



**Dear members and friends!**

Important decisions have been made in the last months. Mrs. von Oertzen

started her assignment as gynaecologist at Ampipal hospital, financed by governmental funds from AGEH and Nepalmed. We wish her all the best! Ampipal also received several new medical devices. Our cooperation with Kirtipur Hospital grows steadily. With our funding and our teaching experts a diagnostic department for internal medicine and gynaecology opened its doors.

In Europe we secured many new contacts who will help us reaching our project goals in Nepal. Our scientific work was crowned by Mrs. Schoenfelder being awarded doctorate of Technical University Dresden. From governmental side the work in Ampipal received greatest recognition. For his voluntary commitment Dr. Wolfhard Starke was awarded the highest German civilian award Bundesverdienstkreuz in October. Congratulations!

Besides all the success new goals and challenges still remain. The working permit issue is still unsolved.

In Tati Pokhari the village committee does not reach an agreement with the Ampipal committee to running a joint local health post. Solving the hospital waste water treatment and improving road access are two major open points for Ampipal Hospital.

How to create more jobs for the youth of the region? And what could be offered to the elderly people when their children move to Kathmandu or foreign countries and cannot take care of their wellbeing? In all these issues we will be involved to improve living conditions for as many people as possible.

Enjoy reading this report.  
Have a peaceful New Year!

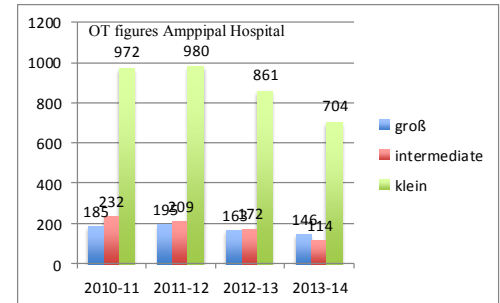
Yours,  
Arne Drews



## Nepalmed Report 2014

### Ampipal Hospital

Let us start with rather unpleasant news. At the end of 2013 until beginning of 2014 local politicians caused considerable unrest in Ampipal. The Hospital Board should be dissolved and newly elected. We do not know the course. Sparked by hospital plans to open a health post at the important and growing settlement of Tati Pokhari at the base of Mt. Liglig villagers blocked patients from entering hospital services. Even in several mass meetings the hospital manager was unable to explain that it is simply untrue and financially impossible that he and Nepalmed would plan to move the entire hospital down to Tati Pokhari where road access is much easier. Patient numbers plummeted. In March the hospital returned to normal mode and the health post opened a small pharmacy, but suspicion still looms.



In April the decision was made to fill the position of the doctor at Ampipal Hospital for three years, financed by governmental funds from AGEH and Nepalmed. Starting in November, German gynaecologist C. von Oertzen brings her long experience from working in Afrika to Nepal. We wish her a good start!



**To continue our support for Nepal we need Your contribution.**

**Please use our changed bank account:**

**Volks- und Raiffeisenbank Muldentale eG**  
**IBAN: DE67 8609 5484 5000 1667 76**  
**BIC: GENODEF1 GMV**

**Ampipal Hospital** In January the digital x-ray imaging of German manufacturer Siemens was installed in Ampipal, funded by Nepalmed. In July the x-ray tube followed funded by Rotary Clubs Korbach and Bad Arolsen. Now high quality imaging is available all year round.



In February restoration work at the living quarters of the personnel began. At 8 buildings windows, roofs, toilets, showers and kitchens had to be replaced.

Financial support came from **Schoeck Family Foundation** to extending the nursing school and improving the health post.

In March anaesthetic male nurse Ram Chandra was in Germany for a 6-week training period. In Potsdam, Grimma, Parchim, Ludwigsfelde and foremost in Itzehoe he improved his anaesthetic skills. With the contacts of S. Zinke and W. Kluge we procured a **mechanical ventilator** of Draeger, Germany. Ram Chandra was trained at this device at Itzehoe hospital. Unfortunately, the ventilator's display broke soon. In the meantime it is repaired back in Nepal.



In April long-time Ampipal surgeon W. Starke went on his last duty. He was warmly welcomed by the local populace. He was accompanied by W. Timreck, who besides repairing the hundreds of little things also improved the air flow of the waste incinerator.

At the end of April the **German ambassador Meyke** visited Ampipal Hospital. The embassy supported the construction of the waste incinerator and the photovoltaic power plant.

In March D. Keller and E. Boehm conducted a study about the preva-

lence of the stomach bacteria (*Helicobacter pylori*) among the patients of Ampipal. The results show a very low rate of infection throughout the population. Thanks to Prof. Dr. Schiefke from St. Georg Leipzig for planning the study.



Sewing course for students in Ampipal

Respiratory physician G. Krause refreshed the knowledge of lung function (**Spirometry**) in October.

Like every year, in 2014 numerous specialists, doctors and nurses, supported the staff in Ampipal.



Refurbished lab in Ampipal

Interested dentists please contact S. Keller of **Dentists without Limits**. [dr.kesy@gmx.de](mailto:dr.kesy@gmx.de)



Digital x-ray in Ampipal



Ventilator in OT in Ampipal



New pharmacy in Tati Pokhari



### Model Hospital, Kirtipur Hospital:

Of the 5 successful candidates of the **Lung function training** part 1 according to the European Respiratory Society ERS 4 took part in Part 2. The course was conducted by S. and A. Drews in Kirtipur on 13th July. All 4 passed the practical exam. And Germany won the football world championship final. What a day!



Thank you to all students (56 went to Nepal with us in 2014), who took donations along during their practical training and sent us reports about their time! Thank you Burga Marx! [work.nepal@gmx.de](mailto:work.nepal@gmx.de)

In order to found a **department for internal diagnostics** at Kirtipur Hospital Mrs G. Matzel went to Nepal for eight months in August. German manufacturer Karl Storz donated a new endoscopy unit where she can teach Nepalese personnel. Splendid! (for pictures see line below) Mrs. Matzel also organized the repair of three unexpectedly found endoscopes rotting in some dark cupboard. She also introduced reporting software and bought stabilizers for electricity. Together with „Share Happiness Foundation“ and „Medicine in the Third World“, Nepalmed donated a modern diagnostic ultrasound Mindray Z5 for Kirtipur. C. Dhakal gave a 3-days-course in obstetrical ultrasound.

B. Kirsch organized an **operating course for blood vessels** in Kathmandu. Until then there was nearly no experience in this field of surgery in Nepal. Training was carried out using animal parts from the local butcher.



**Note:** Please do not collect old instruments in Europe. Buying them in Nepal is much easier.

### Germany

**Doctorate awarded:** Sylvia Schoenfelder received the doctorate titel of the Technical University Dresden for her work on mother and child health



in Ampipal. Mentor was Prof. Dr. Kugler. A summary of the results you can be found at [www.nepalmed.de](http://www.nepalmed.de).

Since September we co-operate with the **Kuratorium „Tuberculosis in the World e.V.“** based in Munich. This organization is partner of the only nepalese lab GENETUP, where swift and reliable diagnosis and resistancy testing of tuberculosis can be done. The tuberculosis department in Munich is the World Health Organization's WHO partner lab for Nepal. In Kirtipur a tuberculosis ward shall be opened.



Inauguration of endoscopy in Kirtipur



New ultrasound



The first patient



Photo: U. Schlottmann, Westfalenblatt.

On 11th October 2014 Dr. W. Starke was awarded the highest civilian award **Bundesverdienstorden**. During a small ceremony in his hometown Warburg he received the award in the name of president Joachim Gauck out of the hands of district chief officer Spieker and mayor Stickeln for his many years of voluntary work in Amppipal Hospital.

**2014** We never had so many charity events before. Thank you all!



**Charity runs** at Gymnasium Markranstaedt raised 550 € and at Gymnasium Oschatz 205 €. Donations at the occasion of opening their surgery from S. & R. Hoeltzel: 1700 €, C. Stumpf for OT steps and ear thermometers: 1000 €, D. Wilker's collection for hand disinfections: 4000 €,

Direct help Nepal: 1800 €. Gorkhali Youth UK 1955 €. **Silver wedding** Fam. Pradler: 1600 €. H. Hermann, I. Krupitza, Fam. Albrecht, K. Nestler, Fam. Berger sen., dentists of DWL, Rotary Kempten and Lions Warburg donated 1000 € each. Special thanks to the many employees of Klinikum Itzehoe. Their permanent charity action „**Cent-behind-the-Dot**“ generates a constant flow of donations.

140 spectators watched our **documentary movie** „Namaste – the mountain hospital Amppipal“ at the Lions Movie Night in Grimma. Donations: 2000 €. The DVD can be bought at the price of 10 € from Nepalmed. Film length 33 min., languages: German, Englisch, Nepali.

In November we were invited again at the **Mountain Film Festival** of mountaineer Frank Meutzner to present a promotion stand. We received donations: 800 €. Thank you Advertising Studio Grimma for donating roll-up banners.

This year's **calendar** was photographed and designed again by Dr. R. Wenzel. More than 1300 pieces have been sold. For the very first time they are available at Amazon.de.

Our project was chosen for the advent calendar action **24 Good Deeds**. At the 22nd Dec 2014 is our day. [www.24-good-deeds.de](http://www.24-good-deeds.de)

With the support of C. Breuer we introduced two **Facebook** accounts. One for the German and one for the Eng-

lish speaking fans! We hope for many „followers“!

**Numerous colleagues and friends presented pictures from Nepal at events and collected donations. Thank you very much to all of you! Thanks to all unnamed supporters of Nepalmed!**

### Call for action:

**Due to the bad road condition towards Amppipal hospital the ambulance jeep is worn out. It has to be replaced. We need 25000 €.**

**For the new gynaecological direction of Amppipal a new ultrasound is necessary, around 13000 €.**

**For planning and supervision of restoration work in Amppipal we look for an experienced craftsmen or engineer to volunteer.**

**For the new waste water treatment plant in Amppipal we need around 40000 €.**

Our next annual member's meeting takes place on June 6th 2015, 10-12:00 at Zeitgeschichtliches Forum, Grimmaische Straße in Leipzig. **There will be a charity presentation of mountaineer Dr. Olaf Rieck for our project work! Entrance is free. Donations are welcome.**

**New 2015: Trekking around Amppipal! Ask us!**

**Thank you very much for your support!  
We wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year 2015!**

*Arne Drews*

*Ulrich Hermann*