

Sunrise Newsletter (July-September) 2010

www.scv.org.au



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I was in Melbourne in July and appeared on "The Circle" program on Channel 10 which brought in some new sponsors which is what it is all about.

Then back to Adelaide for some medical checkups before flying to Fiji to make a presentation for the Howard Storage Group's annual team meeting.

August had me in Malacca in Malaysia addressing the Humanitarian Affairs, UK - Leadership Symposium, where more than 300 university students from all over the world gathered to talk about how they can use their degrees for the betterment of mankind. They were a special bunch of young people that gives one reason to hope for the future.

Back in Sunrise it was the usual round of visits by sponsors, meetings with staff, a visit to the centre in Siem Reap and some quality time with the children. In September we had our annual memorial celebration to remember all those Sunrise children who have died over the years and it was a time for remembering and reflection on their short lives.

But the definite highlight for me was when I went to Battambang to meet Tara Winkler, the young 24 year old woman featured on Channel Two's Australian Story some months ago.

Her centre, Cambodian Children's Trust, was set up by her and is a testament to her compassion, efficiency and commitment to the children of Cambodia. We got on like a house on fire and we plan to work very closely together in the future.

Do visit her website : <http://www.cambodianchildrenstrust.org/>



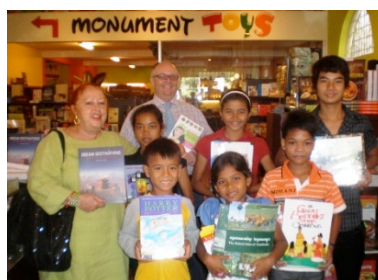
Geraldine with Tara and two of the children from Cambodia Children's Trust

Love and light,
Geraldine Cox AM,
 Country Director and President

STOP PRESS: Our 2 acid burn victims, Waew and Thy have very recently undergone the first of a series of facial operations in Hong Kong. Early indications are that the surgery has been successful. More details in the next newsletter.

New books

Wonderful, generous sponsors have donated money to smarten up our libraries in both centres and Geraldine took some of the children into Monument Books in Phnom Penh where the Manager, William Bagley, helped the children choose hundreds of books. Can you believe that they have translated, *Harry Potter*, *Of Mice and Men*, *To Kill a Mockingbird* and *Animal Farm*, into Khmer! This is just the beginning. Thank you to all involved.



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Report by Rob Madsen, Cambodian Operations Manager

One of the highlights over the last three months was the opportunity for thirteen children from Sunrise Angkor to travel and perform traditional Cambodian dance and music in Japan. The August tour of Japan was arranged through the support and kindness of Mr Tashiro, a Japanese folk musician and his supporters, with the valuable help from a local Japanese tour operator, Mr Bunhong. Mr Tashiro has been performing in Japan for many years, and has also previously supported development projects in Cambodia.

Our group, including four staff, travelled to Tokyo and also visited the city of Nagoya, where we stayed in an 18th century Japanese pagoda. Other highlights included a tour of Tokyo city, a visit to Tokyo Tower and a great day at one of Japan's famous amusement parks. We also enjoyed tasting delicious Japanese food, which our children loved.



However, the highlight was the performances with an audience of mainly Japanese children who enjoyed seeing our performers dance and play traditional music and songs. The finale for all the concerts was collaboration with Mr Tashiro, performing his song called "Cambodia" and our children singing with him on stage.

Sunrise would like to express our sincere thanks to Mr Tashiro, all his supporters, and Mr Bunhong, for organizing such a unique and enjoyable visit to Japan. Such kindness is much appreciated and the time in Japan will be remembered by our children and staff with fondness and excitement.



Other developments have been the continued upgrading of our Sunrise Angkor facility in Siem Reap. New bright colours now adorn the walls and buildings, the kitchen and dining area has had a major facelift, and our much loved 'theatre' is repainted

with a new roof. The garden and grassed areas are now a major part of the facility, with plenty of space for children to play and relax. Thank you to all our supporters and friends who have helped to make these much needed developments happen.



Sunrise Angkor would also like to express thanks and appreciation to the Le Meridien Hotel Siem Reap for its recent support in organizing a special ceremony and party for staff and children, and a kind donation, as part of its support and care to children and charities in Cambodia. All our children were given a special toy bear on the day, and were treated to refreshments and delicious cake.

Sunrise Children's Villages have recently made changes to our frontline senior personnel, with the employment of new management staff. In Sunrise 1, Mr Yi Soksan is our new manager and he brings to Sunrise considerable experience and skills through his previous work in international aid organizations and advocacy for children's rights. In Sunrise Angkor, our new Assistant Manager, Mr Boun Sokheng also has a strong background in working in the area of supporting trafficked children and brings to Sunrise his excellent administrative and organizational skills. Congratulations to Soksan and Sokheng, and we wish them a long and successful career with the Australia Cambodia Foundation.

I am pleased to announce that Sunrise is now implementing a new case management approach to the way we care for our children, as part of our increasing professionalism in our work. We are currently employing a team of qualified Khmer Social Workers across both our centres, who will be responsible for assessing all new child referrals, managing children's health and welfare needs, and providing counselling and other psychological interventions such as creative arts with children who have behaviour problems or other issues such as trauma. The case management process will also mean that we will focus more on individual case by case support for identifying older children's vocational training and employment needs – a critical area of support needed for our older children who are



preparing for the transition from Sunrise to the outside world.

As part of our new case management model, I am also pleased to announce that Sunrise is now introducing a family and community reintegration program. Sunrise children come from many different backgrounds and difficulties including being orphaned, abandoned or trafficked. Some children also come from situations of abject poverty, where their family do not have enough food or cannot send them to school. Sunrise is beginning a process of careful family and community research which will identify some children who can return to live with their mother, father or other relatives. For these cases, we will develop a closer connection with families of our children, while also talking to the children themselves about their own feelings, wishes or concerns.

Reintegrating a child back home will mean detailed planning, taking into consideration many issues such as any risks if a child goes back home to live, and ensuring the child's best interests are taken into account. A successful reunification back to family also means that a Sunrise child will be closely followed up once they go home, with regular home and community visits by our social work staff. This will also translate into Sunrise providing direct funding and support to the child and their family, such as payments for schooling, including continuing English and other education classes; health care, material supplies such as cooking equipment, and other forms of support, even including rental assistance if needed.

Case management and reintegration planning represent a shift in philosophy and direction for Sunrise - one that will become focussed also on outreach and community work. Such a shift however, takes time, and no child of Sunrise, especially those children who have been living in the centre for a long time, will be forced to leave the centre. Importantly, we will still continue to maintain and develop our Sunrise facilities as essential places for the care and support to our children who have no family at all.

Over the next few months we will keep all of our supporters updated as to our new program and the challenges and exciting opportunities that it brings.

Message from our Chairman, John George

Art/English school



The last few months have flown and such a lot has happened at Sunrise. We are delighted to welcome on board the new manager in Phnom Penh, Yi Soksan. Soksan comes to us with a wealth of experience and will add great value to our Sunrise operations.

The long awaited land title for our Sihanoukville centre has now been issued and the pouring of concrete should begin in early December when the land has had a chance to dry out.

We have just conducted our Annual General Meeting and I am pleased to report that again this year we have been successful in maintaining our overhead costs at less than 10% of donations received.

Best wishes to all our members and supporters over the festive season.

Recently a group of the senior English students were rewarded with an excursion to the Phnom Penh water park.



New soccer turf



Grass was recently laid at Sunrise One to provide a much softer and safer surface on the soccer field. Many helping hands were readily available and all were very keen to be involved. The cost of the new turf was donated by members of the Dubai Exiles Group from the United Arab Emirates and will provide many hours of enjoyment for a variety of activities.



The ruins of Angkor are located amid forests and farmland to the north of the Great Lake (Tonle Sap) and 6km from modern-day Siem Reap and are a UNESCO World Heritage Site. The temples of the Angkor area number over one thousand, ranging in scale from piles of brick rubble scattered through rice fields to the magnificent Angkor Wat. Angkor Wat (pictured above) is a Hindu temple complex near Siem Reap in the north of Cambodia, built for the king Suryavarman II in the early 12th Century as his state temple and part of his capital city. As the best-preserved temple at the site, it is the only one to have remained a

significant religious centre since its foundation: first Hindu, then Buddhist.



Angkor Wat or "City Temple" is a superb example of the high classical style of Khmer architecture. It has become a symbol of Cambodia, appearing on its national flag and it is the country's prime attraction for visitors.

The temple is situated within a moat and an outer wall 3.6km long with three rectangular galleries, each raised above

the next. Five towers stand in the centre of the complex, each adorned with bas-reliefs.

Angkorean stairs are notoriously steep, apparently for both religious and monumental reasons: "a



stairway to heaven," and the building rises quickly to its zenith.

"When you have knowledge, have regard for the knowledge of others as well." Khmer Proverb

Update on students in Australia

ADELAIDE "KIDS" GET DOWN AND DIRTY

On Monday 27th September, the first day of the school holidays, Tong Eang, Kong Kea, Srey Leak and Theaneath spent the day at the Australia Cambodia Foundation office in Adelaide helping Gaynor, Chrissy, Melissa, Melanie and Sue sort through and pack boxes of items to be transported back to Cambodia. As the day progressed some additional help was also given by Chhay and Ly and their children and by the end of the day everyone was dusty and tired and us "Aussies" became more familiar with a few Khmer words. It was great to see the "kids" working so well together with Tong and Kong Kea showing great skills with the hammer and Srey Leak and Theaneath doing well at dishwashing. There was much laughter and fun giving everyone a chance to catch up.

Tong Eang LOUCH

Tong Eang has now settled into his new home at Uni Hall, Flinders University and is practicing his cooking skills at weekends. Tong is also gaining skills in car washing at weekends (when it is not raining). Tong has also managed to work out how to catch a bus and enjoys visiting the Westfield shopping Centre at Marion where he catches up

with many of his International friends. Tong is completing his final semester assignments and will assist on the set of a movie in November.

Srey Leak PHEM

Srey Leak has had a busy semester preparing for her Year 12 exams in November and hopes to qualify to undertake Nursing at Flinders University in 2011. Srey Leak has participated as a key player in the Seymour school Badminton team during the last semester. In October Srey Leak undertook some fundraising with the other Adelaide "kids" at the Adelaide Cambodian Temple to raise money for "Sunrise". Srey Leak also has been working one day at the weekend to gain some skills in retailing.

Kong Kea PHON

Kong Kea is about to start his Year 11 exams and is looking forward to starting Year 12 in 2011 with the focus of getting into Accounting at university. Kong Kea has been a team member of the St Peters school soccer team during winter and is now playing volleyball. Kong Kea did a presentation to the Year 8 students at St Mary's school in Adelaide, providing details of his life in the orphanage before coming to Adelaide. Kong Kea spent some time in the school holidays with Chhay and Ly and their children. He also

participated in the fundraising at the Adelaide Cambodian Temple.

Theaneath OUTH

Theaneath has had a busy semester at Annesley College completing her Year 11 subjects and also undertaking Year 12 Khmer on Saturdays. The Year 11 Annesley students attended camp in September. Theaneath has achieved very good results in ESL and has selected subjects for Year 12 with the focus on doing Business Management and Marketing after Year 12. Theaneath along with the other "kids" provided assistance at her host family's Engagement function.

Narith HORM

Narith moved to Sydney in June 2010 to undertake his work experience placement with the Sheraton Hotel Group as part of his Bachelor of International Hotel Management. Narith has been very busy working hotel hours and has had many early morning starts. He has been living with David and Sue Perkins and has become part of their family. Narith will finish his placement in January 2011 and is looking forward to a couple of weeks home in Cambodia.



Volleyball and badminton are popular activities on the all-purpose sports court at Sunrise 1, another gift from the wonderful Dubai Exiles Group.



House mother reading to her children

Christmas Cards to support the children of Sunrise

Your friends and family can now receive a unique gift from you and support Sunrise at the same time.

You can give a donation of a specific value of your choice and we will forward a card with a photo of some of the Sunrise children and a description of what your donation can provide. These include:

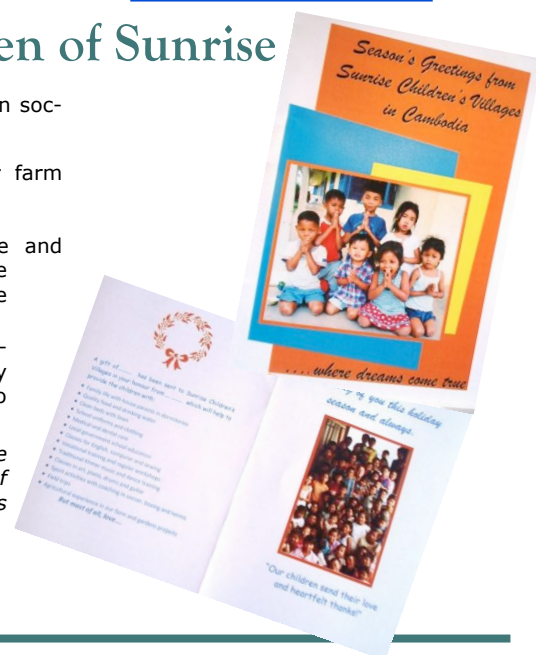
- Family life with house parents in dormitories
- Quality food and drinking water
- Clean beds with linen
- School uniforms and clothing
- Medical and dental care
- Local government school education
- Classes for English, computer and sewing
- Vocational training and regular workshops
- Traditional Khmer music and dance training
- Classes in art, piano, drums and guitar

- Sport activities with coaching in soccer, boxing and tennis
- Field trips
- Agricultural experience in our farm and gardens projects
- But most of all, love...

Just provide us with the name and address of the recipient, the amount you wish to give, and we will do the rest.

You can do this by using the merchandise form on page 8, or by sending an email to admin@scv.org.au

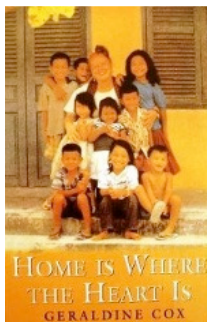
Remember to include the name and address of the recipient of the card as well as your details for a receipt.



Christmas Gifts

Now is the time to think about gift giving for Christmas.

For your friends who are avid readers, why not send Geraldine's book "Home is Where the Heart Is"? The story of how and why her devotion to the needy children of Cambodia developed is a very entertaining and inspirational read.



Special jewellery for a special someone:

There are two styles available of our superb silver pendants with chains.

The single silver angel wing pendant is priced at \$90 and the combination of silver circle engraved with the inspirational quote, "To the world you might be one person, but to one person you might be the world", the silver angel wing and the red agate heart is priced at \$120.

Both pendants with chains are wonderfully boxed and labelled with the inspirational quote.



Angels for Orphans is based in Hong Kong and aims to provide funding to improve children's lives worldwide by carefully choosing organizations to support which keep their administration costs to a minimum. Read more about the Angels for Orphans story at www.angelsfororphans.co.uk

Our new CD "Musicians of Cambodia" has been very popular. The collection of traditional songs and dance music express the stories of life at Sunrise with tales of hope, gratitude and happiness. The cost of \$30.00 includes postage and handling.



Candles for Community

These hand-poured 100% natural candles are available with 5 delicious aromas and beautifully boxed ready for giving. This year volunteers are making and packaging the candles so more can be donated to communities in need. 50% of the profits will be used towards the operations of Waew and Thy. For details of the 2010 Christmas range and an order form, go to <http://zulucommunications.com.au/community/candles-for-community/>

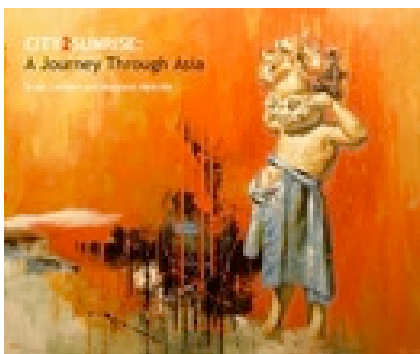
These candles are made from soy wax, are biodegradable and completely non-toxic. Soy wax burns cleaner, cooler and completely away and is toxin and carcinogen free.

Sydney Art Auction: Thursday, 25th November

Last newsletter we included a link to the beautifully presented book: City2Sunrise: A Journey Through Asia. Brian Lorimer (amazing artist) and Margaret Melville (literary genius) have combined their talents and worked tirelessly to produce an incredible book that's a must-have for any self-respecting coffee table.

Photos of some of our children have been interpreted as stunning paintings and feature in the book along with photos of traditional life. ALL profits go direct to Sunrise Children's Villages, so follow the link below, buy one before they sell out, and tell all your friends!

The entire book can be previewed and ordered (in soft or hard cover) online at: <http://www.blurb.com/bookstore/detail/1436049>.



The artist, Canadian Brian Lorimer, will be exhibiting a selection of these paintings and drawings in the Arthouse Hotel in Pitt Street, Sydney on 25th November. This will be a great night to meet Geraldine, Brian Lorimer (who travelled with the boys on part of their journey that inspired him to develop this show) or to chat with the boys about the trip.

High quality posters on archival paper of any of the paintings will be available for purchase.. They are approximately 13" x 19" and cost around \$40.00 each not including taxes and shipping.

Vickianne Lane who has been highly involved with the organizing of City2Sunrise, has recently run in her first half marathon in September to support the children of Sunrise. To help her fundraising efforts, go to www.city2sunrise.org to Support Us and donate via PayPal - please mark in the comments that it is for 'Vick's run for the Kids'. Thank You!

City2Sunrise has already raised over 70% of its target of \$150,000!

Bequeathing and Memorial Donations

A **Bequest** is a gift made in your will to individuals, companies, associations or charities and may be as simple as adding a Codicil to your existing will. Full capital gains tax relief may be available to your estate for bequests made to certain charities, including Sunrise Children's Villages. For more information, please go to our website:

<http://www.sunrisechildrensvillage.org/contribute/bequests/>

A special way to honour the memory of a loved one is to encourage your relatives and friends to make a gift in lieu of giving flowers. A **Memorial Donation** to Sunrise Children's Villages in Cambodia is a thoughtful way to remember someone.

For more information, please go to our website: www.sunrisechildrensvillages.org.au/.....



Workplace giving

Workplace Giving is a three way partnership between employees, employers and not-for-profit organisations.

For employees:

- Workplace Giving offers employees a convenient way to donate to charities. Programs are transparent, trustworthy and avoid costly fundraising. Non profit donating in this way is easy and tax effective.

For employers:

- Workplace Giving offers employers a vehicle to build non profit community partnerships and boost employee morale. Low on cost and administration, Workplace Giving mobilises significant non profit funding.

For charities:

- Regular bulk payroll donations save not-for-profits on administration costs and allow more effective planning.

Sunrise Children's Villages is very appreciative of the current workplace giving programs which have been established in JB Hi-Fi, Macquarie, National Australian Bank and the Australian Securities Exchange.

Visit by Project Hammer

Project Hammer is combined of staff and friends of the Intercontinental Hotel Group from different cities of the world and a group recently visited Sunrise and spent lots of time just playing with the kids and creating that sparkle in their eyes. Their donation this year will be used to place 35 of our students on an annual English program. Apart from the cash donations, they play and do crazy things with the kids....a big smile and a warm hug goes a long way as you will see in the fun photos at

<http://www.facebook.com/album.php?aid=203701&id=595451686&l=38bfb7dd5>



New dresses

Our of our wonderful Australian supporters, Elizabeth, has already made about 20 beautiful dresses for our girls at Sunrise and is busily making more. The girls are extremely proud of their new colourful outfits!



Birthday celebrations



Newsletter volunteers

Every three months when this newsletter is printed, a team of volunteers cheerily fold and place them in over a thousand envelopes ready for posting. This eliminates a considerable administration cost. Geraldine was in Adelaide when the latest newsletter was ready and helped with fun task.

If you do have an email address, or have changed yours recently, please let the office know at admin@scv.org.au so that you can receive your newsletter by email.



Lesley, Jude, Geraldine, Wendy, Beth, Val and Jimmy

Fundraising for Sunrise



Sunrise Cake



Housing International NSW held an International Luncheon to coincide with World Population Day on 9th July. Staff members brought along a dish from their cultural background

for others to try.

The entry fee and raffle raised over \$2,000 for Sunrise Children's Villages. A spectacular "Sunrise" cake was made by a friend of a Cambodian staff member.

Giselle Antmann is an Australian artist/teacher based in Sydney who is selling her paintings from her website to raise money for Sunrise Children's Villages. She is donating 90% of the proceeds of each sale.

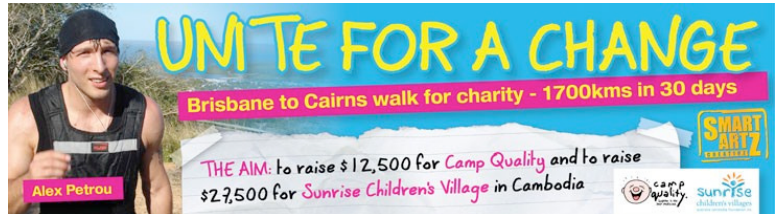
The paintings are abstract textural Australian landscapes on watercolour paper. The surfaces, built from layers of media, are like a history that echoes the geological process. See her range of original paintings at:

<http://www.giselleantmann.com.au/>



'Unite For a Change' is a personal journey by Alex Petrou who aims to raise \$27,500 for Sunrise as he walks 1700 kms in 30 days. Read more about Alex's inspiring challenge, at <http://.uniteforachange.gofundraise.com.au/>

Donations can be made through a fundraising website, at <http://www.gofundraise.com.au/DonationPage.aspx?cid=284&eid=0>



ITS Management art exhibition



ITS Management of Bondi Junction, Sydney, recently conducted a very successful fundraiser by holding an art exhibition for Sunrise Children's Villages and all who contributed to the exhibition paid \$10. ITS Management also made a contribution for each entry. A donated coffee machine was also raffled at the event. *Our sincere thanks to all those involved.*



Project Patchwork

This is a collaborative quilt project where people come together with their needles and threads to sew beautiful quilts and raise money to help people who have been sadly touched by cancer. This year they are supporting Sunrise because of Geraldine's recent breast cancer. For photos of the creative quilts, go to <http://projectpatchwork.blogspot.com/>

Many thanks to all those who contributed to these beautiful projects.



Planned Events

South Australia:

Saturday, 13th November, 2010, 6:30 pm

Christmas Dinner at Goodwood Community Centre
7-course Asian dinner

Entertainment by solo artist Graeme Craske with music and song from the 60's through to the 90's.

Contact the office in Adelaide to book tickets.

South Australia:

Sunday, 14th November, 2010

Movie and morning tea at Wallis Cinema, Mitcham Shopping Centre, Belair Road, Torrens Park
"Life As We Know It", a domestic comedy drama
Contact the office in Adelaide to book tickets.

Adelaide staff



Sue, Geraldine, Chrissy and Gaynor

New manager in Phnom Penh



A new General Manager, Yi Soksan, has been appointed at Sunrise 1.

He comes to us with a very impressive range of expertise in working with children.



Yi Soksan at the Water Park with his daughter.

