

Kampuchea House

A home for Cambodian
orphans and deserted children



Newsletter

April 2012

A word from the President.....

Dear Supporters and Friends

Another busy quarter for Kampuchea House with building works still continuing. Projects such as perimeter fencing, kitchen extensions and a new well being drilled are all underway.

We are also pleased to announce a new initiative with Australian charity: Kids off the Kerb. Under a joint ongoing program, donations through the **Kids off the Kerb - Kampuchea House Project** are now tax deductible. I would like to Thank Nathan Stirling AM, Chair of KotK for working with us to get this off the ground. If you would like further details, please feel free to contact either Belinda Lightfoot or myself.

I never cease to be amazed at what has been achieved by KH over our relatively short history. While our expansion and growth is one component, the welfare and development of the children is crucial. We are now planning the establishment of an educational fund as we prepare for the first of our children to enter university. Exciting times! We continually look at career paths with the older children to always ensure we can give them the best tools and skills for adult life. Please email me if you would like more information.

Finally, we recently had our 4th Annual Golf Day which as always, was a great success. Thanks to Libby and her team for their tremendous effort. Thank you all for your ongoing support.

Jason May – President

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House Three Blessing

While Bev and Geoff Edwards and their son, Chris were in Siem Reap in September 2011 for the bike ride we organized a traditional Buddhist blessing of the house they donated the funds to build. This moving ceremony attended by the children and staff of Kampuchea House contributes to recognising the remarkable involvement of this very generous family.

Thanks for your assistance

During 2011 William Murray (ex Westbourne College student) spent seven months volunteering at Kampuchea House primarily teaching the children English. We are indebted to Will for his enormous contribution and anyone who has recently visited would have noticed the improvement in the children's English - a testament to the excellent job he has done.



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Temple Outing

In keeping with our philosophy of teaching the children Khmer culture and history we took the new children on an outing to the beautiful Angkor temples. We visited Angkor Wat, the Bayon and TaProm. The day was full of new and exciting sights for the children – as well as the temples; seeing so many foreigners; feeding a very friendly monkey; having a big lunch and then ice cream and playing on the machines and cars at Kids Plaza. Needless to say the trip back to the orphanage was very quiet.

Dentist Visit

A visit to the dentist was in order for our new children during February. We booked a dentist in Siem Reap for an entire Sunday and with two dentists working we managed to get all the children checked out in one day. Unfortunately their lack of dental care prior to coming to Kampuchea House meant that most of them had to endure fillings and extractions. Now that they have access to proper dental hygiene and a good diet they will hopefully not have to undergo many more of these procedures.



Solar Panels

With two new houses complete it was time to install the two new banks of solar panels which enable us to have lights in the library and charge the computers, as well as lighting for the two houses and the new amenities block. We look forward to many sunny days to keep the batteries charged!

Generous Donation

Ric Troyer and his wife Mai Son, from the organisation Canadian Friends of Vietnam, recently visited Kampuchea House and among a large number of donated items we received two months supply of milk. We would like to thank Ric and his organization for their generous donations.



Events

This year's **annual golf day** at Little Frankston golf course was our most successful yet raising over \$11,500 which will provide for the basic needs of our 36 children for approximately two months. Although the weather was not favourable in the morning a few brave men hit off in their t-shirts in the rain! As the day progressed the sun shone and lunch was enjoyed on the club house balcony. Food was prepared by Tommy Collins Events and the wine was donated by De Bortoli Wines. We are grateful to our ongoing and new sponsors including The Hyatt regency Cooloom, Kingston Heath Golf Club and BMW Bib Stillwell (a full list will be available on the website). We are also indebted to volunteer professional golfers Rory Doran and Matt Cleverdon. Congratulations to the winners Philo O'Neil and Chris Logan (far left and right) and thank you to the 80 participants and volunteers.

The next event will be a **Khmer New Year Gala** run by the Kampuchea House Youth Committee. This exciting event which is open to all supporters and friends will be held on **12th May 2012 7PM** @ The Albert Park Yachting and Angling Club. Tickets - \$40 Student/\$50 Adult includes DJ, fingerfood and one drink. For tickets contact Jen@kampucheahouse.org or see Facebook page



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