



STUDENTS THAT YOUR SUPPORT ASSISTS

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Solar battery replacement success

Coconut Plantation to fund needy students requirements

Swings develop brain sensory and muscle strengthening



EAGER VILLAGE YOUNGSTERS

We wish we could take you all out to see our eager students in their ODA village schools. From Starter thru Primary and Secondary level English classes there is the same joy in learning.



TEACHER EDUCATION SUPPORT TEAM



Our highly qualified Volunteer Teacher and Education team, Sue from UK and Sylvia from Australia, have just completed their teacher and class observations of the structured English classes. They are enthusiastic about what is being delivered and seen here are working together with senior teachers on plans to maximise both teachers and students potential, as always of course within our funding restraints.

Leng always says "If children need, we will find way!"
Step by step we manage to do that over time!

They would also like to see each month of the year filled with volunteers, and ideally returning yearly. Teaching or ESL (English as a Second Language) type skills are an advantage but other life skills broaden the teachers and students knowledge of the world and opportunities now opening up in Cambodia. University students taking a semester break, or gap students are also very

THANKS TO EVERYONE WHO RESPONDED WITH SOLAR BATTERY DONATIONS.

3 more schools are getting to the usual fail time period (eg 3+ years) however we still have enough for one more school which will ensure classes are not blacked out on the next fail.

Battery quote for No 7 school replacement batteries - Thanks a mil to our kind donors

COCONUTS TO ASSIST NEEDY STUDENTS AT ODA NO 7 SCHOOL TBAG KART



ODA Volunteer Project Administrator Terry, valued supporter Andrew and his family, Jean Pierre San Martino USA Rotary International Projects Manager, and Leng on site.

Andrew, keen supporter of ODA No 7 school at Tbag Kart Village, managed to involve his San Martino Rotary Club in USA to fund development of a small **Coconut Plantation Project**, at the rear of No 7 school where there was a large tract of unused land.

Due to global warming and the frequent droughts now, older students from ODA Central boys had to set up a drip irrigation system and the 100 plants in 3 rows are now growing well. A barbed wire fence also was included in the proposal to keep wandering grazing buffalo away from the tender plants – they eat anything and everything!

All going to plan they will fruit in 3 years, and sale of the coconuts will assist needy students with education supplies.



Irrigation drip system - ODA students are gaining more experiences and skills with this project.



Plants have doubled in size and are healthy.

It is an excellent crop for ODA as they require little maintenance apart from weeding and watering over this time, and when fruit is ready for harvesting, the buyers come and climb the palms gathering the coconuts themselves. Leng only has to meet them to count the coconuts and collect payment. The neighbour acts as security for the school and the plantation, and is happy to have the small extra income.

Andrew and Jean-Pierre, Head of International Projects for their Rotary Club, were in Siem Reap in January for a conference and were able to visit some ODA schools and view the plantation to take photos and report back to their kind members on their return.



Andrew, his wife and daughter threw a little party for the students much to their excitement. Lucky students - Khmer's love parties!

SWINGS - BENEFITS WAY BEYOND A SIMPLE PLAY ACTIVITY

Chris from Belgium is keen to assist our students to grow and benefit from play equipment that he markets in Europe. Last year he funded the purchase of dressed timber and brought the required extra equipment with him. He, Leng and our older boys set a pilot double swing up at one school and he is back currently to oversee another 3 sets at different ODA schools.



Kids love swinging but there are also excellent physical benefits

- Swings gently develop muscle strength and fine motor skills.
- Balancing on a swing seat can strengthen the core.
- Holding on to the cord or chain of a swing strengthens grip strength and finger coordination – an essential milestone for children learning to write.
- Swinging can also have a large impact on our brains ability to process sensory information.
- Swinging helps promote whole body awareness and body coordination including sight, sound, and the pull of gravity.

The kids line up and respectfully wait their turn, their culture of sharing is so beautiful to experience across all areas of their lives. Sadly we must remove the seats and ropes and pack away after the kindergarten sessions to protect the kids from broken limbs. Their bones lack strength and most cannot afford to visit a hospital, so we must be always very aware of safety issues in and around our schools when there is no teacher to supervise.



Chris with his ODA installation team, Sombo and Vey.



**IF YOU LIKE WHAT YOU SEE HAPPENING AT ODA SCHOOLS
GO TO THE ODA WEBSITE - HELP ODA MAKE A DIFFERENCE**

Forgo even just one cup of coffee a week eg \$2.50 = a week of education for students

With over a 70% poverty rate in the subsistence farming villages surrounding our ODA schools, many children miss at least one meal a day, and there's no money for school essentials.

These kids don't lack intelligence - just opportunities and education that leads to future employment.

We can't possibly feed over 1660 ODA students, but we can feed their own strong desires to improve their families futures. At ages 11 and 12 their biggest wish is to help provide food and get younger siblings to access school rather than starting work in the fields like many of them have done at that age or younger. Many come on from the fields to our classes, tired but so keen! Free English classes lead to stable employment in the tourism industry.

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ODA is registered with the Cambodian Government and Siem Reap District Education Authority as an Education NGO (Non - Governmental Organisation Non Profit designation). Accountants for International Development UK (AfID) partner ODA with monthly accounts support.

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