



Bringing help to
Philippine Children with disabilities

NEWS

Issue No 9 - December 2004

Keeping you in touch with the work of the Project

Our Children benefit from links with 'Health Help Programme'

You will see from the report from our Partner Committee in the Philippines (overleaf), that we are able to take advantage of the Philippine government's Health Help Programme, to benefit the children in our project. However, the programme is not entirely free, so as well as the devotion of the committee we still need funds to enable them to carry on their invaluable work. There is also, much other work that is needed to improve the quality of life for the children and their families. We are pleased to highlight some of the fundraising efforts carried out in the UK to help finance these activities.

Flora Women's Challenge

We would like to thank the women who supported us by participating in this three mile run in London's Hyde Park this September. We hope that they will continue their valued support at the Challenge for many years to come. Our gratitude is also due to the many generous people who sponsored them, raising a total of £442. We were pleased to see the many friends and family members who attended the event and gave encouragement to our team.



• The runners; Florencia Kingscote, Elizabeth Stacey, Francis Lina Batten and Ana Dunn wearing the new Bambang Sunshine Project T-shirts.

Gilwell Park International Scout Reunion

Our energetic Chairman, Dave Mowbray, made a colourful photographic display of the Bambang Sunshine Project in the International Marquee at this annual Scout reunion in September. It proved successful in raising funds for the Project. Our Treasurer, Alan Beavis was presented with an award in recognition of the work he did as co-ordinator of the UK Uganda Network from 1995 to 2004.

If you would like to support our work in bringing help to Philippine children with disabilities, please send donations to:

Alan Beavis,
BSP Treasurer
c/o
Berkshire Scout Enterprises
Gravelly Court
Gravelly Bridge Farm
Grazeley Green Road
Grazeley, Reading RG7 1LG.

Cheques made payable to
Bambang Sunshine Project.



• John Stacey, Florencia Kingscote and Dave Mowbray.

SPREADING THE NEWS

...Milton Keynes Filipino Festival

We were delighted to be offered a marquee at the annual Milton Keynes Filipino Festival in August, giving us the opportunity to promote and spread the news about the work of the Bambang Sunshine Project. The Project Chairman, David Mowbray, with Secretary, Florencia Kingscote and committee member John Stacey, organised a colourful display of photographs of the children and the Project. Berkshire Scout Enterprises produced some posters and leaflets. His Excellency the Philippine Ambassador, Edgardo Espiritu visited the marquee and we were happy to tell him about the work we do. Many of the people attending the Festival showed an interest in our work and we invited them to sign up as members. Our marquee enabled us to collect much needed funds, as well as create more awareness of our work to improve the quality of life for the children with disabilities who we are helping.

UK Contact: Florencia C. Kingscote, Secretary Bambang Sunshine Project
florencia@bambangsunshineproject.org.uk www.bambangsunshineproject.org.uk



Welcome to new volunteers to our Committee

• A big welcome to new committee members, Gemma Mullick, Julie Sharp, Giorgio Bassani, Tony Banks, Esther Murray and Priscilla Gabriel.

"LOVE IN ACTION"

A report from our Partner Committee in the Philippines of activities in the last six months

Educational Programme

A first, as children attend school

In July, thirty two children from the Project were enrolled in nursery and primary schools locally. This was a very special event in the lives of the children and their parents, as this is the first time that children with disabilities have been enrolled in mainstream schools and for the children to take part in community life.

A good report from special school for deaf

Three children were enrolled in a special school for deaf and mute children, which is fifteen kilometres from Bambang town. The children have had very good reports and have been praised by their teachers for their fast learning progress.

Exciting field trip to Provincial Capital

Fifteen children were taken on a field trip to the Provincial Capital some ten kilometres from Bambang town. This was an exciting and rewarding activity for the children who had little or no previous experience of travelling away from their homes. They enjoyed snacks bought at a café run by partially disabled adults, and they especially loved the rowing boat ride on the man made lagoon.

More news of the Medical Outreach Programme

The Philippines Government's 'Health Help Programme' for the needy is benefiting the children that we are helping, although this government initiative is not completely free. Our Partner Committee members who take the children to the Provincial Hospital are happy to report that the Doctors and other medical staff, are always accommodating and helpful in attending to the children who are in need of surgery, or have other ailments requiring medical attention. The project pays for medicines and professional fees. One seven year-old with a hole in his heart is getting a regular check-up and medication. Children with cerebral palsy go for regular physiotherapy.

Help for families in bereavement

Our Partner Committee is sad to report that two children passed away during September and October. The Project helped the parents with funeral expenses for the children. This sad occurrence has meant that we have been able to include two more children from our waiting list in the project.

Looking forward to a Happy Christmas

The sixty children and their carers are looking forward to the happy and activity packed Christmas celebration that is being prepared for them. We eagerly await to see the photographs of the children as they receive their Christmas parcels and partake in the Christmas lunch that will be provided for them.

Thanks and Appreciation

The kindness and generosity of our donors, supporters and well wishers have made it possible for our Project to help children with disabilities. Much has already been done because of the financial help we have received from you. We urge you dear reader, to continue to support our Project so that we can continue to provide the service that the children are receiving and we hope, include more children who at present are on our waiting list.

Join us for £1

Annual membership of the Bambang Sunshine Project cost a minimum subscription of £1. Completing an application form will enable the Project to keep in touch with its supporters. In order that our work can continue and expand, we need additional volunteers to take on some of the committee work. The Secretary would be pleased to hear from anyone who can spare a couple of hours in promoting our work.

In particular we need volunteers to initiate and organise local fund raising events to support our work. Members of the Scout Fellowship who support our work might like to organise one event a year to raise funds.

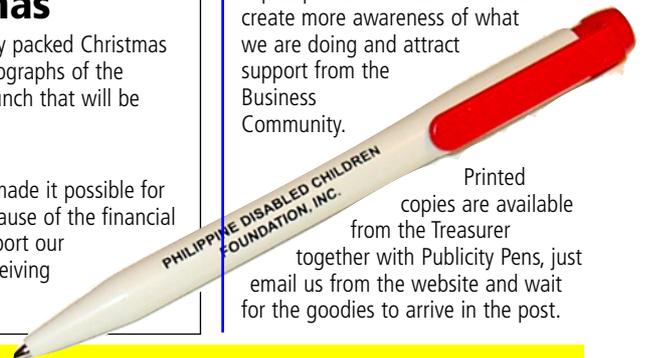
We take this opportunity to wish all our readers, friends, well wishers and supporters a very Happy Christmas and a Peaceful New year.



Promotional items

Don't forget to visit our website for all the latest news and promotional items like calendar and year planners available as free downloads. Get copies printed and distributed to create more awareness of what we are doing and attract support from the Business Community.

Printed copies are available from the Treasurer together with Publicity Pens, just email us from the website and wait for the goodies to arrive in the post.



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

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