

MOONCAKE FOUNDATION

Ability 4 Disability

September 2010

Without your help and support we can achieve nothing and thus cannot continue..
Thank you for that! Especially a big thanks from our 'mooncakes'....

On 10 September last, one of our Chinese McF volunteers and dear friend passed away; only 25 years old and 4 days after having given birth to a beautiful daughter. We wish her husband, her daughter, their family and friends lots of strength with this impossible loss.....
bye angel....

Again it has been somewhat quiet, but it was a busy trip to China and busy back in Holland, as JingJing, one of our premier Mooncake volunteers, had come for a 6 weeks' holiday; believe me.... we haven't quite done nothing during her stay! She has returned to China now, where she has started working for Starfish Fosterhome with whom we are also connected. A place from which she can hopefully help us both.

But what has happened, what have we done and what have we accomplished?

To keep things clear; first a very short overview and on the following pages a full report:

TOPS

1. First and not fully unimportant... Malin has had his First recovery surgery!!
2. Visit of McF's secretary to Yulin
3. Lecture by Marlies for local organisations and locals
4. No NGO in China, but we will get registered though
5. A day out with the 'mooncakes'
6. New volunteers for McF
7. Care 4 Children
8. Yulin Children's Hospital

NOT TOO GOOD

1. Getting registered as an NGO in China unfortunately didn't work out, but we found another (probably better) solution
2. Local Civil Affairs Office tells us in July they have no more budget to share costs.....
3. Interns from Hogeschool Zuydt pulled out for this year, but.....

DONATIONS AND SPONSORSHIP

1. 12 'mooncakes' move from Yulin to Xi'an
2. Medical emergency surgeries
3. Donations and sponsorship



Mooncake Foundation – Ability 4 Disability – PC Hooftlaan 40 – 1422 JK UITHOORN – The Netherlands
tel. +31 (0)297 567812 – Chamber of Commerce nbr 34342283 – Tax number: 8208.44.457
Rabobank Uithoorn 1304.11.485 - **IBAN:** NL23RABO0130411485 **BIC:** RABONL2U

MOONCAKE FOUNDATION

Ability 4 Disability



TOP

1. Our little tough guy Malin, the baby with no 'poophole', had his first recovery surgery and as far as we can tell now the surgery went so well he will not need further surgery! No better news to start with....

Costs: RMB 23,000 = euro 2.543,58 = \$ 3,430.53

2. Our secretary, Ethel, was finally able to visit Yulin.



Of course she visited the YWI, got to meet most personnel and of course the children. Also she finally got to see the city her daughter comes from and she was able to meet with her daughter's fosterparents. In many ways a beautiful and emotional trip!

3. At the invitation of Mr Liu Dongyuan, a big supporter and future sponsor of McF, Marlies gave a lecture at the library founded by Mr Liu's foundation. The lecture was specifically aimed at making people aware that disabled children are just children and that they have the same rights as every healthy person; in doing so a couple of McF's goals were also covered. After the lecture some people signed up for donations, sponsorship and volunteering.
4. As you can read below, we were unable to register as an NGO in China. We DID manage to get in touch with the Shaanxi Western Development Foundation through VSO-China (former employer of Marlies'). The SWDF is a foundation that commits itself to helping ALL people with a disability/disorder, young and old. They will be our partner/facilitator, which means we will be part of a so called 'umbrella-construction'. Their foundation also facilitates other foundations which all aim at helping people with a disability/disorder. In doing this, SWDF will get a percentage of our income, which they will use on projects funded by their foundation. As for now, this seems to be the only way to get officially registered in China through which we are allowed to receive funding from the Chinese directly. SWDF works together with VSO and is a licensed charity in China.
5. On 2 different days we went out with the children of the YWI. The First day we had 7 children from 7-10 years old with us and 15 volunteers. We went to the children's park and after that we had an elaborate lunch. Of course we 'handed in' the children with no harm done...



McF crew

Lunch





The second day we went out with 18 (!!) kiddos up until about 4 years old and 24 McF volunteers. With them we went to an indoor playground. In many ways this was a very special day for us. One of the reasons was that the owner of the playground decided we needn't pay the entrance fee and they gave us free milk for all the children.

Why so? She thought it was exceptional that foreigners dedicated themselves to THEIR (Chinese) children and as these little ones are THEIRS, this was her way to contribute. Now we're getting there! Unnecessary to say all the children had a great time as well as the volunteers.

For more pictures we kindly refer you to our website: www.mooncakefoundation.com

- Every day new volunteers sign up for McF; through Yulin University, but also after the previously mentioned lecture and even on the bus or on the streets, when people find out who we are and what we do. That one little stone in the pond has already set something in motion....



A small part of the total McF crew

- Again we visited C4C in Beijing and together we concluded there is a lot to be done. Initially we had decided to start the Fostercare Programme shortly after opening of the new orphanage, but as this has been postponed once again we have now decided to get started as soon as possible. We also got a 'break-down' of the Total costs for the full 3-year programme. As C4C also depends on donations we suggested to try and raise more money to support them for more than just the fostercare programme. Should you like some more information about that, please take a look at our website: www.mooncakefoundation.com : **INFORMATION** or get in touch with us in person.
- The Yulin Children's Hospital gets in touch with us regularly or invites us to drop by for a meeting or to show us a very special abandoned child or..... just to make sure we still want to co-operate. They have applied to become a 2Morrow Plan hospital, which means that well-trained doctors would come to Yulin for surgeries on behalf of 2Morrow Plan. This would of course be wonderful and could be very positive as to our co-operation. Especially for the children who need it so badly!



A very special but bizarre story..

NOT TOO GOOD..

- Registering as an NGO in China unfortunately did not happen. Especially as Chinese government has input new rules recently. We will now start a partnership with SWDF, as described above.
- After a visit to the orphanage and Local Civil Affairs Office, we were told they were out of budget and they did not have money for anything; especially not for sharing costs for surgeries and training. It caused some unpleasant talks and situations, but it's a risc you run into when dealing with Chinese. We do not give up though and we keep pushing for co-operation. To be continued....
- Regrettably the social studies interns from Hogeschool Zuydt have pulled out for this year, due to circumstances. In the mean time we will continue looking for interns at other colleges and universities and Marlies has also suggested to give lectures at the Hogeschool Zuydt and other colleges to create a clear image about possibilities and difficulties.

DONATIONS AND SPONSORSHIP

1. 12 'Mooncakes' recently moved from Yulin to Xi'an, to Starfish Fosterhome to be exact. Because they are still 'mooncakes' and because Starfish is also fully dependant on donations, we are looking for 'adoptive parents'. Would you and can you sponsor a 'mooncake' in Starfish, please get in touch with us:

marlies@mooncakefoundation.com or ethel@mooncakefoundation.com or go to: www.thestarfishfosterhome.org.

You can rest assured that your money will be spent on what you intended it for.

The costs per child per month are: \$40 = euro 30,-

2.



During the stay in China, we took two babies to hospital to have an ultrasound of their hearts done. They are in urgent need of surgery. The costs for this surgery can be shared with Starfish Fosterhome. McF prefers to share costs with local organizations, but in case of emergency we may need to divert from our standard procedures and only if we have sufficient financial funds.

Average costs per baby between RMB 30,000-40,000.

3. Above you read about our days out with the children from the YWI. The costs for these outings were covered through personal donations.

4. Some special donations:

- Lin (who is from Yulin) and her 'partners in crime' had a high-tea for invitees on Whit Sunday. All the money they collected they split and they each had their own charity to donate to. Lin raised 110.- for the 'mooncakes'! Super!

- In the south of Holland lives a Young lady who is also from Yulin. She already donated 3x 50.- euros from her pocket money to McF, which we could use freely. After consultation we bought tasty and healthy food and drinks for the children and part of the day out was also paid with that money. You are a hero!



- Montessori school 'Nieuw Vreugd en Rust' in Voorburg, Holland raised the amazing amount of euro 1.400,- for our 'mooncakes'. That leaves us flabbergasted..... Wednesday 29 September we will meet some of the whoppers who managed to raise all that money. The postcards they drew and sold will soon be posted on our website!
- Loads of colourful and cheerful children's clothes will go to China; donated by the 'nicest' shop in Holland.....
- We would love to mention ALL our sponsors, but some of them simply want to stay anonymous. Once again we do want to thank EVERYONE who has contributed to and supported us in any way; be it financial or moral support.

Although we try to work on mutual terms as much as possible, we REALLY do need more financial aid to accomplish all our goals and without your help, we cannot do so! Except for financial funds, other help is also welcomed. One could think of:

- Internship for therapists, nurses, doctors, etc.
- Compensation of transport costs to-from China
- Clever designers who can design a playground which we could have put together by local carpenters.
- 'just' brilliant (or less brilliant) ideas to help us move on and to help us change things

Our slogan is still: 'Many a little makes a mickle'. So should you find a nickel or a dime somewhere, please keep us and our 'mooncakes' in mind..

They can't speak up for themselves, so we do..

They do not know (yet) how things can be done differently, we want them to experience that.....

They are happy with so little, but they deserve so much more!!

Marlies is leaving for China Friday 1 October, Chinese National Day, for 4 weeks (at her own expenses); seeking for frustration (...) and adventures, but especially the smiles, hugs and kisses from the children this is all about.

Finally....

We are planning a benefit in 2011

Unlike the usual as our children are 'unusual'

For now.... enjoy each other!



Mooncake Foundation – Ability 4 Disability – PC Hooflaan 40 – 1422 JK UITHOORN – The Netherlands
tel. +31 (0)297 567812 – Chamber of Commerce nbr 34342283 – Tax number: 8208.44.457
Rabobank Uithoorn 1304.11.485 - **IBAN:** NL23RABO0130411485 **BIC:** RABONL2U