

Supporting Silk Sisters Project Inc

Community development through care and compassion

Patron: Professor Philip Darbyshire

Windchime

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DONATIONS

ANZ Bank, Beenleigh QLD AUSTRALIA

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REPORT & NEWSLETTER OCTOBER 2015



Thom's Mother, Thom Ramya's husband, myself and Cambodian RN Sokgny. Taken at reception

Dear Donors and Friends, another fast moving year that seems to have taken wings.

The outstanding event of this year was certainly **Ramya Moag's** wedding in March at Takeo. I was delighted to attend and celebrate her marriage with her family and friends.

Dr Nourn Sophat was kind enough to escort me to Takeo and me back to Prey Kebas. Unfortunately, Ramya is currently working at the Ministry of Health in Kep Province. We really miss her and hope that she can join us again in the future.

I would like to thank our Patron Professor Philip Darbyshire who spreads our word as he goes around the World. Thank you Philip for your continuing support.



I returned to Cambodia in April, 2015 with remote area nurses **Marj Inglis and Richard Burrowes**. We focused on education for the nurses and ambulance staff. Richard demonstrated and taught assessment, care and transport of trauma patients. Marj Inglis and I focused on the preparation and presentation of basic Infection Control management and introduced the Midwives at Prey Kebas to villages visiting of new mothers following discharge.



Marj Inglis and I accompanied by a midwife visited those women and babies from Prey Kebas Referral Hospital who had experienced difficulty during their pregnancy or labor.

This concept of service is completely new to Cambodian rural care and is always appreciated by women and their families.

Women or babies who are experiencing difficulties frequently have no money or transport back to Hospital for assessment. During these ante natal visits we always seem to pick up extra patients who require care.

Ten nurses at Prey Kebas have completed their ten week course of English lessons. This was funded by SSSP Inc to improve communication and the exchange of knowledge between nursing and midwifery staff and our professional volunteers.



During this visit we were invited by Dr Nourn Sophat to meet with the Director of Provincial Health Services who awarded us a Memorandum of Understanding for five years. This was unexpected and demonstrates that the work done by Supporting Silk Sisters Project Inc is respected and appreciated.

In May we held a fund raiser at the Star's Club Loganholme. The venue was sponsored by **Charles and Denise Lancaster** who are the owners of Star's Club. What an amazing venue!





These people are so compassionate and generous in spirit and heart. They quietly give unlimited support to many charities in the Logan region. SSSP Inc is blessed to have their support and encouragement.

It was a wonderful fundraiser supported by the Marsden Buddhist Temple Dancers. Our President **Mark and his wife Sharon Kristensen** did an amazing job in seeking donors. They also, organised and conducted auctions and raffles at the fund raiser.

We were also given incredible support by **Dr John Stephan** of Beenleigh Dental and his Dental Prosthetist colleague **Graeme Morris** of Dentucare Beenleigh.

Hot band **Masquerade** provided the music and rock and roll singer **Dennis Knight** got us all moving. Marcel cooked one of her special chicken curries which had people returning for seconds.

SSSP is very grateful to **Montezuma's and Kastury's Restaurants**, Beenleigh who supported us with the donations of yummy meals! We raised \$2,000 to support the purchase of an Isolette for the new Birthing Unit. However, we have not reached our target yet and are continuing to fundraise for the new Birthing Unit.



We were joined in on August trip to Cambodia by **Midwife Carolyn Bergan** who provided 16 hours of clinical education to Prey Kebas Referral Hospital Midwives. What a gifted clinical educator. We were blessed when she came into our lives. The midwives and staff responded positively to her and it was pleasing to see the subtle changes in their midwifery practice following the education sessions.. Caro

Nganampa Aboriginal Medical Services, Northern Territory donated a cardiac monitor to Marcel Campbell which was presented to Dr Nourn Sophat. This is being put to good use and used to monitor sick patients during transfer to Takeo or Phnom Penh. Prey Kebas is probably the only Referral Hospital in Takeo Province that has a monitor/defibrillator!



Richard Burrowes received a donation of an Ambulance Trauma Bag from **Richard Brady** of **St Johns Ambulance Springs** for the Prey Kebas Ambulance.

Richard was able to use the contents to demonstrate and teach nurses and ambulance drivers how to assist injured people. The education sessions were held in the large airy foyer of the new Medical/Paediatric ward at Prey Kebas Referral Hospital.



The sessions were so popular that hospital patients left their beds and joined the class!

Our students Tim Rathana and her brother Panet are both doing well in their studies. Panet is now speaking and writing English. His sister Rathana continues to pass at Distinction level in her Law degree studies at Bright University. We are very proud of them both. We have just completed construction of a wet room/toilet for this family in Po Village, Takeo. The family has never ever had access to a toilet so this will make a big difference in their health and wellbeing.



This year has been full on with much achieved and we hope that 2016 will be just as successful. As always our progress depends on the funds raised. Our focus remains on raising funds to build and furnish the Birthing room at Prey Kebas.

Mental health remains a huge problem in Cambodia with many people unable to receive any treatment or counselling. Post generational stress and drug abuse are also prevalent. New Zealand Maureen and Eileen donated anti epileptic drugs and anti psychotics to assist Dr Hun in his clinic. Also, they donated medication to treat Schistosomiasis which frequently causes cerebral cysts that can cause cerebral seizures.

Special thanks to my husband Barry, our son Daniel Campbell, friends Mark and Sharon Kristensen, Coralyn Cowan, my colleagues Caro Bergan, Richard Burrowes, Marj Inglis, Maureen Hooper, & Eileen Weekly (NZ) and our special friend Sandra Brock (Germany), and all our donors. Without your support in 2015 SSSP would not have achieved what we have.

Blessings to you all,

Marcel Campbell.