



Newsletter House #5 - Special Edition

Following on from our House #4 Newsletter we are pleased to advise that House #5 is now up and running and home to a further 8 children (their details follow). We also welcome two new house mothers to look after the new children (their details below).



Hak Tan was born in 1973. In 2004 she trained at the SOS Children Village in Phnom Penh as House Mother and resigned in 2008 as her parents were seriously ill and she had to come back to look after them. In 2010 she worked as a kindergarten teacher until she commenced working for KH in August 2011.



So Cheng was born in 1978. She has worked as a contract/relief teacher and also at the Office of Woman's Affairs. She divorced her husband as he was violent to both her and her two daughters.





San Sak was born in 1999 and he has no brothers or sisters. (As his birth certificate only has the year he was born, we have given him a birth date of the day and month he came to live at KH – so his birthday is now 30th August 1999). His father died in 2001 when he was 40 years old. His mother is 35 years old and works as a weaver for a small business which is around 30km from home. She goes home only at the weekends and leaves San alone at home with the neighbor to look after him. When we first met him he was very skinny wearing only shorts (no shirt or shoes) and walking around the rice fields all day. After one month at KH he has put on weight, is much healthier and loves playing with the other children – something he did not have an opportunity to do previously.

Sim Choeun was born in 2005 in Siem Reap where he was found in the rubbish bin at a local hospital by his adopted parents. (As his birth certificate only has the year he was born, we have given him a birth date of the day and month he came to live at KH – so his birthday is now 30th August 2005). After living with his adoptive parents for two years the father died and the mother remarried a younger man. Because the family is very poor with no farm land and no employment they took the decision to give Sim to us to look after as they hope his life will be changed for the better. Since arriving at KH he is looking much healthier and happier and loves playing ball games in particular. He is now a very happy boy who gets on well with everyone. He is in grade one at school.



Kenh Cho was born in 2000. (As his birth certificate only has the year he was born, we have given him a birth date of the day and month he came to live at KH – so his birthday is now 29th July 2000). His mother died in 2008 due to birth complications and his father then left the village and has remarried and now has two sons with his new wife. Kenh sometimes lived with his grandmother or his aunty and occasionally at the local pagoda. He has two brothers who live with another aunty quite some distance away from his village.



Phot Phai was born in 2000 and has two brothers and two sisters. (As his birth certificate only has the year he was born, we have given him a birth date of the day and month he came to live at KH – so his birthday is now 29th July 2000). His father died in 2006 from a medical condition and his mother is a very poor farmer who, despite her difficult situation, tries very hard to feed the children. Both of his brothers have become monks and one of his sisters has married and lives far away.



Virak Som was born on 13th March 2000 and has one brother and one younger sister who is now living with the grandparents. Their mother died in 2005 from liver disease when she was 23 years old. Since her death her husband has not looked after the children and all of them were left with the grandparents. Recently the father went to another area and has remarried. Because of the difficult family situation it was decided that Virak and Sathya would come to live at KH and the grandparents would take care of the youngest sister. He loves playing any sort of ball sports and always has a happy smile.

Sathya Som was born on 8th September 2002 and has one brother and one younger sister who is now living with the grandparents. Their mother died in 2005 from liver disease when she was 23 years old. Since her death her husband has not looked after the children and all of them were left with the grandparents. Recently the father went to another area and has remarried. Because of the difficult family situation it was decided that Sathya and Virak would come to live at KH and the grandparents would take care of the youngest sister. He is very happy at KH and loves being hugged and playing ball.





Nhey Nhanh was born in 1999 and everyone in the family and village called her Chan Rey which is her second name. (As her birth certificate only has the year she was born, we have given her a birth date of the day and month she came to live at KH – so her birthday is now 30th August 1999). Her father died in 1999 from HIV. Her mother moved to another area, remarried and now has a two year old son. Nhey has lived with either her cousins or grandparents since she was young as her mother only visits her once a year at best. Nhey's sister who is 18 years old lives in Phnom Penh and works as a cleaner. Her brother is deaf and is cared for by another welfare organization. As the family's situation is very poor they decided it would be best for Nhey to come to KH.

Chayna Chen was born in 2004 and her mother died soon after giving birth. (As her birth certificate only has the year she was born, we have given her a birth date of the day and month she came to live at KH – so her birthday is now 30th August 2004). Her father remarried and left all the children to live with the neighbors. Chayna has one older brother and two sisters. Her brother and another sister live in Thailand. We understand her other sister is living with another family but we do not know the location. When Chayna was one year old another relative took her to live with them until she was three years old when another family took care of her. This family contacted us and said that although they love Chayna they cannot support her any longer as they have their own children to look after. The family has indicated they are happy for Chayna to visit them especially during the holiday periods. She has settled in well and has a lovely personality and enjoys playing with all the other children.

