



*Bringing help to
Philippine Children with disabilities*

NEWS

Issue No 13 - May 2007

Keeping you in touch with the work of the Project

NEWS DIRECT FROM BAMBANG

Welcome to our Spring Newsletter where we have the advantage of Florencia's first hand knowledge of the Project in Bambang from her recent visit to the Philippines, together with details of some of the activities that Florencia initiated while she was there. We are also pleased to report that not only have donations also been received from America and Australia but they have also raised money in Bambang itself with a sponsored walk organised by Florencia. Guess what time she had them on the starting line. Below you will see details of our annual fun run to raise money for the Project here in Hyde Park so come on Ladies and put your best foot forward, the start time is much more civilised.

LADIES COME AND JOIN US IN THE PARK

This year will be the 10th successive year we have entered a team in the Hyde Park fun run to raise money for the Project. It's a great day out, the run or walk is only three miles and afterwards we all enjoy a picnic in the Park. The date is Sunday 16th September, why not come and join us. For an entry form contact Florencia.

MEDICAL OUTREACH DENTAL MISSION

As part of Medical Outreach there was a specially arranged cleaning of teeth for the children and parents. Dr Kristin Daguio and Dr Mahra Mabanag came from the neighbouring Province of Isabela to organise this first-time event for the Project. The children were all given free toothbrushes and shown how to use them. The parents were particularly grateful for this service for their children.



Looking to the future

Whilst in Bambang, Florencia learnt from the committee what they had been doing for the children in the past year and initiated some proposals of her own to help the committee go forward even more. A Workshop was convened where the committee members reviewed the Mission Statement and Objectives of the Project and their budgeting requirements. They then carried out a SWOT analysis for the Project's future.



SUMMER FAIR Saturday 30th June

We are again taking part in a Summer Fair on the Piazza at Westminster Cathedral on Saturday 30th June. Last year was enjoyable and successful so we hope our supporters will come along again this year.

Annual General Meeting

All friends and supporters are invited to this year's AGM, which will be held at Our Lady of the Immaculate Conception Church, Jesuit Residence, 114 Mount Street, London W1K 3AH. Light snacks and refreshments provided.

Thursday 21st June 2007 from 6.30 - 9pm.

So that we might have some idea of the numbers attending, please let Florencia know if you are coming.

Early start for "Walk for a Cause"



The cock was crowing for this eventful fundraising walk in Bambang organised by Florencia. Committee members with their families, parents, children and adults from the community who took part in the walk gathered at 5am in front of the Municipal Town Hall, where the 3 kilometre walk started. It continued around the town to the University Oval. Afterwards at the Soriano's residence the walkers were greeted with cups of rejuvenating freshly brewed coffee and rice cakes.

The total amount of money raised by the 32 walkers was 10,639.75 pesos which is equivalent to £114. A wonderful sum for the children of the Project. The event was not only intended to raise money and promote fitness and exercise but more importantly to increase awareness of the Project's existence and how it is effectively helping many children with disabilities. The participants spread the word to many people in the community who kindly sponsored them. Florencia hopes to encourage committee members to make this simple but enjoyable and effective fundraising exercise, an annual event.

Your support

If you would like to support our work in bringing help to Philippine children with disabilities, please send donations to:

Alan Beavis, BSP Treasurer
Berkshire Scout Enterprises Ltd
Gravelly Court, Gravelly Bridge Farm
Grazeley Green Road, Grazeley
Reading, RG7 1LG
Cheques should be made payable to
Bambang Sunshine Project.

The children show their talents at Christmas celebrations

Highlight of the Christmas celebrations held in December was the children showing their talents in singing, dancing, playing the piano and acting. Many of the children, including those who are hard of hearing and without speech took part in panunuluyan, which is a dramatisation of the flight to Egypt and the Nativity. One child was the narrator, three children were angels, others played the Virgin Mother, Joseph, the shepherds and the three Kings.

After lunch there were games for the children and they wore party hats and costumes made by the committee and parents. They all received a food basket and gifts (stuffed toys) donated by Mr and Mrs Eleazar T Soriano, son of Rev and Mrs Soriano. This was followed by the awards to the winners of the Bambang Sunshine Project's Model Family. The model families were chosen because they participated in all the meetings and joined the livelihood programme of backyard gardening.

BACKYARD GARDENING FLOURISHES

In line with the government campaign for healthy eating, the committee launched a challenge that involved the whole family, encouraging them to

VALENTINE'S DAY OF HEARTS CELEBRATION

Newly ordained priest, Father Loubert Agduyeng started the day by celebrating Mass which he said was particularly pertinent as this was the year of the sick. Later in the Senior Citizens Hall, the children were entertained by The G-Clan Sunshine Band and two of our children Elsa Mahor and Jake Fontanilla. The committee members and parents helped the children make hearts with thank you messages to show their love and appreciation for the donors and supporters in England. Guest speaker was Mr Bert Estilong, President of Nueva Vizcaya Federation of People with Disabilities who is partially disabled himself.

'Disability,' he said, 'is not a hindrance to success'.

To help their children to succeed, parents need the qualities of support, love, encouragement dedication and patience. He felt the Project is an inspiration and encouragement to others. After lunch the children had games and the selection and crowning for Mr and Miss Valentine.

Find out more by visiting
www.bambang sunshineproject.org.uk

This newsletter is sponsored by Berkshire Scout Enterprises Ltd

