor, a certified elementary teacher now teaches classes. The Ministry now supports these schools, so HoPe literally doesn't have to keep an eye out any longer.

Our goal this year is to publish a small book detailing HoPe's work, a book that will show the things HoPe has accomplished over the last 22 years.

Walter Meekes  
Founder HoPe Peru

## Fund raisers for HoPe

### *Heerbeek College*

Elsewhere in this newsletter you will find the student's account of their trip to Peru, but what you won't find in that report is that the money raised in 2013 (from College 't Heerbeek and the Handmelken Foundation located in Best) will be spent on extracurricular day care for children in the Villa Maria slum in Cusco. Last year the total raised came to 6,000 EUR and it was spent on a student facility in Patacancha.

Heerbeek: We thank you!

### *Anja Eppingbroek*

Another fundraiser is our volunteer Anja Eppingbroek from Lichtenvoorde. Just like last year, Anja has gathered a gigantic sum of money: more than 11,000 EUR for toys and learning materials in the schools in Peru. She recently visited a few schools in Peru and made many kids happy. Anja maintains a great fund raising page

on Facebook, where one can see which schools enthusiastically participated in the campaign: <https://www.facebook.com/anja.eppingbroek>. Anja, on behalf of HoPe, we thank you.

### *Salt for Peru*

This initiative comes from Ans Hendriks (she retired in 2012 as school principal) and her husband Jacob de Boer. They raised more than 15,000 EUR. They are maintaining an interesting blog of their recent visit and of their sponsor goals: <http://www.neverrest.agricosoft.nl>. It is full of interesting information and photographs.

Ans and Jacob: We owe you a big thank you!

### *Fund raiser run at Elementary School De Kubus in Druten*

Classes 1 thru 6 held a fund raiser run on March 14<sup>th</sup> for HoPe. The snow couldn't deter the students ... and so the result was a splendid collection of more than 5,000 EUR.

The money will be distributed in coordination with HoPe towards one of the currently ongoing education projects.

Students of De Kubus: many thanks.

### *Upcoming initiatives for HoPe*

*Gianna Orlandi* and *Frans van Leusden* are participating in the Nijmegen 4 Day Marches on behalf of HoPe.

*Hans van Vliet*, one of the participants of the Volvo Classics at the end of 2011, will start a drive in June: "Sailing at sea with HoPe and blessings."

*The Elde College* in Schijndel is going to organize a fundraiser for HoPe this year. On June 9<sup>th</sup> HoPe was invited to set up a booth at the annual 1-Ander-Festival. And around Christmas they will hold a sponsor run for the lower classes.

*Gerhard Nijenhuis* (who is still involved ever since the Panamericana) at the APK Inspection Station De Hazenberg in Brummen will donate 1 EUR of every inspection towards numerous charities (HoPe is one of them). This action will be running one year long.

Did you get in the mood to help raise funds for HoPe? Reach out to us. Our contact information is listed on the last page of this newsletter.

## Heerbeek Students in Patacancha

On April 19<sup>th</sup> we, 29 students of the Heerbeek College in Best, started on an unforgettable journey through Peru. After we had said our goodbyes to our families, we checked in for our flight to Lima. A flight that's 12.5 hours long!

The next day we immediately travelled down to the jungle where we stayed for a week. We saw so many beautiful things there. Things like monkeys, humming birds, aras, alligators, snakes, umbrella ants, giant otters, arboreal anteaters and so much more!

After the jungle we travelled to Cusco, which lies at 3248 meters (10656 feet). In Cusco we mostly saw lots of ruins and alpacas. We then visited Pisac and Ollantaytambo, where we saw more ruins still. Our next stop was Aguas Calientes, which we reached by train. The last seven kilometers (3.4 miles) of the train trip we walked. It was an awesome hike on the tracks and along the river. We walked around the village for the entire day and some of us visited the hot springs. On Queens Day (Dutch holiday) we visited Machu Picchu with orange (Dutch national color) balloons. The journey was truly a high point: splendid ruins that had not been destroyed by the Spaniards with a phenomenal view over the mountains. At the top of the stairs you have a beautiful view of the village.

After Machu Picchu we packed up our stuff to go to the middle school in Patacancha. We stayed there 1 night. The children were very sweet and the teachers warmly welcomed us.

We then visited Puno, a small town at the edge of Lake Titicaca. Naturally we had to go for a swim, so we did. We travelled on to Islas Ballestas where we mainly saw penguins and sea lions. From Islas Ballestas we returned to Lima airport and from there on back home.

The trip was a fantastic experience we will never forget. What made this trip so special was the year and a half long preparation we had. We all saved up to pay for our trip and organized many fundraisers to collect money for our charity. The counter sits at 20,000 EUR and we still have one more event to go.

The Peru program supports a number of charities that are all related to environmental protection and the improvement of education in Peru. Foundation HoPe is a charity related to education improvement. This foundation has built and

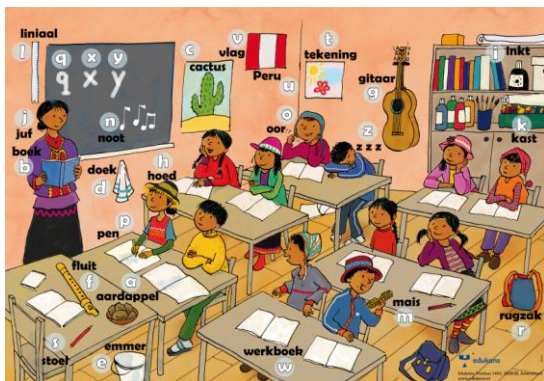


improved many schools in the Andes Mountains. During our trip we visited a school in the mountain village of Patacancha. This school was created by Foundation HoPe and partially funded with money brought in by Heerbeek College. It was impressive to see how much those kids had to do to get to school. Some of them walked 5 hours to school on Monday morning and walked 5 hours back home on Friday. Others would walk 3 hours to and from school every day. One of the most important things they are taught in school is how to grow vegetables and fruit in green houses. The only thing that grows naturally at those altitudes is potatoes. Because of what the kids learn in school they don't have to just eat potatoes any longer.

The other part of the money goes to preservation of nature. With part of the collected money we are trying to purchase a piece of rainforest among other things, so it does not have to get cut down. Large quantities of rainforest are being cut down for tropical hardwood and to create farmland. This causes the extinction of many animal and plant species. Another part of the money is being used towards a lawsuit against oil company Hunt Oil. They bamboozle the Indian tribes and are permitted to drill for oil in the rainforest. Due to the way they drill, excessive quantities of oil are making their way into the surface water. We received a lecture from Marianne van Vlaardingen in Peru. She showed us a documentary and told us a lot about the activities of Hunt Oil. We have seen first hand how beautiful the rain forest is and especially after Marianne's lecture it became clear that things can't continue the way they are now and that we need to double our efforts to save the rain forest.

We learned a lot from this trip and made the world a little bit better. It was a phenomenal and unforgettable experience.

## World Teacher



**World Teacher** is a unique program for teachers, school principals and other people working in the Dutch field of education.

In what way could Dutch teachers contribute to the quality of education in developing countries? Edukans, a development organization for education, started the World Teacher program with this question. Dutch education professionals work out educational proposals together with their counterparts in the developing countries. The starting points are peer-to-peer meeting and mutual learning. The proposals are then merged into the ongoing education programs. In the last 4 years 250 Dutch teachers and principals travelled to India, Kenya, Ethiopia, Burundi, Uganda and Malawi. In 2013 the program is organized for the 5<sup>th</sup> time. It keeps on expanding. The goals of World Teacher are twofold.

In the Netherlands focus is on inspiring and motivating participants to acquire or improve skills that are important within the field of education, to contribute to the internationalization of the Dutch education system, and to stimulate fund raising.

Abroad the focus is on inspiring and motivating participating teachers, principals and supporters within the educational system, with the focus on improving their educational skills and executing probable improvements and changes.

The results have shown that World Teacher is a promising innovative program that connects the education professionals in the Netherlands and the developing countries. This program results in gains both at home and abroad. In extending the program Edukans keeps searching for ways to guarantee the durability of the program. This is the reason why Edukans and HoPe are very enthusiastic about their cooperation.

In the summer of 2013 a group of World Teachers travels to Peru for the first time.

The work will take place within HoPe's education program in the indigenous farming community of Tiranancha. The goal is to improve the quality of education at the elementary, middle and high school. Teachers from the Netherlands will cooperate for 2 weeks with their 16 Peruvian colleagues. They will support the (local) teachers and work together on ideas for educational and pedagogical improvements. The Dutch and Peruvian participants all have different backgrounds, but they all are education professionals. Participants are extensively prepared for the local context and are required to be able to adapt to different cultural circumstances.

The knowledge that is shared and the educational solutions that are devised during this trip are integrated where possible with HoPe's program guidelines. The goal is that the school and HoPe truly benefit from the conceived ideas. That's why they are extensively practiced in the classroom. The intention is to spread these improvements to other schools. In this way the World Teacher Program supports Tiranancha to fortify their role as educational testing ground.

## Colophon

### Fundación Holanda – Peru

*Walter Meekes, Cusco, Peru*

*E-mail: [peru@stichtinghope.org](mailto:peru@stichtinghope.org)*

### Donations from the U.S.A. and Canada

For donations from the U.S.A. and Canada:

<https://www.geef.nl/donatiemodule/taal:en/doi:hope/land:NL/mobile:false>

You can also send a check made out to "HoPe Foundation". Please send it to the HoPe-representative, Shirley Martin, at the address:

*Name Beneficiary HoPe Foundation*

*Address P.O. Box 2724*

*City/Country Orcutt, CA 93456, U.S.A.*

For any questions regarding donations from the U.S.A. or Canada you can contact:

*Shirley Martin, E-mail: [smartin1295@yahoo.com](mailto:smartin1295@yahoo.com)*

### General information

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