



MISSIOCOM

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NEWS

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Welcome

Welcome to the second newsletter connecting the members, friends and supporters of MCCC. MCCC turned a year old on the feast of Corpus Christi. On her first anniversary, MCCC was able to send three brave ladies from Singapore to start the Cambodian mission. We wish them all the Lord's blessings on their undertaking. To all our supporters we say "Thank you very much"

Fr. Ivan Fang

Mission to China



HAPPY 1st ANNIVERSARY

MCCC in Cambodia

The first three MCCC members have arrived in Phnom Penh to begin their mission.



The three Singaporeans, (L - R) Gabrielle Low, Theresa Siew and Frances Lew, pictured together during the recent retreat in Miri.

MCCC's efforts to gain a foothold in Cambodia bore some fruit when the first batch of three volunteers left for Cambodia on Friday, 15 June 2007 to start a centre in Phnom Penh. Gabrielle Low, Theresa Siew and Frances Lew from Singapore were in the group that visited Cambodia after Easter. They had been in touch with a few organisations there and were very impressed with the work done by them. The first task they have to carry out is to find a suitable place for the centre. Once they have

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MCCC online

Since the first issue of the MCCC newsletter was published, a website featuring news and articles and information on MCCC has also been launched. For more information on MCCC, log into www.mc-corporchristi.org

Biacha Primary School

The Primary School Project in Biacha, Dabang County, Guizhou Province was disrupted by rain.



The Two-storey primary school built with contributions from generous donors in Brunei . Photo: Anna Ling

Heavy rainfall in the past few months has seriously disrupted the completion date for the Primary School Project partly funded by contributions from a few generous donors from Brunei. Anna, our contact in Ziyun, informed us that on her last visit there on 24 May, she was able to inspect the progress of the work. The walls of the classrooms have been tiled up to three feet high. All the classrooms have been completed except one room where the contractor has not fitted the windows and the doors. The contractor is due to hand over the school to the school authorities by the end of June.

San He Bridge

Anna reports on the situation at San He.



Anna being helped across the river over the stepping stones

Anna, our contact in Ziyun, has brought attention to another project that requires urgent help. The San He Bridge project came about because the former wooden bridge spanning the river was washed away by the strong currents and the villagers needed to cross the river to get to the main town. At the present moment, the school children have to be carried one by one by their teachers across the river to their school. The new bridge will be 7m high

and 15m long and estimated to cost around B\$12000.00. A proper estimate will be made pending the drawings by an engineer. In the meantime, your contributions and support for this project through RBCS Brunei will be very much appreciated. So far, generous donors from Brunei have brought the amount raised for the bridge to about \$6000.00. You can read the report of Anna's visit to San He on 30 March 2007 on our website: www.mc-corporuschristi.org.



"Living a Liberated Life" Retreat

Some MCCC members discover how to maintain a liberated life in Christ.



The Feast of Corpus Christi, 10 June, was the first anniversary of the founding of MCCC, formerly known as TDK. A one-day retreat for all members of MCCC took place at the Marriott Hotel in Miri, starting on Saturday 9 June at 4.00 p.m. and ending the next day at 4.00 p.m. The retreat, which followed the first training course of eight sessions conducted weekly at the unit meeting, closed with a special mass to mark the occasion.

The objectives of the retreat were as follows:

- To help the participants understand the difference between being liberated and being free
- To make the participants grasp the essentials of what constitutes a liberated life
- To give the

participants the necessary tools to attain, sustain and maintain their freedom and help liberate others

It included the following topics:

From Slavery to freedom, Jesus, our Liberator, Breaking the chains that Bind Us, Forever Free: sustaining and maintaining our freedom, Freedom to be: embodying and sharing freedom.



High Tea with a Cause

A Charity event at St. John's Church, Kuala Belait, kicks off the fund-raising campaign for the Bridge Project in China



On Saturday, 12 May 2007, a high tea charity event was held in the Parish Centre of St. John's Church, Kuala Belait, Brunei Darussalam to inaugurate the fund raising effort for the San He Bridge Project in China. Those who came to the function were treated to a wide array of local tea time favourites. There was also a lucky draw with lots of fabulous prizes. Fr. Robert was kind enough to help with picking the winners. A total of 200 coupons priced at \$10.00 each were sold before the event. 600 lucky draw tickets were sold during the charity event which started

at 2.00 p.m. and ended around 5.00 p.m. A net total of \$2600 was raised and it was all due to the wonderful efforts of the main organiser, Jeannie Lo. Together with her friends, who contributed most of the cakes, food and gifts for the lucky draw at the charity event, Jeannie made sure that the fund-raising event would be a memorable one. Without their generosity, the event would not have been as successful as it was. MCCC is most grateful to all of them for their kindness and support.



settled in and begun the arduous task of acquiring the language, they will make contacts and offer their services to the local community. Prior to leaving, the three of them prepared themselves for the exciting mission by attending an orientation course in Brunei from 6 to 9 June 2007. They also attended a weekend retreat with the other MCCC members from Brunei on 9 and 10 June 2007.

How to Help

Many people have asked MCCC members how they can help. Other than giving monetary donations to all the various good and worthy causes, why not become a friend of MCCC. A friend is one who prays for the success of the work of MCCC and supports the work of the overseas volunteers. Many people are willing and ready to support projects but unfortunately, our volunteers are often overlooked. Much of the funding for the overseas centres and the volunteers upkeep come from our own members' contribution. Often this is not enough to sustain the work of the overseas volunteer. Units are supposed to be the support base for the volunteers. So really, if anyone wants to help, then the best way is to become part of a unit. Log into our website for more details on how to help.

A Tour with a Difference

A group of Singaporeans discovered the real Cambodia.



projects, the Orchard thea village some distance in the interior where the natives lived by farming. They met many missionary priests, religious sisters and lay mis-

On 10th April 2007, a group of Singaporeans arrived in Siem Reap. As it was the first visit for the group, the must-see Angkor Wat, Bayon and Ta Phrom were on the list.

Tonle Sap is South-east Asia's largest fresh-water lake. They were amazed to see how self-contained the floating village was. They visited St. Peter's Catholic Church which served the community there. The facilities of the floating village are comparable to any other small towns with their provision shops, elementary school, recreational facilities, such as a basketball court and a karaoke lounge. In some homes, pigs and ducks were reared too. At the village, they were moved by children selling bananas, drinks and other fruits for a dollar each and among them was a boy with one arm, a landmine victim.



For the following eight days, they traveled from Kampong Cham to Kratie then to Steng Treng and on to Phnom Penh. They continued their journey to Pursat and Battambang. Besides taking in a few tourist sights, they visited a number of Non-Government Organisations and were briefed on their projects. Fr. John Pak of Stung Treng took them to one of his

sionaries who had spent a considerable amount of time in Cambodia. They were inspired when they saw their commitment and love for the Cambodian people.

They were also greatly inspired by Ruth Elliot, director of the Daughters of Cambodia. She works with her husband to help the young women in the sex industry to explore alternative ways of life. Similarly, the Sisters of Missionary of Charity as well as other international volunteers who devote their time and effort to be with the abandoned babies and toddlers inspired all of them.

At St. John's Church, Sr. Louise, a Canadian sister shared her mission with the group and they were greatly inspired by her work with the poor in the floating villages. She goes around to bathe the children because they do not know what bathing is and thought that soap could be eaten. She left the group with this message, 'Do not live like the poor but live with the poor.'

News in Brief

Some of the events that took place in the month of June.



Some of those who attended the presentation on the work of MCCC in Sibiu recently

Gabby, Theresa and Frances spent a day looking at the various interesting sights of Brunei before starting their orientation programme in Kuala Belait.



Gabby explains to the friends of MCCC on the life and difficulties faced by the people in Cambodia and how various NGOs are trying to help improve their lives.



Friends and members of MCCC gather to meet the three Singaporeans and to listen to their presentation on Cambodia

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