



Success Story

Congratulations to Duong and Sophary on their recent graduation from the Paul Dubrule School of Hospitality. Both girls graduated as Pastry Chefs and now have employment in a cafe in Siem Reap. We are very pleased and excited for them and wish them well with their future careers.

Both Duong and Sophary came to KH at the ages of 17 and 18 respectively. No other orphanage or organisation would take them as they were considered too old. We dread to think what might have transpired if we had not accepted them at KH - most likely they would have ended up in the sex trade or begging. Duong's mother was an HIV/AIDS victim and her father left the family when she was very young and never returned. Duong then lived with her aunt who has nine children of our own, including one with Down's syndrome. Duong is still very close to her aunt and visits her on a regular basis.

Sophary's mother died from a diarrhea-related illness and her father remarried. He too died from the same illness, followed in turn by her stepmother. Sophary was sent to an orphanage in Phnom Penh and was separated from her younger brother, and given an orphanage name. However, when the orphanage changed its policy to cater for only children under 12 years of age, the older children were 'reintegrated back into their villages' where she then lived with her grandmother. Sophary was offered work in her local area but wished to continue her schooling as she was a very good student. After arriving at KH she was able to continue at school where she excelled. She too is very close to her grandmother and visits her as often as possible. Sophary eventually hopes to obtain employment in Phnom Penh where she has many friends from her days in the orphanage there.

The girls will continue to live in the Siem Reap transition house until they are fully settled into their new careers. We shall continue to offer them support throughout their future and will keep in contact with them to share their lives as would any family.

Duong and Sophary are our first "success" stories - they will be the first of many over the coming years.



Duong, Sokhoeun &
Sophary on graduation
day

Bike Ride Update

As you are reading this article the 12 riders are making their way around Cambodia battling chaotic traffic, bad roads, the heat and rain. We wish Norm Clarke, Peter Doyle, Bill Pattison, Joel McCabe, Paul Zientek, Neal Corcoran, Scott Francis Jenny Jobst, Tim Mills, Mark Pratt, Aaron Anderson and Andrew Gogos safe travels and thank them most sincerely for their fantastic efforts raising funds for KH.

You can keep up-to-date on the ride at the following link - www.cambodianbikeride2010.blogspot.com/. This will be updated on a daily basis (depending on internet access). We are still taking donations in support of the ride - go to www.kampucheahouse.org and the article on the bike ride has details on the various ways to make a donation.

Cocktail Party fundraiser

A report by Libby McCann (Fundraising Coordinator).

On a very chilly evening in Melbourne and despite it being election night over 90 people attended our major fundraiser and send off for the 11 bike riders at Industri Cafe. Thank you Harry, Sara, James, Oliver and Kristina for providing such a fabulous venue, food and beverages - everyone loved the evening. The Oliver Paterson Jazz Quartet made the night playing great music in the background.

There was a frenzy involving the popping of 100 balloons for \$20 each, with all recipients receiving a prize of value from \$20 to \$400. These items had been donated from a variety of sources and we would like to thank you all for your generosity. Later in the evening after the inaugural viewing of our promotional film which brought tears to the eyes of many we led into the Live Auction. Terrific bidding raised \$3,150! The level of activity and frivolity continued throughout the night with many dancing to Oliver's fabulous band. It appeared that everyone had a most enjoyable evening, were distracted from election news and we raised in excess of \$8,200.

Earlier in the day a fundraiser was held at the Middle Bar and Cafe, Middle Park where Joe and Pete donated \$1 per cup of coffee sold. What a frantic morning it was, run off our feet with donations and selling raffle tickets and meeting extremely generous people. Thanks to Libby, Norm Clark and Sue Stubs for helping with raising \$1,300 in just a few hours. Thanks to all the staff, Joe and Peter Mastro for their ongoing and continued support to Kampuchea House.

Major Sponsors:

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Gourmet Garage
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Velvet Cafe
Chapel Bakery

Publicity Film

We have recently completed a short (3 minute) film publicising the work of Kampuchea House. You can view this at – www.youtube.com/watch?v=6_yaZZLjn3M. Our thanks to Nick Barber and Matt Large (ex Westbourne students) for producing for this excellent film.

Upcoming Events

Our Annual Christmas **Shopping Night** will be held on Wednesday 24th November and promises to be bigger and better than ever. More information will be advised closer to the date. Write this date in your diaries now!