



Hello and welcome to the March 2017 edition of our newsletter featuring highlights of our work over the last few months. We start this edition with a big shout out to you, our AMAZING supporters who have made the Sunshine House water project possible!

## Sunshine House water project up and running

REPORT: Greg Martin

Thanks to all those who supported our campaign, we raised \$70k to get the Sunshine House plumbing and water project underway.

The project as a whole is around 70% complete, but around two weeks behind schedule due to some unseasonal rain and the need to tackle the heavier-than-expected clay soil with a jack hammer (even a large excavator had difficulty digging out the initial trench).

Stage 1 – the joining of the rain water tanks – was completed by the Australian volunteer maintenance team in September. The team also installed a new and larger purification system as there were some issues with the old one which was only used for the drinking water.

We have now joined up more roofs and cleaned out all of the tanks, so we will be able to store about 200,000 litres of lovely rain water and use this through the dry season. Once the rainy season starts, we are looking to have purified and very safe water running from every tap at Sunshine House.

The Education Wing roof has been replaced and insulated (this project was undertaken through a separate donation), and this has helped to create an efficient and safe water supply and disposal system.



We have recently fitted a reverse osmosis water purifying system to the bore, so that this water can be accessed during emergencies. Water metres have also been installed so we will be able to identify possible maintenance, leak or over use problems before they become potential issues.

We are really pleased to say that Chumrarn, who came to Sunshine House in 2000 and earned his degree as a civil engineer, has now completed a full circle – taking on the role of project manager for these works at Sunshine House. It has been a pleasure to work closely with Chumrarn, delivering this important project for Awareness Cambodia and we are so pleased how well it is all working out.

**Awareness Cambodia Inc (ABN 69 234 355 895)**

**Email:** [cambodia@awarecam.org.au](mailto:cambodia@awarecam.org.au) **Address:** Unit 2/48 May Street, Bayswater, Western Australia 6053

**Mail:** PO Box 3040, Bassendean DC, Western Australia 6942 **Telephone:** +61 9370 1457 **Fax:** +61 8 9370 4657

[www.awarecam.org.au](http://www.awarecam.org.au)



Retired plumber Keith Durward kindly volunteered his time and skills to help out with the project. He spent over a month onsite with Chumrarn imparting his specialist plumbing skills and knowledge. His mentoring not only ensures the work is done to Australian Standards, but also gives Chumrarn an insight into best-practice techniques to achieve quality outcomes that are rarely seen in Cambodia.

Sunshine House was built over a number of years and often with very poor quality materials (as these were the only ones available at the time) – as a result, we had pipes going all over the place. When we fitted the water filtration system and started to monitor its use we found we had some big leaks underground. The only way to fix the problem was to simply start again and make it all one system. A big job, but had to be done.



With just a few taps in need of replacing, Stage 2 is now all but complete. This stage saw all of the old water piping replaced and fed into one full system, which now allows us to purify all of the water from across the property at one central location.

Stage 3 will see all of the sewerage linking into one place. This stage is the largest part of the project and involves trenches being dug right through the whole property. The digging works are currently under way and the workers are digging under the paths so the children have no problem with safe access and also so that we don't damage the electrical cables that were laid along the sides of the paths. Despite a couple of weeks of unseasonal rain and some very hard digging through clay we've made great progress – the trenches have all been dug and we are only a week or so away from filling them in and levelling the site. I don't think the kids will be happy when it is all filled in... they have loved the adventure playground with tunnels and pipes! Chumrarn will be pleased though, because he has to ensure the site is safe and this means rechecking the pipes each morning to make sure the little adventurers haven't moved anything... well, boys will be boys and we have a lot of them!



After all the sewerage is collected in one place, it needs to be made safe and this is



Stage 4. We have put in a series of settling tanks and will be turning the old duck pond near the road into a reed bed. This will then create an environment where nature does its thing, with the final result being clean water that can be safely disposed of.

We've dug the old duck pond out and it isn't in good condition, so it will need to be remade but at least the hole is there.



**We Rescue    We Restore    We Protect    We Empower    We Educate**

## Empowering a child to help them to realise their dreams



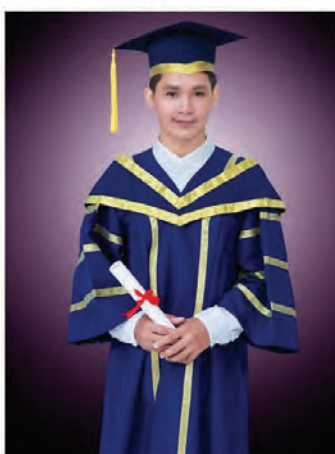
Tourism and hospitality graduates from Western University

House of Progress and Graduation House continue their march forward. In 2016, another four students graduated university: three with well-earned tourism and hospitality degrees and one with an economics degree. All graduates have moved into the community, have taken up employment and are doing well.

A number of House of Progress students have completed their high school studies and are now a part of the Graduation House program. We have two students starting at Norton University – one studying architecture and the other embarking on a civil engineering degree – while a number of our boys are also undertaking vocational training. Our congratulations to them all!



Economics & Science graduate from the Royal University of Law and Economics



Architecture graduate from Norton University

We are incredibly proud of our eight Sunshine House students who passed their upper high school entrance exam and are now continuing their education journey. These students continue to live at Sunshine House but have moved into our House of Progress program. Fortunately the local private school is offering upper high school classes, so the students can stay in the Kompong Speu area.

A number of our university students have been recognised as top of their class, passed subjects when almost their entire class failed, and secured academic internships (competing against hundreds of their peers). Recent graduates are also now married and starting families of their own. We couldn't be prouder of their achievements.

## How to donate

### Creating futures – with your generous support

Awareness Cambodia provides a holistic range of services to help vulnerable Cambodian children and their local communities in impoverished areas. Rescue, education and medical services are at the heart of what we do. We are a not-for-profit humanitarian aid organisation that is able to operate life-enhancing programs due to the generosity of our supporters.

Choose an option that suits you:

Call + 61 8 9370 1457 and one of our staff will assist you in making a credit card donation

#### DONATE BY PHONE



+61 8 9370 1457

#### DIRECT CREDIT



Account Name: Awareness Cambodia Overseas Aid Fund

Branch No. (BSB) 016-363

Account: 1074-66951

Bank: ANZ

All donations over \$2 within Australia are tax deductible.

**Awareness Cambodia Inc** (ABN 69 234 355 895)

**Email:** cambodia@awarecam.org.au **Address:** Unit 2/48 May Street, Bayswater, Western Australia 6053

**Mail:** PO Box 3040, Bassendean DC, Western Australia 6942 **Telephone:** +61 9370 1457 **Fax:** +61 8 9370 4657

[www.awarecam.org.au](http://www.awarecam.org.au)



**Awareness Cambodia**  
Rebuilding the Children of Cambodia

Please return by post or email

## DONATION FORM

Name.....

Business Name .....

Street.....

Suburb.....Postcode.....State.....

**One-off Donation:** \$1000  \$500  \$250  \$100  other \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Monthly Donation:** \$250  \$100  \$60  \$40  other \$ \_\_\_\_\_

I would like to become a Monthly Partnership Program (Hopegiver) Sponsor \$ \_\_\_\_\_

I would like to become a Child Sponsor: \$55 per month (general, health and education)

I would like to become a Child Scholarship Donor \$ \_\_\_\_\_

I would like to support Awareness Cambodia's - education programs :  
(ESL) \$ \_\_\_\_\_ A Case 4 Change \$ \_\_\_\_\_

I would like to support Awareness Cambodia's medical stream:  
Operation Nightingale \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Donation for the most urgent: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Payment Options** Mastercard  Visa  AMEX

Card Number

Cardholder:.....Signature:.....Expiry Date:.....

**Please pay by return Fax/Post/Email**

Cheque (Please make payable to 'Awareness Cambodia Overseas Aid Fund')

## THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROUS SUPPORT



Project Partner with: Tax deductible receipts for gifts over \$2 with a preference for projects J515 & J675 are issued by the Awareness Cambodia Overseas Aid Fund (ABN 15 815 273 527). If projects are overfunded, funds may be applied to other approved project activities. Awareness Cambodia Inc. (ABN 69 234 355 895) partners on these projects with Global Development Group, an Australian DFAT-approved NGO.

**Awareness Cambodia Overseas Aid Fund (ABN 15 815 273 527)**

**Email:** cambodia@awarecam.org.au **Address:** Unit 2/48 May Street, Bayswater, Western Australia 6053

**Mail:** PO Box 3040, Bassendean DC, Western Australia 6942 **Telephone:** +61 9370 1457 **Fax:** +61 8 9370 4657

www.awarecam.org.au