JULY 2006

AKING A DIFFERENCE A CHILD'S LIFE

CARE CORNER ORPHANAGE FOUNDATION

152. Moo 12, Ban Don Ton, Tambon Yuwa, Amphur Sanpatong, Chiangmai 50120, Thailand.

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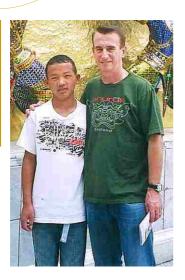
PRAYER POINTS

Ricky, Lay Hwa and the staff - pray for continuous wisdom, strength & unity in serving the Lord in CCO.

Rumah Charis (Retirement Home) from Malaysia will be coming for a mission trip on 21 - 27 Aug '06.

Children at CCO many are suffering pink eye bacteria infection.

Some college students from CCO will be moving to a new home nearer to Chiangmai City pray for adjustment.







Beyond Sponsorship

I live in Brisbane, Australia and work for Qantas organizing the production of up to 22,000 meals per day.

I was born in New Zealand and moved to Australia in 1977. I was married and have 3 terrific grown up children, Kim 31, Michael 29 and Julie 26.

I found myself in a position of wanting to sponsor a child but wanted that child to get more out of life than just a small amount of a sponsorship donation. I looked into sponsorship programs including World Vision which are very limited in wanting to send your sponsor child any gifts. About 5 years ago some friends and I traveled to Hong Kong on holiday and met with a friend of mine and a few friends of hers to travel to Shenzhen for a day of shopping. In the group, one of the ladies told me she has a brother who runs an orphanage in Thailand. As it turned out, we were going to Chiangmai and after being there for a couple of days I phoned the number I had been given to make contact and told them I was interested in sponsoring a child. We were told the manager was in Chiangmai and he would come and collect us. This person turned out to be Ricky Tan and after collecting us from the hotel he drove us to the Orphanage. On arrival we were shown around the Orphanage, their facilities including the boys rooms, the girls rooms, Rainbow house for the kids with HIV, the office and the main hall which is used for meetings and Sunday services. The sponsorship coordinator



(Cheryl) asked me if I would like a boy or girl to sponsor. In the distance she showed me some photos of some children and asked me who I would like. I said maybe someone on the top line but it doesn't really matter. A small girl stood beside Cheryl. Cheryl spoke to her and she ran out of the room. Five minutes later she returned holding on tight to the arm of a young boy. With a frightened look in her eyes, she must have thought I was going to take this little guy away. I was introduced to Chanchai who was 10 at the time and the girl was his little sister Somsee, who was such a cutie!

Chanchai stayed with me for a while, we all had some photos taken and then he went to do his homework.

Over the years I have watched him grow from a boy to a young man and he is classed as one of our family.

During the past 12 months Chanchai has had a few medical problems with many trips to the local hospital. Early this year I received a message saying that Chanchai had been back to hospital again and the doctors had said they didn't know what was wrong and couldn't do any more for him. This is not something I would turn my back on and through some Thai friends of mine that work in Brisbane, we organized a trip to Bangkok with medical treatment at BNH Hospital. This trip was not just special for Chanchai but also very special for me. To see someone from an orphanage stay in a hotel, fly from Chiangmai to Bangkok, go swimming in a pool with clean clear water where you can see the bottom of the pool, eat in hotel restaurants, travel on trains and taxis, visit sights of Bangkok while not at the hospital, see huge shopping Malls and all for the very first time was just amazing. To see the look on Chanchai's face when he does something for the very first time that we all take for granted was just incredible. Most of the time when I take Chanchai shopping, I take Somsee with us as I don't want her to feel left out.

Chanchai turned 14 last April. So far this year I have gone to Thailand 4 times to take him to Bangkok for medical treatment. He was suffering from a liver disease, stomach ulcer, a stone in his gallbladder and insufficient liquid to lubricate his organs. Apart from being quite expensive with airfares, hotels and food, hospital bills and medicines, the good news is he is on the road to recovery to lead a normal healthy life. And this is not just from me but also from having terrific friends that have helped through a couple of fund raising dinners. Even the Royal Thai Consulate General from Brisbane and the Brisbane Manager of Cathay Pacific attended one of the two nights. And through all this, we don't speak each others language even though I am learning Thai and he is learning English. We do seem to understand each other though and the Orphanage staff tell me that, when they tell him I am coming you should see his eyes light up.

I feel proud and privileged to be a part of Chanchai's life. To be a Father figure for him and to be able to help someone in the position he was in, is one of the most rewarding things I have ever done in my life. The hardest part of this was seeing Chanchai in hospital and having to leave Thailand to return to Australia. I will be spending a lot of my time in Thailand in the future hoping to be able to help guide him in life and help him build his future.

By John Yarnton

Donation Information

To donate by cheque or bank draft, make payable in Singapore currency to:

To donate by telegraphic transfer (t.t.)/wire send to:

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