



The Seed – growing brighter futures

AUSSIES For Orphans

July, 2009 Edition

## ♥ Hello

And Welcome to the first edition of *The Seed – growing brighter futures*

Thank you Shelly Giltrap from Ballina for the catchy name for the Aussies For Orphans' newsletter!

All titles suggested were fantastic and the decision was not an easy one to make, so thanks to everyone who made an input!

## ♥ Picture of the Month

-Photographed by Ashley Walker

One of the beautiful children we met at New Hope for Cambodian Children in Phnom Penh



## ♥ Who are Aussies For Orphans?

Instead of us 're-creating the wheel', the committee of AFO have made a decision to support 'in country' organisations to do what they do best; support the needs of orphaned and vulnerable children.

We believe that in helping organisations become self-sufficient they can then foster the same values within the children in their care. We do this by providing funds to support infrastructure and programs within existing organisations that have proven they are working successfully in the best interest of children.

## ♥ Project Update

Steve and Janelle from the AFO committee, along with one of our newest volunteers Ashley, have recently returned from a project assessment trip to Cambodia. We are now looking at all of the projects and assessing their needs for future AFO support which we will present in our next newsletter. Janelle posted [blogs on our website](#) while she was away, making us all feel like we were having this experience with them. Here is a sample of her comments:

Krousar Thmey Project – “The primary school for deaf students was sublime. The children were so happy and the teachers very animated and engaged. I loved it”...

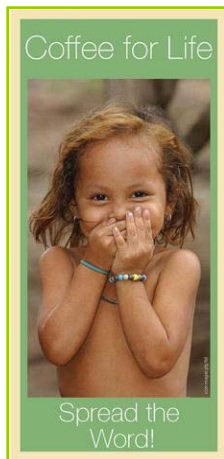
“Support for education in Cambodia is so necessary”. As one mother commented “An education is one thing that no-one can steal from my child”

Click here to view Janelle's full blogs on our website and watch this space for more Cambodia stories in our next edition.



## ♥ Coffee For Life

Aussies For Orphans are hoping you will become a part of this simple, yet affective way to help the lives of vulnerable and orphaned children around the world. At just one cup of coffee, or \$3 a week, you too can help grow brighter futures. Visit the [website](#) for more information about how to easily get involved with [Coffee For Life](#).



## ♥ What's Coming Up?

### ♥ Coffee For Life Day – 18th August, 2009

The response from local coffee shops in Ballina, Lennox Head and Alstonville has been fantastic!

Participating businesses will be donating a percentage of each coffee sold on this day to Aussies for Orphans to help us support our new projects for children in Cambodia.

If you are in Alstonville, Ballina or Lennox Head on the 18<sup>th</sup> please stop in at one of the participating cafes and enjoy a cuppa, make a donation or ask questions about Aussies For Orphans. Our goal is to have 200 people sign up on Coffee For Life which will fund a new project each year. If you would like to be involved in any way please contact Sue Lewis on 0423 555 739. We need your help to make CFL Day a success, let's make it huge!

### ♥ Coffee and Chocolate Indulgence Afternoon – September, 2009

Attention all coffee and chocolate lovers. In September AFO will be hosting a Coffee for Life/Indulgence afternoon at the beautiful Montana Day Spa & Retreat in Lennox Head. For \$10 we will share chocolate treats, hot chocolate, coffee and chat about Aussies for Orphans and our fundraiser Coffee for Life. All proceeds will go towards supporting our Cambodian projects. Watch this space for the published date of the event in the next edition.

## ♥ Thank you

To everyone who made an [online donation](#) this month! Your very generous contribution is greatly appreciated and will be wisely used on projects that will last. Thank you again for your tremendous support!

## ♥ Chatter Box

This month we caught up with our one of our hard working committee members, Deanna Savage from East Ballina, N.S.W.



♥ AFO: How did you become involved with Aussies For Orphans?

D: I joined AFO in 2006. Having Sue, Steve and the kids as friends meant that I knew a little about what AFO was achieving in Sri Lanka. It really only took being invited to one meeting and seeing the results of their work to decide to become involved and a member of the committee.

♥ AFO: What are you currently working on at the moment?

D: At the moment I am helping with the organisation of AFO's first Coffee for Life day on the 18<sup>th</sup> August. The response has been really positive from local coffee shops in Ballina, Lennox Head and Alstonville. We will be encouraging local businesses and every one we know, to buy a coffee from participating coffee shops on this day. Our volunteers will also be out and about handing out flyers and answering any questions people may have.

♥ AFO: What advice do you have for people thinking about becoming a volunteer for AFO?

D: We are 10 friends who each offer different talents and skills. If you are thinking about helping someone in need, stop thinking. Just become involved.

## ♥ How you can help

The easiest way you can help Aussies For Orphans is to spread the word! It can be as simple as forwarding this newsletter, asking people you know to add AFO as a friend on [Facebook](#) or direct them to our [website](#) ([www.aussiesfororphans.org](http://www.aussiesfororphans.org)).

Another fun way to help is to support our upcoming FUNdraisers, Coffee for Life Day and the Coffee Chocolate Indulgence Afternoon. It's a wonderful way to meet people within your community or a fun way to promote your business by sponsoring an event.

Want a good reason to get a group of your friends together? Why not have your own FUNdraising event where the proceeds go to AFO? Here is a list of ideas to get you started for the colder months:

- ♥ Hot Chocolate / Fondue Night
- ♥ Sunday Roast
- ♥ Christmas in July

Contact us if you would like more ideas. We would love to be apart of your FUNdraising ideas, so if you need help, just ask.



## ♥ Wish List

On our Wish List this month is to maintain our relationship with the hard working organisations in Africa. We hope to continue with supporting the amazing work they do everyday.

Also, we would like to thank the following fantastic organisations in Cambodia for hosting the Aussies For Orphans members:

**John & Kathy** at New Hope For Cambodia Children

**Francois-Xavier Autric** at Krousar Thmey

**Billy Gourter** at This Life Cambodia

**Tania & Rem** at Green Gecko

**David Maculey** at Hope For Cambodian Children

**Kerry, Kemsour & Robyn** at New Hope Community Centre

All these organisations were very welcoming and we were overwhelmed by the great work they are all doing to support Cambodian children and their families/communities in need. Having only recently returned from our trip to Cambodia we are busy updating our website and putting together a wish list for our next edition.

## ♥ Contact Us

And tell us what you are thinking about Aussies for Orphans or our newsletter. We would love to hear about any ideas you have about fundraising and supporting our projects. Or contact us just to say hi.

You can catch us on:

Email: [info@aussiesfororphans.org](mailto:info@aussiesfororphans.org)

PH: 1300 887403

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