



Kampuchea  
House

## A word from the President

There has been much activity, both at the Orphanage and here in Australia. In the past few months, we have been visited by both St Leonards College and Knox School. The feedback from both schools has been fantastic and has also had a great impact on our children. It is great to see the Schools Program having such a positive outcome.

Locally, the Christmas Bazaar was another success - thanks to Libby and her team of helpers. Another fun event was the Youth Committee's lawn bowls day. Perfect weather allowed many of us to have a very funny afternoon and proved it's not as easy as it looks. Thanks to Team Connelly and the Youth Committee.

I would also like to extend a very warm heartfelt thanks and congratulations to Mr James Mitchell who retires from Westbourne Grammar next week after some 32 years. Jim has been a great supporter of KH, and I wish both him and Fay (my bowling partner) all the very best.

Finally, I would like to extend my good wishes for the festive season to your families and thank you for supporting Kampuchea House during 2012.

Jason May, President



## St Leonard's College Visit

Approximately 56 students and 6 teachers visited Kampuchea House and had a wonderful time filled with lots of fun and games. Virtually every table in the community centre was covered in stationery, games, frisbees, balls etc. Entries to the St Leonard's students blog show that they found it to be a most memorable and enjoyable experience. They loved playing a game of volleyball and were surprised at how well the KH kids played. Kampuchea House thanks St. Leonards College for their generous donations.

## Angkor Conservation Centre

Recently KH had a trip to the Angkor Centre for Conservation of Biodiversity to educate the children about Cambodia's wildlife. The children were split into two groups - older and younger. The younger children had a slightly quicker and less in depth tour. It was very pleasing to see a number of the older children busily taking notes during the tour. After the tour they were given a talk followed by a very interesting video. They then headed off for a delicious picnic lunch. The children thoroughly enjoyed their day out. Thanks to the Foreign Correspondent's Club (FCC) Siem Reap for their support of this outing.





## Kampuchea House 2012 Christmas Bazaar

The 2012 Christmas Bazaar was an outstanding success. Thank you to all the supporters who purchased goods while enjoying Christmas drinks sponsored by Guala Closures.

The Albert Park South Melbourne Rowing Club provided their beautiful venue which was a blaze of colour to house this year's expanded bazaar which had outgrown Libby's house. We would like to thank all those who made this event possible with their generous donation of time and products to raise over \$21500!

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## FCC Nations Cup Golf Tour Success

Our inaugural golf tour proved to be great fun on 3 excellent golf courses in the exotic location of Siem Reap, the home of Angkor Wat, raising \$11,500.

15 participants stayed at the FCC Angkor Hotel in deluxe rooms by the pool with the staff providing wonderful service. Apart from the golf tour we incorporated what was to be a 4 hour visit to the famous temples but our guide Mickey was so brilliant we were still visiting in our tuk tuks after 8 hours!!

All 3 golf courses – Sofitel Phokeethra, Siem Reap Lakes Resort and Angkor Golf Resort provided challenging golf in beautiful tropical settings surrounded by waterways with giant lotus fringed with palm trees. The caddies displayed the wonderful Cambodian spirit.



The FCC Nations Cup ran over 2 days at the Nick Faldo Golf Course with friendly rivalry between the international players. We are pleased to announce that a team from our Australian contingent won the cup – Michelle Belcher, Rosie Emery, Kathy Garnaut and Alison Mighell.

Our final dinner was at Viroth, one of the many wonderful restaurants in Siem Reap where we had a hilarious trophy presentation. Congratulations to Roz Farrell, the overall winner of the combined tournament and to Kathy Garnaut the Winner of the 2012 FCC Nations Cup event. Thank you to this year's golfers who raised funds to purchase 5 laptops and provide ongoing sustainability for Kampuchea House.

Following this year's successful event we have considerable interest in the 2013 Kampuchea House Cambodian Golf Tour. For further information please contact Libby at [libby@kampucheahouse.org](mailto:libby@kampucheahouse.org)





## A message from the Youth Committee

The Youth committee had an extremely positive response this year, with hundreds of attendees at our two main events - the New Year's Gala in May and A day on the Green in December. We also now have several followers on Facebook and on our blog on the website. We believe in making a difference by educating young people about Cambodia and about what Kampuchea House is doing to mplement change. Through contacting other organisations we have met with the Oaktree Foundation and attended social justice events to spread our message. Next year will be exciting and progressive for the youth committee as we plan to have more events to continue helping improve the lives of the children in Cambodia. If you haven't already, like us on Facebook or check out our blog on the website. We wish you a very Merry Christmas!

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Jen Connelly, Chairperson

## A Day on the Green

On Sunday December 2nd, the Kampuchea House Youth Committee hosted A Day on the Green at the St Kilda Bowls Club. With glorious weather, a large crowd gathered under the sun to play bowls and enjoy the delicious barbecue and salads. The funds raised through various raffles and prize draws will go directly towards the kids at Kampuchea House. The day was a big success and the committee would like to thank the St Kilda Bowls Club and everyone who attended, donated prizes or helped in an anyway to make this event so successful!

Anna Hehir, Events Officer

## Farewell to Ajaya

We had a farewell party for our volunteer, Ajaya Haikerwal. Ajaya spent 6 months helping the children with their English language and as a result their reading and writing skills have improved. The children wrote him some lovely thank you notes and a few of these were read out. They also presented him with a lovely gift. A delicious lunch lunch was followed by some dancing which everyone enjoyed immensely.





## Visiting Kampuchea House

Going to Kampuchea House for the first time was an amazing experience. We have been sponsoring Sinan since she was 13 years old. I had been told she was fairly shy and spoke little English at that time. Five years later, she is a delightful young woman whose English is quite good. She studies hard and is one of the top students in her class. She told me she likes Biology and wants to be a doctor. She is now a typical teenager, quietly confident and always has a smile on her face. She ran towards me and gave me the biggest hug and didn't let go. I was totally overcome by her warmth and affection. The tears just kept rolling down my cheeks. We all laughed and spent a wonderful morning together. It was truly an experience I will remember for the rest of my life, with many fond memories of the kids, house mothers and friendly staff.

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## Thank you

After the golf tournament, all the participants went to visit KH. There was a great deal of excitement when the golfers arrived. The children enjoyed playing with the golf clubs and balls, with some quite good golfers showing their prowess. They loved taking photos with the cameras and mobile phones. Of course being kids, they seemed to know how to use our phones better than we did! Seeing those happy, smiling faces and the thank you poster they made for us made everyone feel that the golf event was worthwhile.

## Knox School: A Special Visit

We had a wonderful visit from the Knox School with their amazing Pengana Voices and community crew. They brought along "treasure boxes" for each our children containing all sorts of goodies which our kids absolutely loved. A marvellous idea and we sincerely thank those who prepared the boxes for their thoughtfulness. The day was spent singing, dancing, playing, laughing and getting to know each other. Thanks so much to Julie Parker (Head of Upper Middle School) for organising this visit and to the students as well as Adrian and Jayne.

