

Kampuchea House Newsletter

December 2021

SUASDEY and greetings to all our supporters.



Christmas 2021 is upon us, and after all the trials and tribulations of the past year, our kids are still smiling. Happily, they are finally back at school and uni, and they are enormously grateful for your support this year. Your funds have enabled them to continue their studies and schooling from home with a sufficient number of laptops and devices, enjoy outings to the countryside and picnics to break the monotony of lockdown, and to overcome their struggle with another year of pandemic.

This is a big shout-out from them saying **THANK YOU!**



Due to the many lockdowns and restricted travel the “big brothers” of our KH family had been unable to return home to Siem Reap from their university in Phnom Penh for a long time. When they finally made it home in the beginning of November, Leng organized a pizza party celebration in the garden. The kids were happy to all be re-united once again.

Minea (left) took advantage of his return to Siem Reap to visit our local dentist for a wisdom tooth extraction. He seems to have made a good recovery!

Bon Om Tuk, also known as the Water Festival, is a major event in Siem Reap. It is usually held some time in October/November and the festivities last three days.

It celebrates the natural phenomenon of the reversing of the flow of water from the Tonle Sap River, back from the Great Lake to the Mekong River at Phnom Penh, after the monsoon season has passed and the water levels have subsided. It also marks the beginning of the fishing season and the whole of Siem Reap comes alive with boat races on the river, riverside markets, food stalls, concerts, traditional performances and games and nightly fireworks.

All this festivity and fun was sadly by-passed once again this year due to Covid. Instead Leng organized a bike ride for our kids out to the temples at Angkor Wat. Although not quite the same as three days of celebration in town, the kids appreciated the unique experience. They practically had the site to themselves and were able to explore the area in peace without the usual throngs of tourists.



Our lucky kids have the place to themselves.





On Thursday 2nd December we held our AGM and all current office-holders were re-elected to their positions. The Committee continues as:

Libby McCann	President
Belinda Lightfoot	Vice President
Chris Phillips	Secretary
Lyn Laister	Treasurer
Ann Darwent	Communications

Attached to this newsletter is a copy of the President's report for 2021.

As always, we would like to thank our sponsors and donors for their on-going support. Without your financial aid our mission would be impossible. Times have been very difficult in Cambodia during the pandemic, and once again a big thank you to our incredible staff, who have continued to operate Kampuchea House without a hitch in the face of unexpected difficulties. In particular, our director, Leng, has continued to act efficiently and pro-actively in the children's best interests, as well as providing them with huge moral support during this crisis.

CHOUM REAB LEA until next time.

For more activities and news about everyday life in Siem Reap check out our **Kampuchea House Facebook** page