



Bringing help to
Philippine Children with disabilities

NEWS

Issue No 11 - May 2006

Keeping you in touch with the work of the Project

LONDON TO BAMBANG

In this issue we have news of two events, one in London and one in Bambang. Florencia, Founder and Secretary of the Project, was delighted to take part in activities on her visit to Bambang in December and overleaf we have photos of the children's Christmas party. Before going to Bambang, Florencia led our team in the Hydro Active Women's Challenge to raise valuable funds for the Project.

HYDRO ACTIVE WOMEN'S CHALLENGE



The running team of the Bambang Sunshine Project

And what they have to say about their day in Hyde Park



Elizabeth Stacey It was a lovely day from start to finish. This is my fifth time and it is a great way to keep fit and enjoy the camaraderie of women running for a cause.

Alex Sills This is the second year I have run for BSP. Joining the run is good motivation to keep fit and be part of an exciting women's event.

Gemma Mullick It was a glorious day, perhaps a little hot for a 5km run. So many women running as well as lots of supporters watching. I was glad to be part of it and it was lovely to meet up with everyone from the BSP.

Gemma Cole The atmosphere was fantastic. It was such a great day to be part of the BSP team. Perhaps we can do it all again next year.

Anna Dunn I have been part of the BSP team for five years and with my family, we enjoy this lively and exciting day, greatly encouraged that our efforts directly help children with disabilities.

Esther Murray Participating in the Hydro fun run provided the motivation otherwise lacking for exercise. What's more I am raising funds for children with disabilities. I have promised to take part again next year.

Kate Seviour Have done little training and with scorching temperatures, I felt the strain. That was soon forgotten when the friendly BSP team greeted us at the end with a fantastic picnic.

Frances Lina Batten I have participated for BSP every year since 2000. The great atmosphere and joining thousands of ladies running for charities are

very good reasons to partake in this enjoyable event.

Florencia Kingscote This annual event gets better and better. I participated in the first Women's Challenge when only 500 took part. The increasing number of women running for various charities makes it very exciting and fun. The effort of raising funds is worth it, knowing we are helping the children with disabilities of the BSP.

Philip and Stephen Dunn (Anna's children, holding the banner) We like coming to support mummy and we are given nice sweets after the run.

OUR GRATEFUL APPRECIATION

We thank most sincerely all the ladies who kindly participated in the run and all those who supported the event. Our team effort on our major fundraising event raised the marvellous sum of £1,143 for the children who we are trying to help.

BOOK EARLY FOR THIS YEAR

The 2006 Challenge in Hyde Park will be held on Sunday 3rd September. We invite all those ladies who joined the run last year to participate again and they will automatically receive an application form from Hydro Active through the post. New runners wishing to take part should apply to Florencia. Respond as quickly as possible to get a runner's number. Last year's event attracted 26,000 entrants with over 5000 being refused because the event was full. All our friends and supporters are more than welcome to join us for a shared picnic in the park

'Without you, I would still be hiding my son at home.'



This is one of the most poignant 'thank you' speeches from a mother at the Christmas Party held in Bambang for children of our project and their parents and carers.

'I am grateful for this organisation and what it has done to us and especially our children. Without this foundation I would still be hiding my son at home.'

We sometimes forget that in some cultures, a handicap can be seen as something to be ashamed of, to be hidden away. As well as providing practical support in the form of medical treatment and equipment, our project helps to raise the image of those with disabilities and helps these children to take their rightful place in the world, with a happier and more meaningful life.

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.**

UK Contact: Florencia C Kingscote, Secretary Bambang Sunshine Project 07875 867 739
lionhouseyard@tiscali.co.uk www.bambang sunshineproject.org.uk

CHRISTMAS IN BAMBANG



Florencia receiving, on behalf of the UK committee, a plaque of appreciation from the Bambang Chairman and Adviser. Florencia was also given many letters of thanks from the children themselves. Most of these were written in Filipino but here are a small selection of those written in English.

'We thank you for the support you gave us. We thank you that you always remember us in your prayers.'

Jamila L Cajimat

'Thank you very much for your love and concern to us disabled children of the Philippines.'

Emely Bautista

'Thank you very much for helping us. God bless you all.'

Desiree Joy Gamatero



Some of the children with their parents

We believe that it is important that the parents are involved at every stage. Part of the Project's funds have gone towards various types of training sessions for parents. These have included healthy cooking, caring for a disabled child and popular bible study meetings.



Children performing the Christmas acoustic

As well as providing medical equipment, sometimes as simple as a pair of crutches, or more expensively a special wheelchair, the Project has also paid for medicines, treatment and professional fees. These include cleft palate operations, cerebral palsy, epilepsy and one small child with a hole in the heart.



The deaf mute children performing at the party

The Project meets the tuition fees for the children at a special school for the deaf and mute, fifteen kilometres from Bambang and provides school supplies and travelling expenses to attend the school.



Some of the children performing a dance

The Project enrolls many of the children in local primary schools, the first time that children with disabilities have enrolled in mainstream schools and taken part in community life. The government are now providing excellent special lessons for children with special needs.



John Stacey meets Bambang Committee members

UK committee member, John Stacey, visited Manila, capital of the Philippines last November and met the Chairman, Vice-chairman and Treasurer of the Bambang Committee. Like the UK committee, the partner committee in Bambang are all volunteers and are lucky to also have some honorary advisors.

Find out more by visiting
www.bambangsunshineproject.org.uk

This newsletter is sponsored by Berkshire Scout Enterprises Ltd

