



Development of partnership projects

Our association is now a member of CISU and has 59 members. CISU stands for Civil Society in Development (formerly Project Counselling) and is a combination of 275 grassroots organizations in Denmark, all of which are involved in development cooperation. They also manage the Project Fund on behalf of Danida. (www.cisu.dk). BenteHøjer and Lise Drewes has been to an information meeting at CISU, and the board has agreed to a counseling session with them on future project plans.

Sponsorships for education and training

We hereby invite members to consider whether you will be sponsor for a school child in Tamale. The child must either be a member of the group or a son or daughter of one of the members.

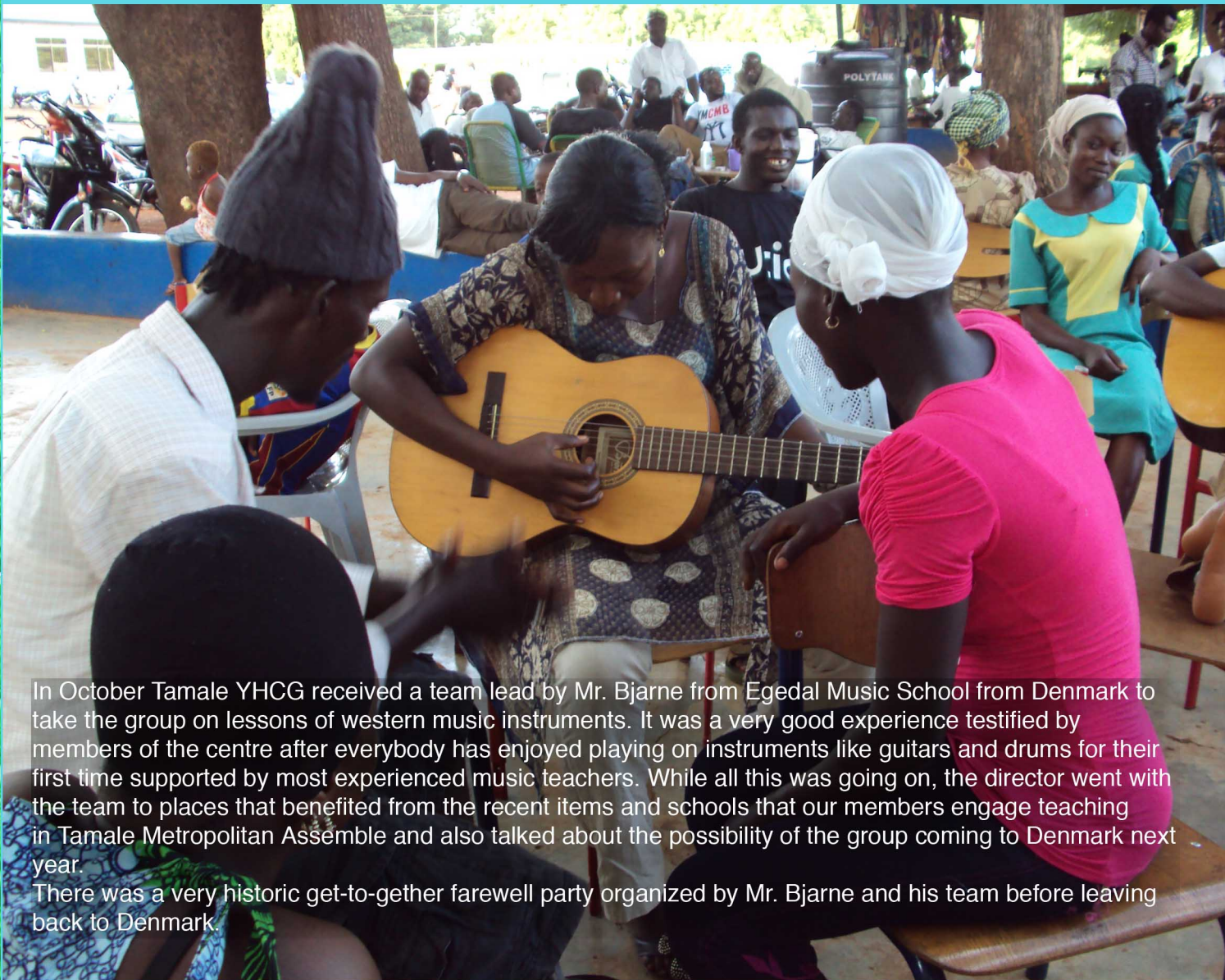
For many people in Ghana it is not possible to pay school fees, it will therefore be a great help if we can get money for more sponsorships.

If you want to know more about sponsorships please contact either Annemarie Grüner (40754828) or Lise Drewes (25373175).

News from Youth Home

We have asked members of the group to tell a bit about what is going on in Tamale:

A REPORT SUBMITTED TO YHCG DK BY YHCG TAMALE ON 18TH DECEMBER 2012
ON ACTIVITIES THAT TOOK PLACE IN THE THIRD QUARTER OF 2012 AT THE CENTRE

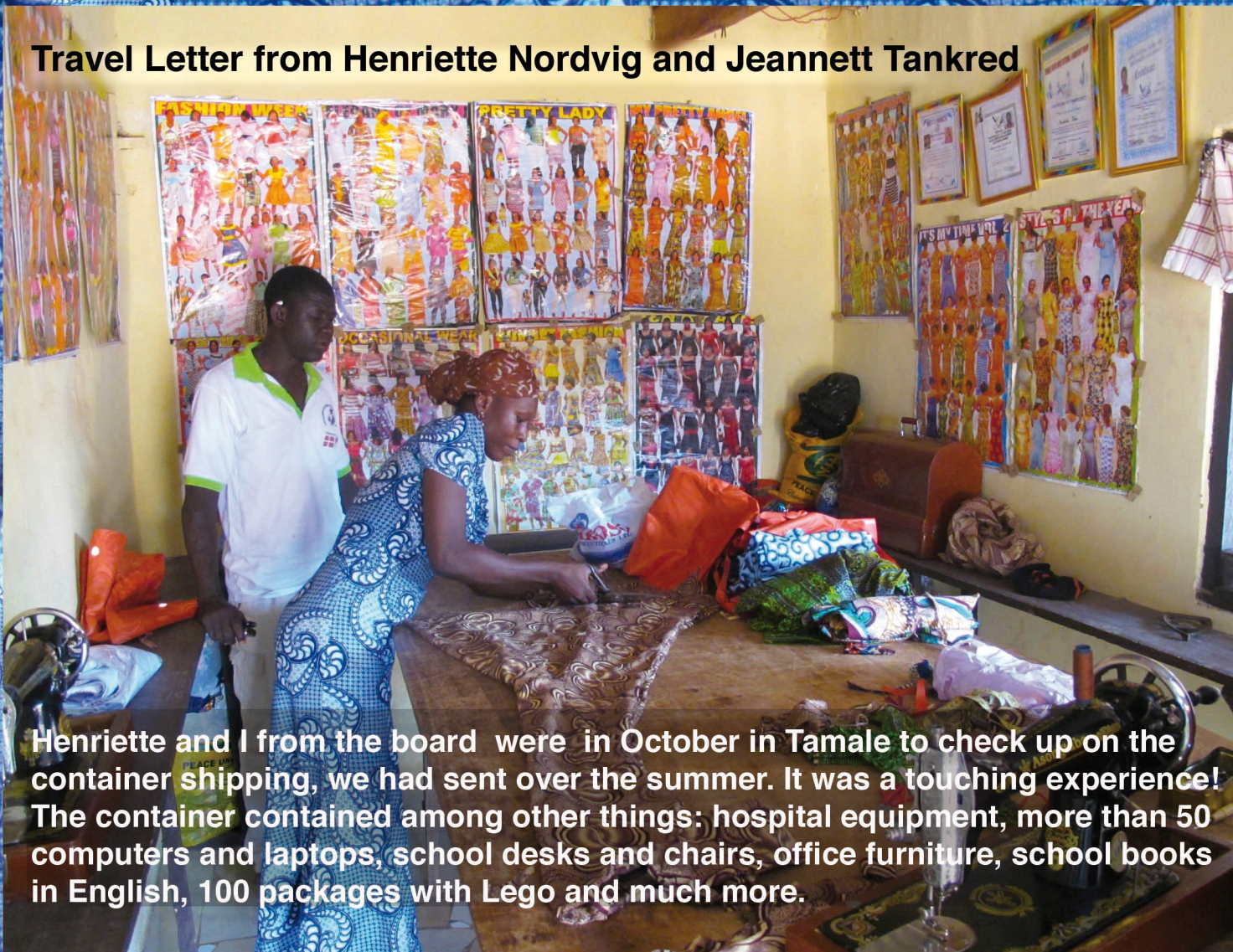


In October Tamale YHCG received a team lead by Mr. Bjarne from Egedal Music School from Denmark to take the group on lessons of western music instruments. It was a very good experience testified by members of the centre after everybody has enjoyed playing on instruments like guitars and drums for their first time supported by most experienced music teachers. While all this was going on, the director went with the team to places that benefited from the recent items and schools that our members engage teaching in Tamale Metropolitan Assemblies and also talked about the possibility of the group coming to Denmark next year. There was a very historic get-together farewell party organized by Mr. Bjarne and his team before leaving back to Denmark.

In November, the Group went to the Volta Region of Ghana to perform for funeral rites of the late Professor Amoaku, a renowned music composer in Ghana and Africa as a whole. The group also went to Kumasi, the second biggest city of Ghana, for another performance at a funeral of a director of Ghana Education Service. The performances were successful. Tamale Youth Home Cultural Group has also entered partnership with Borni Normah in Burkina Faso to promote cultural diversity in Africa, another successful group which uses an indigenous traditional music and dance in Burkina Faso.

Main Outcomes: Youth Home Cultural Group would be executing projects and programs together with the group to promote cultural diversity and unity among our sub region. Tamale Youth Home Cultural Group will sooner or later be traveling to Burkina Faso for festivals and cultural exchanges.
Conclusion: The routine rehearsals and the handicraft shop have also been productive and regular through this quarter of the year. This quarter has been successful as it has been very interesting for learning and practicing western instruments at the centre and also doing more on the contemporary aspect of music and dance.

Travel Letter from Henriette Nordvig and Jeannett Tankred



Henriette and I from the board were in October in Tamale to check up on the container shipping, we had sent over the summer. It was a touching experience! The container contained among other things: hospital equipment, more than 50 computers and laptops, school desks and chairs, office furniture, school books in English, 100 packages with Lego and much more.

Sunday 07-10-12

Departure from Copenhagen. Arrival Accra kl.19 local time.

Monday 08-10-12

Abraman receives us in the small airport in Tamale. Big hugs and lots of hearty laughter. We meet a chief at the airport, and Abrahman asks us to greet him. We do so the best we can, the Ghanaian way to show respect for him being higher in the hierarchy.

We go to Youth Home and greet all the dancers and the sewing girls. A cordial reunion! We follow the daily dance training from 16-00 to 18.00.

Tuesday 09-10-12

In the morning we visit two schools and follow the teachers teach dance and drumming. It is a development project with Egedal School of Music the group has been involved in for 2 ½ years. Unfortunately however, it ends this summer.

At the schools we see the school furniture and computers they have received from the container. The leaders are very grateful and emphasize what a difference it has made for them.

In the afternoon, we watch the group dance workout again .

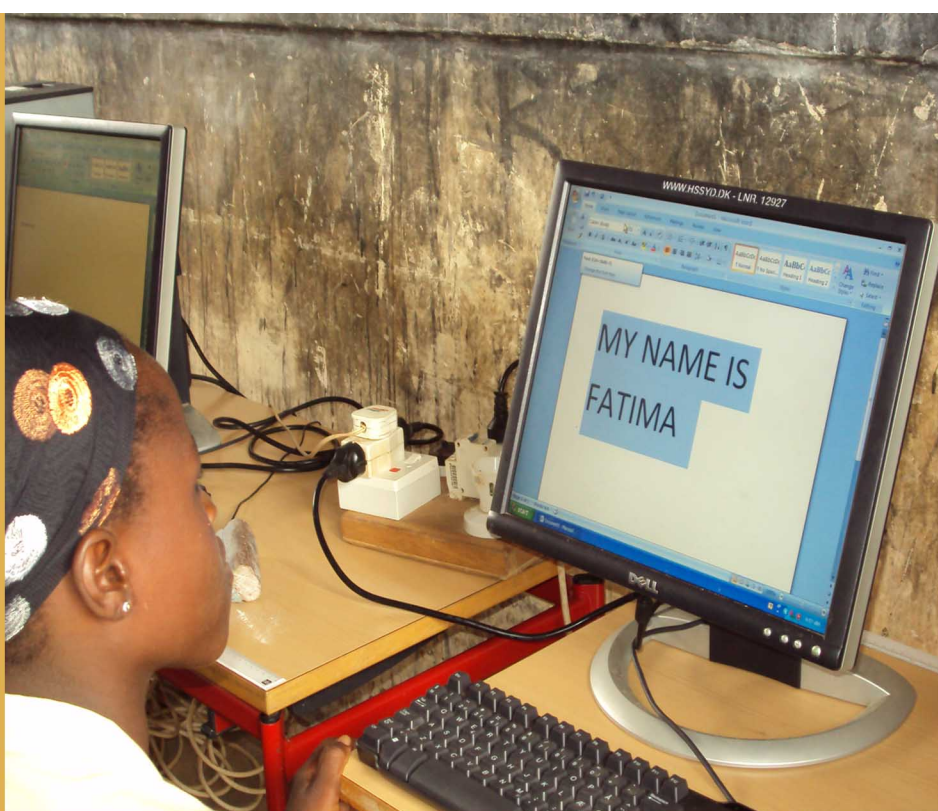
Wednesday 10-10-12

We start the day with a visit to the Tamale Teaching Hospital. Here we have a meeting with the hospital director, who talks about a 2 year plan for the expansion of the hospital. There are more than 100 doctors employed, and most of them are young ghanaians trained at the hospital. A proud hospital director says it should ensure the future of the hospital. He thanks us many times for the hospital items they have received. These include about 10 hospital beds and mattresses, 1 dentist chair with various equipment, 9 wheelchairs, 10 walkers, 1 treadmill, an incubator and surgical and examination equipment.

We are shown around and get to see some of the items that was brought to Tamale in the container. It is clear that there are many shortcomings in the hospital, and the hygienic conditions are also very far from the reality we know from Denmark. Great effort, however is done to improve the conditions. This needs to be done in small and slow steps due to lack of funds and trained personnel.

Thursday 11-10-12

We have a meeting with Mr. Saibu - the regional manager of culture and youth in Northern Ghana. We talk about the container shipment, and Mr. Saibu too is deeply grateful for what we have done. We continue to Tamale Teaching Hospital again, where we get to see the things we didn't have time for the day before.



Friday 12-10-12

We try during the week to get an appointment with the mayor. Unfortunately, he is very busy due to the campaigns for the upcoming presidential and mayor elections. Since Ghana's current president will visit the city on Saturday, he is involved in many preparations. So we don't get the chance to meet him this time. We are instead greeted by the new mayor, on behalf of the mayor we receive a packed gift.

We then visit another school, located in the outskirts of Tamale, in a very poor district. Students are taught both in Arabic and Ghanaian at the school. The school has particularly received 3 computers, school desks and a large blackboard from the container. We follow the teaching at 3 different grade levels and see the received effects in use. Fantastic! They are so proud and show us that they can write their name in a Word Document. They show their gratitude by giving us 2 guiney fowls and a bag of rice for a nice meal. A common tradition in Ghana!!

Youth Home has through their cooperation with Egedal Music School got a new PA system (sound system for music, microphone sound etc). In the afternoon, one of the music school teachers who is in Tamale from Denmark, makes a workshop. We watch, and there is great curiosity from the group to learn more.

Saturday 13-10-12

Saturday starts with a visit to workshops in Tamale owned by two of the sewing girls. Both women were graduates through YHCG's tailor education. Both have as a starting gift got sewing machines. First we visit Faizaz's workshop. She is a very strong woman and an accomplished seamstress. Her workshop and store is housed in a small building, where she runs her business. It is obvious that she is content with her business, which enables her to maintain a life where she can feed herself and her daughter, and even pay for her daughter's schooling. After that we visit Binthu's workshop, which is built by people from YHCG. Binthu lost her parent at a very young age and was raised by her grandmother. Binthu is another success story from Youth Home. Binthu has been fortunate to have a Danish sponsor who has paid for her schooling and her workshop. At the end of the day she dances with the group at Youth Home.

In the evening there is celebration in Youth Home with the local band Prince Mohammed. The new music system is launched. Abramam gives a fine speech, in which he praises all the Danish people for their great support.

Sunday 14-10-12

Sunday is most of all a farewell day, where we have arranged a meeting to solve some of the IT challenges they have at Youth Home.

Future activities of the association

General assembly 5 March, 19.00 in Smørum Kulturhus

Visit from Ghana: 8 members of the group will visit Denmark. They will collaborate with Egedal Music School supported by the DCCD. in a project called **Put Your Hands Together**.

The group will be in Denmark from 12 May to 2 June.

We will send a separate program to members.

But do reserve the **23 May, 2013** 19.00 - 21.30, when the group will perform in the **World Cultural Centre** (VerdensKulturCentret) NørreAlle 7, København.

