



BAMBANG SUNSHINE PROJECT

bringing help to Philippine children with disabilities

Newsletter

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ACTIVITIES AND ACHIEVEMENTS IN BAMBANG

Our warmest greetings to all friends and supporters of the Bambang Sunshine Project. The London committee receive regular reports from the Partner Committee in Bambang concerning developments about the children and their carers. In this issue we want to share with you some of the activities and the achievements of the children supported by the Project. Your continued interest and essential financial support, is always received with grateful appreciation as expressed by Damiana Pangilinan, Secretary of the committee in Bambang who says "Thank you for making a big difference in the lives of children with disabilities in Bambang. It is said that children are the hands by which we take hold of heaven. This is indeed true. God bless you all." Florencia Kingscote

Graduation Celebration

A special recognition party was held at the end of the school year for the children who had graduated from both High and Primary Schools. The children brought along the school progress reports to show the committee and the children and parents.

EMILY BAUTISTA – A FIRST

The Project helped pay for Emily's cleft palate operation in 2000-2. This helped Emily to take her place in society which is often denied to children with cleft palates just because they look different. It is therefore with immense pride that we reveal that she has become the **Project's first sponsored College graduate**. She publicly received her qualification in Pharmacy Aid which her proud mother says would not have been possible without the assistance of the Project. Emily also expressed her deep gratitude and she wants to find work so she is able to help her family.



HIGH SCHOOL CERTIFICATES

Two of the children supported by the Project received their High School certificates. They hope to be enrolled in the local Vocational College in June.

HONOURS FOR SPECIAL PUPILS

Two of the children with speech or hearing impairments who are sponsored for special education by the Project were presented with honours. Hazel Sagum was first in maths and Karen Sumilang was best in handwriting.

ELEMENTARY SCHOOLING

Robin Nuevo who has an undeveloped right arm completed her Elementary Education in her village school in Bambang with two other pupils.

GIFT PARCELS FOR EVERYONE

There was a gift parcel for each child to encourage them in their studies, presented by the committee led by Mrs Soriano, the Chairperson who praised the children and the commitment of the parents. The young children were the most excited to be the centre of attention and all said a resounding 'thank you'.

GENEROUS SCHOOL SUPPLIES

In June the children received their school supplies, which included children's clothing, bags, books, notebooks and pens from Mrs Rufela Newenhouse from Australia. This generous and kind gesture came after she was inspired by how the Project improved their lives when she visited them last year.



THANKS FROM PARENTS

The children's parents also expressed their gratitude for the help given by all the generous and compassionate supporters in London, Florida, Australia and Canada.





BAMBANG SUNSHINE PROJECT

There's lots more at.... www.bambangsunshineproject.org.uk

TAKING PART IN BAMBANG FESTIVAL

Bambang comes alive during its five day festival and our 15 children enrolled at the school for children with hearing and speech impairment were praised for their lively participation in the parade. Looking smart in their blue and white uniforms they presented a dance in the town Plaza. There was much pride that they took part so well at an important community event. The children enjoyed spending the 150 pesos pocket money given to them by the committee, at the many food, toy and games stalls.

THE TASK AHEAD

The Project's Secretary, Florencia, will be travelling to Bambang in late September. She will be staying for a much longer period than usual to compensate for the last three years, when she has not been able to go home. She plans to spend her time mainly with the children in their homes and schools as well as meeting with the committee to conduct a SWOT in-depth study and discuss future plans of the Project.

PATRICK FRANCIS "ERIC" CONSIDINE 19/01/1927 – 08/04/2013

It is with great sadness that we report the sudden death of Eric Considine. He was long-standing, exemplary and loyal supporter of the Bambang Sunshine Project. He alone was responsible for the development of the Project's very beneficial relationship with St Anne's Primary School in Central London. He also inaugurated the annual sponsored walk across 8 Thames bridges which has proved to be a popular fundraising event, raising a substantial sum of money that has enormously assisted the children of the Project. Eric had four walkers in his team when this event first started in 2008. More participants joined in each year and the last walk attracted 17 walkers and raised almost £1000 for the Project. The Project will be forever indebted to Eric for his committed involvement.



I would like to offer a heartfelt tribute to the good and wonderful Eric for his great and constant support to the Project. Through his 8 Bridges Walk, the Project was introduced to many links who have subsequently given tremendous help. Eric made it possible for us to be connected to St Anne's Roman Catholic Primary School, to the John Lewis Company where he used to work, to CAFOD and many kind and generous individuals who have sponsored him. Eric was faithful to the Project to the end. He brought hope, joy and made a big difference to the children's lives. All of us, committee members, children, parents and friends give praise and thanks to God for the life of a special, brilliant and amazing man and kind friend. Eric's memory will live on in the hearts of those he knew, especially in those whom he served, loved and cared for. He will never be forgotten

Florencia - Secretary

Six years ago Eric inaugurated the successful annual sponsored walk across 8 Thames Bridges. He put great personal effort into the endeavour and over the year raised a significant sum for the important work of the Project. Always during the walk Eric was an inspiring guide who lead, as in his life, a sure way ahead. I remember so well as we walked, trying as best we could to maintain his energetic pace, his great warmth, sense of fun and sincerity. The walk meant something special to him. The project was enormously enriched by Eric's invaluable association and his original cast of mind. When ever the story of the Project is told Eric's goodness and commitment will be remembered with sincere gratitude. I will never forget Eric, my grand Irish friend. He was a knot of oak with a kind and caring heart. May he rest in peace. **John Stacey – Committee member**

8 THAMES BRIDGES WALK 2014 — It has been decided by Eric's walking team that the annual sponsored walk will be continued and dedicated to his memory as its founder. The walk in 2014 will be on Saturday, 8th March will start as usual from Westminster Cathedral. We are anticipating a large number of participants including some of Eric's family. Special Thanks go to Riyadh and John of Cafe Fresco for their hospitality to the walking team this year. We hope that they will continue to support Eric's walking team in the future

Please contact Florencia (07875 867739) to register your interest in this fundraising event.