



PATTAYA GAZETTE

Pattaya Orphanage & School for the Deaf

Issue 9 : November 2010 – February 2011



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THAILAND

TO:

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Realizing the significance of the Pattaya Orphanage Family, children from pre-school level and above gather annually to celebrate their "Family Day" with a blessing ceremony. This year's celebration is scheduled for Tuesday, 19th April 2011 at 9:00 hrs.



▲ Welcome Mr. Andrew Scadding, Director of Thai Children's Trust (TCT), U.K., Mrs. Sally Scadding, and Ms. Ruth Flanagan, his staff and our former volunteer. As usual TCT's annual visit provides a forum for the team to exchange views and news with Fr. Michael and the Pattaya Orphanage team, followed by a visit to our nursery and the hearing impaired children. Mr. & Mrs. Scadding also spend time viewing exhibition on the occasion of our 36th anniversary. Sincere appreciation to TCT, its board members and personnel, as well as generous benefactors for the constant support and guidance over the decades



▲ Mr. Didier Moly, director of Les Amis de l'Orphelinat de Pattaya et de Rayong from France, and his efficient team, Mrs. Veronique Besson and Mr. Gerard Kaloci, pay their annual visit to the Pattaya Orphanage in February 2011. Apart from having a discussion with Rev. Fr. Michael Weera Phangrak, the party visits Fr. Ray's Office which was renovated on the occasion of the Orphanage's 36th anniversary. Thank you from our hearts for the significance and constant support given to the deaf and orphaned kids for almost two decades. God's blessings upon all the benefactors. Merci beaucoup..

◀ The Pattaya Orphanage once again receives an honor of the visit from famous Danish singer, Mr. Johnny Reimar, along with board members of Danish Foundation 2003. Representing all the kids, Fr. Michael Weera Phangrak, our director, gives a heartfelt welcome to the respectable guests. The pre-school orphans perform a dance from one of Mr. Reimar's top Danske Hits, DU BURDE KOBE DIG EN TYROLERHAT. Surrounded by Deaf School kids, our visitors beam and clap their hands along during the show. Highlight is the visit to the nursery where one never wants to leave.



Message from the Director

There is a great deal we can learn from children..

Recently while bringing her family for a visit, one lady shared with me her experience and admiration of our kids. At a local bank, she noticed while doing her transactions that about ten primary-school children from the orphanage were standing in orderly queue to deposit their small savings. The event may seem unimportant but to our guest, it was impressive, especially in the current chaotic society full of rushing people who care little about discipline and respect of others.

I cannot help but further ponder that, at least and in their small ways, our kids have begun to contribute to the larger social circle by being good models instead of being always receivers. It is something to be proud of and to further promote in our new generation.



Fr. Michael Weera Phangrak
Director



Be Prudent, Thoughtful & Publicly minded

▲ Valuing children and their childhood, the Pattaya Orphanage not only provides daily care for the young but also celebrates the National Children's Day on the second Saturday of January of each year. For the Children's Day 2011, to highlight the motto of our Prime Minister, Mr. Abhisit Vejjajiva, "Be Prudent, Thoughtful & Publicly minded," we organize a day with games and competitions for all the kids from one and a half years old and above, along with the staff personnel, at our football pitch. Participants make up three groups of colours: Pink, Yellow and Blue; and play 32 fun-filled games throughout the day. Everyone experiences so much joy even if the sun is very strong. The first prize went to "Pink" while "Yellow" and "Blue" came second and third. Thanks to our organizers and benefactors for their generous contributions.



▲ A team of 17 doctors and medical personnel of Vejthani Hospital, Bangkok conducts their Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) project at the Pattaya Orphanage. The mobile team provides medical checkup, i.e. general health, dental, and skin care, for over 100 orphans between the ages of one week to nine years. Coinciding with the annual "Healthy Kids" programme of the Sotpattana School for the Deaf, the medical team also provides the hearing impaired kids with examination and health education. Apart from contributing necessary supplies and medicines, the gentle but efficient physicians also make donation in support to the education of school-aged orphans. Wishing you all great success and joy in all dimensions of life. May Vejthani Hospital continue to prosper and help upgrade the living quality of the underprivileged.



▲ It's another lovely gathering of orphans, deaf children, former residents, staff members, sponsors, and benefactors, at the annual Christmas celebration in the warm family atmosphere. Fr. Michael Weera Phangrak marked the opening of the party by lighting up the Christmas tree and the stage, followed by carols sung by sixty school-aged orphans to wish their benefactors a very happy holiday season. At least 20 dishes of delicious food are served to all to enjoy. Children tirelessly play on the giant inflatable kingdom while 62 former residents join this delightful night of reunion. Grateful thanks to all people of good will who contributed to the happy evening for the kids.



▲ Congratulations to Pang Surasi on his graduation from the Bangkok University. As one of our successful young adults of the Pattaya Orphanage, we are really proud of him. From the Faculty of Science and Technology, he has graduated with a Bachelor's Degree in Computer Science - Information Technology. Representatives of the orphanage joined his commencement ceremony on Sunday 13th February 2011, and back in Pattaya, he received gifts and cheers. The host family during his time in Australia as an exchange student was also present to celebrate his success. At the age of 24, Pang continues to be an excellent inspiration for all his juniors. We wish him successful and happy life.

Collections from School Bus



Episode 7: Scholars in Faraway Places

Greetings to our readers.. Let me introduce to you, Miss Lakkana, who is in her first year of undergraduate study at Mae Fah Luang University in Chiang Rai, a province in the north of Thailand. Last June, she began her four-year Business Administration Programme in Aviation Business Management course.

Lakkana recently shared, "It was my childhood dream to do service and to meet a lot of people so I was happy to be able to pass the test and enroll in this programme. Hopefully my future career would be in this area. My dream is not the only factor that takes me this far. The Orphanage supports me to pursue my dream. Mae Fah Luang University is very far from Pattaya but I was given the opportunity. Moreover, Fr. Michael paid me a visit on 18th December 2010 at my university. I was so touched and felt very much encouraged and honored that he travelled this far to see whether I was doing well.."

All the children who have the capacities will be able to study in the fields they aim at. There is always willingness to support and encourage them no matter how far they are from the Orphanage.

Editor