

# Kampuchea House Newsletter



March 2020

## **SUASDEY** and greetings to all our supporters.

Here is an update on our latest news from Kampuchea House.

Since our last newsletter there has been a radical change in global circumstances with the advent of the new corona virus, Covid 19.

Cambodia has not been immune to the contagion, and threat of the virus is having a huge effect in Siem Reap, with tourist numbers down significantly, the temples virtually deserted, and hotels empty. The government has closed the universities, private institutions and government schools in Siem Reap in an attempt to contain the spread of the virus.



So, like many other students all over the world, our kids are at home until further notice. Unfortunately, this situation has also obviously impacted on our school visits, which have been deferred until later in the year.

In consultation with our Director Sour Sokleng, the committee has decided that all residents and staff at KH will not be travelling back to their home villages for Khmer New Year. This is a major decision as it is a time when Cambodians traditionally get together over the three-day holiday period to socialise and party. Our kids and staff

will stay in the house in Siem Reap, where social isolation will be implemented. The government has just officially cancelled the holiday celebrations throughout the country. Just as for all of us in Australia, the situation remains uncertain, but we will keep you informed of developments.

A worthy celebration has taken place at Kampuchea House, with Sean, our past resident English teacher, arriving in timely fashion to award prizes to some of our tertiary level students.

## **SEAN PRESENTS WATCHES AS PRIZES TO YIM, RINA AND CHAN REY.**



Yim passed the first year of English language teacher training degree at South East Asian University, topping her year in semester 1 and coming second in semester 2. Her results are outstanding.

Both Rina and Chan Rey graduated from their hospitality training course at Feeding Dreams.

We are extremely proud of all three. Well done girls and congratulations!



Chan Rey and Rina are congratulated by our Director, Sour Sokleng, at their graduation ceremony. Both Chan Rey and Rina are now employed at top hotels in Siem Reap and enjoy working in the tourism industry.

All credit goes to them for their hard work during the course and their placements, which has led to full time employment in an important industry in Siem Reap.

## SEAN'S VISIT TO SIEM REAP

All our kids were delighted to see Sean, their former resident English teacher, mentor and friend, back in Siem Reap for a week-long visit in early March. Sean has remained part of the extended family of Kampuchea House. He generously hosted a day out, with a visit to the pool followed by pizza, an outing which was greatly enjoyed by everyone.



## **CHOUM REAB LEA until next time.**

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



