



KATE'S PROJECT TRUST

VOLUME 1 ISSUE 2

DECEMBER 2009



INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

A New Home 2

Freshwater Tanks 2

Mobile Medical Care 2

Au's Story continued 3

Eye Tests for All Children 4

A New Home 5

Achievements 6

Centre of Hope : dream becomes reality

Welcome to the **Centre of Hope**, which is now the hub for Kate's Project Trust in Pattaya Thailand.

Opened on the 1st January 2009 it is now a focal point for the poorest families to



meet and gather assured of a warm welcome and a listening ear. A clinic offering basic medical care, a place for guests to visit, and a hive of activity for the many projects including

adult education, advice, craft -making, a centre for the forgotten to gather and feel part of a loving family.

Many thanks for making this dream come true to everyone who donated, especially The Waterloo Foundation, Celtic FC Charity Fund and Chris & Kathy Loughridge.



Uniforms : Education is the "key"



Attending a school in Pattaya Thailand is compulsory but of course for many thousands of children in the slums this is not possible since school fees and uniforms have to be paid. **Since its inception in 2006 Kate's Projects main aim was to provide education to some of**

these children. To date 150 children get a scholarship to attend school, and are assured of a nourishing lunch each day.

Our aim in 2010 is to reach out to even more children as we firmly believe education will give them choices in their future.



VISIT OUR WEBSITE www.katesproject.com

UK REG CHARITY NO: XT5405

BEFORE



A New Home for TB sufferer



Thin and gaunt this man now has a proper roof over his head and some comforts

Tuberculosis (TB) is an infectious disease caused by a bacterium. It affects mainly the lungs, but also can affect any other organ in the body.

Living conditions in the slums are very basic and some of the people assisted by Kate's Project have contracted the disease. The project will assist with medical bills, medication and of course attendance at local hospitals.

Families where TB is present often have to resort to

"isolating" the person outside and many live in makeshift awning homes which are entirely unsuitable. In one recent case discovered by Khun Noi. (Kate's Project co-ordinator) a man suffering from TB had been living in the open air and as it was the rainy season, conditions for the man were intolerable. Thanks to the generosity of Woody and the Jesters we purchased some basic supplies and now he is much happier with his new home and bedding.

Kate's Project aims to provide more suitable housing for our sick family members and to try to alleviate some of their serious medical conditions.

AFTER



Bringing freshwater to the slums

Having access to clean fresh water is something that people in the "western" world take very much for granted.

We can turn on a water tap and know that the water is safe to drink. This is not the case in Thailand where drinking water is a luxury, The families who live in the slums do not have running water in their homes and so they use the stagnant water from the rivers to drink and wash.

It is not surprising then that illnesses and sickness are

common due to the lack of access to clean fresh water.

We continue to build water tanks and fill them weekly. This basic necessity which everyone deserves can prevent many illnesses.



Noi giving basic medical attention to the children



Mobile Medical Care

Pattaya's slums consist of thousands of makeshift homes with no proper water or electricity supplies. Shelters made from scrap wood,

billboards and corrugated iron are often located on waste ground or near rivers.

Living conditions are therefore very unhygienic and this causes many health problems.

Khun Noi, (Kate's Projects co-ordinator), visits many families daily, and there is hardly a day goes past when she does not see signs of

malnourishment, skin disease or other ailments.

The purchase of multi-vitamins, ointments, painkillers, plasters, bandages e.t.c mean that some basic medical care can be given to the most abandoned and forgotten .



Development of skills

Many poor people have a great range of skills and trades which are not being fully utilized.

The slums of Pattaya have sprung up in a haphazard fashion with the inhabitants coming from all corners of Thailand with different cultural backgrounds and histories and this in itself leads to a great "melting-pot" of talents. It is the aim of Kate's Project to tap into these resources and allow the people to harness their full potential.

With the help of the Trust some of their crafts can be sold at local markets and also to the tourists visiting the city. By developing skills alternatives can be reached instead of begging on the streets or prostitution.



It is the aim of Kate's Project to tap into the skills and knowledge resources and allow the people to harness their full potential.

A school needed our help this Christmas

Situated close to Bangkok is a small Catholic school in a very poor river community, with approx 200 children and we received a call for help from Sister Ladda asking if we could provide help in the form of a scholarship to some of the children.

The school budget cannot stretch to provide a Christmas party this year for the children.,



so Kate's Project stepped in with the necessary funding. For these wonderful children and their families this occasion is always something to look for. Music, dancing and singing along with delicious food and of course a present. for each

child. It will be our gift of love, friendship and unity at what should be a joyous time. Merry Christmas to all at St Paul's School from the Kate's Project family.



ROISIN EMBRACES AU WITH DAUGHTER : TOGETHER AGAIN

Mother & daughter reunion after 10 years

Khun Au was one of the first people helped by Kate's Project. Although not being able to communicate verbally due to a deformity in the palate, Khun Au was Independent and continued to work on her daily rounds of gathering plastic from the Streets to sell for recycling.

She lived happily in her new room until October 08 when Khun Noi

discovered her lying on the ground, having suffered a stroke. At first taken to the local hospital she was sent home with paracetamol (the cure- all tablet for the poor) Kate's Project provided the money for Noi to bring her to Bangkok Pattaya hospital, where she had a scan and immediate treatment followed by intense physiotherapy. Through the grapevine the news that she

was in Pattaya eventually reached her daughter who lived in the north east of Thailand, near the Cambodian border. She hadn't seen or heard from her mother and father since they left home to find work 10 years before, and had no idea that her father had died 3 years previously.

In May 2009 she came to see her mother and persuaded her to return home where she discovered 2 grandchildren she never even knew about. This is where Khun Au now lives and she is very happy and making steady progress. We keep in regular contact with her and will always oversee her medical needs and well being.

I can see clearly now

All children over 9 being brought to opticians to get eyes checked and also any underlying problems. This was a huge exercise but one where the children behaved impeccably and made us proud.



Children have been having eye tests throughout the year and it would be our aim to offer this to all the children who are aged 9 or over

...we encourage all those with access to the land to grow some food for themselves.

Growing fruit and Vegetables

Thailand has a hot and humid climate and it is possible to grow many fruit and vegetables.

Some of Kate's Project families are fortunate enough to live in areas where some land can be planted. Seeds and young plants have been purchased for them allowing the families to grow their own food. Add to this buying some chickens and ducks and it becomes clear to the family that here is a vital form of income and also a way of feeding their children.

It is also the Project's intention this year to rent some land for the purpose of growing crops as it means all the hard work of nurturing the plants is not wasted if the family are forced to move away from illegally occupied land.



A proper home: safe and secure

Imagine yourself in a home the size of an average garden shed with scrap-wood panels for walls and canvas for a roof. Add to that a dirt floor and every form of insect life, and you have a typical slum home.

It is Kate's Project hope to improve the worst of these homes, by fitting proper sized panels and rain-tight roofs.

Hands-on work carried out by Kate's Project means that families can have a better quality of life.



Feeding the hungry: Thanks PILC

Each month approx 20 of the neediest families within the Project receive a food parcel. This parcel usually consists of a large bag of rice, noodles, oil, sauce and perhaps some cans of fish. Essential foods like these will ensure that young children will not go hungry.

The P I L C (Pattaya International Ladies Club) have been providing this much needed aid. Special thanks to Ingrid,, welfare

officer with the P I L C. We are sorry to see her leave Pattaya in

late December 2009 and wish her every success and happiness in 2010 and after.



Grandma Nid's extraordinary skill

The differences in Grandma Nid's Home are remarkable. The vibrant colours of the woven cloth is a marked contrast with the scrap wood boards and rotting panels that makes up her home. Set in one of the poorest slums, this lady weaves the most beautiful material on a hand made loom. The patterns are Thai and the skill amazing. Her



little grandson Tae runs around and plays, and thanks to Kate's Project now attends school.

When visited by the ladies of the P I L C it soon became clear that there is market for the beautiful cloth.

This year Grandma Nid's material has been on sale and display at many bazaars and markets, allowing her the dignity of earning a regular income.



Achievements !

The pictures here tell a wonderful story of hope, endurance, potential, happiness and dignity. 2009 has been a momentous year for Kate's Project Trust and we have even bigger plans for 2010 and beyond.

This newsletter is our way of saying thank you to **ALL** our sponsors and supporters.



A First Christmas !

Christmas 2009 is a joyous time for Kate's Project in that we have a Centre where the children and families from the slums can gather to celebrate their **FIRST** Christmas.

Being a Buddhist country, Christmas is not celebrated but we thought that sharing the wonder and joy of this Blessed season with our extended family

would give them a well deserved special treat. So the tree has been trimmed, the cards written, the presents packed and the goodies soon to be consumed. And all in 30°C !

HAPPY CHRISTMAS TO ALL FROM EVERYONE AT KATE'S PROJECT. MAY GOD BLESS YOU.

