

SUPPORT CAMBODIA

Charity Number 1160483



Helping Communities in North-West Cambodia

Spring 2020

MANGO NEWS

Spring 2020

CAMBODIA VISIT 2020

David Pattrick writes on **PAGE 2**



Kon Damrai Day Care Opens



Filters....



New Borewell at Reedonkao



Hand Wash at Rohal



Filters....



House Repair at Chomcatamau



Essential Bikes



...and yet more Filters!



Women's Health Group

PLUS.....

- **SOUPS & SLIDES LUNCH [MARCH 28th] POSTPONED.....PAGE 2 .**
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Trustee DAVID PATTRICK's impressions of his first-time Trustee visit.....

Having spent many years in Indonesia, a former Dutch colony which gained independence shortly after the 2nd World War and with a significant percentage of the population still living in abject poverty, it is almost inevitable that I felt I was continually assessing and comparing Cambodia with Indonesia.

Prior to the brutal, murderous reign of Pol Pot, Cambodia was developing as well as any other country previously colonized by a western nation. I estimate the Khmer Rouge set Cambodia back some 30+ years and only now are there signs of progressive development such as new road building.



State schools, or at least the ones that we saw, are nearly all built to the same unimaginative design. Classrooms are typically devoid of bright story pictures and learning material adorning the walls and teaching is not particularly enlightened. So what a delightful contrast to visit some private educational facilities, and specifically in our case, those run or supported by various Catholic NGOs. These are oases of hope and an indication of a brighter future. Hopefully the government is encouraged to channel more funds into state education.

The Cambodian people are a wonderful, smiling, gracious, welcoming race and overwhelmingly polite. It is so nice to greet and be greeted with hands together as though in prayer and with a little bow. They are also very 'laid back' and this can be frustrating to the visitor who is all hustle and bustle and wants a plan, implementation, execution and completion (yesterday). Personally I think this 'take it easy' attitude is very much to do with geographical locality (a hot, humid climate) rather than a natural tendency to laziness. After all, it is difficult and tiring to work in a constant >30c temperature with near 100% humidity.



Our **Support Cambodia** charity has a special place in Cambodia supporting the impoverished, destitute and those just in need of some help. True, there are many other NGOs doing sterling work in this respect but because they typically have much larger resources they tend to concentrate their efforts on bigger projects and, dare I say it, those that might gain better publicity. Whereas Support Cambodia targets the smallest communities, largely overlooked by other organisations, and though our funds are limited, a small amount of financial assistance can make a huge difference to the health and welfare of a number of very grateful recipients - small money, big difference. Sincere thanks to all who '**Support Cambodia**'.

SATURDAY 28th MARCH: 'SOUPS, SLIDES & CRAFTS' LUNCH
in aid of the **WATER FUND**

11.30am – 2.30pm. Catholic Hall, North Walsham, NR28 9JP.

Free Entry....Soup Lunch served 12 -1pm [ticket £3.50]....

OWING TO THE CORONAVIRUS, THIS EVENT HAS BEEN POSTPONED TO LATER IN THE YEAR. TICKETS ALREADY PURCHASED WILL STILL BE VALID. ALTERNATIVELY, FULL REFUNDS ARE AVAILABLE.

PLEASE CONTACT Katie if you would like a cash refund

phone: 01263 577784.....email: katie@supportcambodia.org.uk ...WhatsApp... Facebook



9th ANNUAL PLANT SALE

SATURDAY 16th MAY from 9am>

Catholic Hall, Norwich Road, North Walsham NR28 9JP

perennials...bedding plants...shrubs....herbs....garden sundries...

Produce Stall....Cambodian Crafts...and [new for 2020] Collectables Corner

Proceeds to WATER PROJECTS

CAFE with tea & coffee.....cake....bacon rolls

website: www.supportcambodia.org.uk

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THIS IS OUR BIGGEST EVENT OF THE YEAR AND WE NEED YOUR HELP WITH:

***QUALITY, LABELLED PLANTS & SUNDRIES** [ask your gardening friends]

CONTACT: Bob Maidment [01263 577784] OR David Patrick [01263 834012]

***BAKED GOODS/ PRESERVES/FRESH PRODUCE [FRUIT, VEG, EGGS] FOR SALE**

CONTACT: Carol Shippey [01603 872901]

***DISTRIBUTING POSTERS, MOVING PLANTS** and especially **ON SALE DAY from 7am**

CONTACT: Katie Maidment [01263 577784]

PLEASE CONTACT US WELL IN ADVANCE TO ARRANGE COLLECTION/DROP-OFF

Coming soon....WOMEN'S HEALTH PROJECT....Katie Maidment explains

For me, one of the highlights of the recent visit was the chance to accompany Filipino missionary **Betty Millena** on her twice-monthly visit to a Women's Group at **Anlung Sa**, a remote village about 90 minutes from Siem Reap [picture PAGE 1]. You can read an account and see more pictures on DAY 13 of the Tour Diary [see PAGE 4] but here I want to introduce you to the idea that has come out of that inspiring and enjoyable day.

Hygiene is central to Betty's education programme so she has asked for personal hygiene bags for all her ladies. These will contain toilet items, washing soap and underwear, financed by our new Women's Health Fund. We will be asking for help in making the bags **BUT.... they will need to be made to a uniform design so.....PLEASE...DON'T DO ANYTHING YET!!** We are in the process of working out the details and will let you know in due course how you can help. *Meanwhile, if you'd like to be involved with this project, please contact us.*



THE TOUR DIARY

The Tour Diary is a rough transcript of the daily reports posted on social media during the Trustee Visit. It's available on our website www.supportcambodia.org.uk>NEWS or on paper [please phone for a copy.] It's a good read - here a few highlights to wet your appetite.....

The community at **Chomcatamau**, Kompong Chhnang, are delighted with their new toilets [which passed the 'Karuna' inspection test!]......**Brother Noel** is now involving local schools in his innovative farming developments at CROAP.."The child of today is the youth of tomorrow and the future of the world".



Community Water Filters from Nikum, Pursat and CROAP have been re-located to ensure maximum benefit to larger numbers.....the new borewell at **Reachdonkao** [picture Page 1] is a great success with the villagers reporting improved health and a reduction in skin diseases [toilets next?].... and 7 of the 8 other SC borewells are also working perfectly.

Last year we caught up with **Ismael Lim**, former Head Teacher at **Phnom Priel** [where SC sunk our first two borewells in 2016] and planned to visit his new school in 2020. Well, we did just that and enjoyed a wonderful welcome from the students and staff of **Prek Khpoub Secondary**, Battambang Province. We are delighted to be funding books for the Library and intend to return next year.



In Pailin Province the **Kon Damrai Day Care Center** [picture Page 1] is complete and the parents, staff and children very happy with the result. Two of Karuna's friends have stayed to keep an eye on the new facility!**Sister Vangie** continues to expand the number and range of her amazing projects, working virtually single-handed while **Brother Francis** expects the new **Lavalla Student Hostel** to finally open in October. The latest hostel building has been named after Australian student **Patrick Rodgers** whose family have funded it in his memory – a fitting tribute to Pat's great devotion to Pailin.



Those who have contributed to providing bikes and wheelchairs in **Svay**



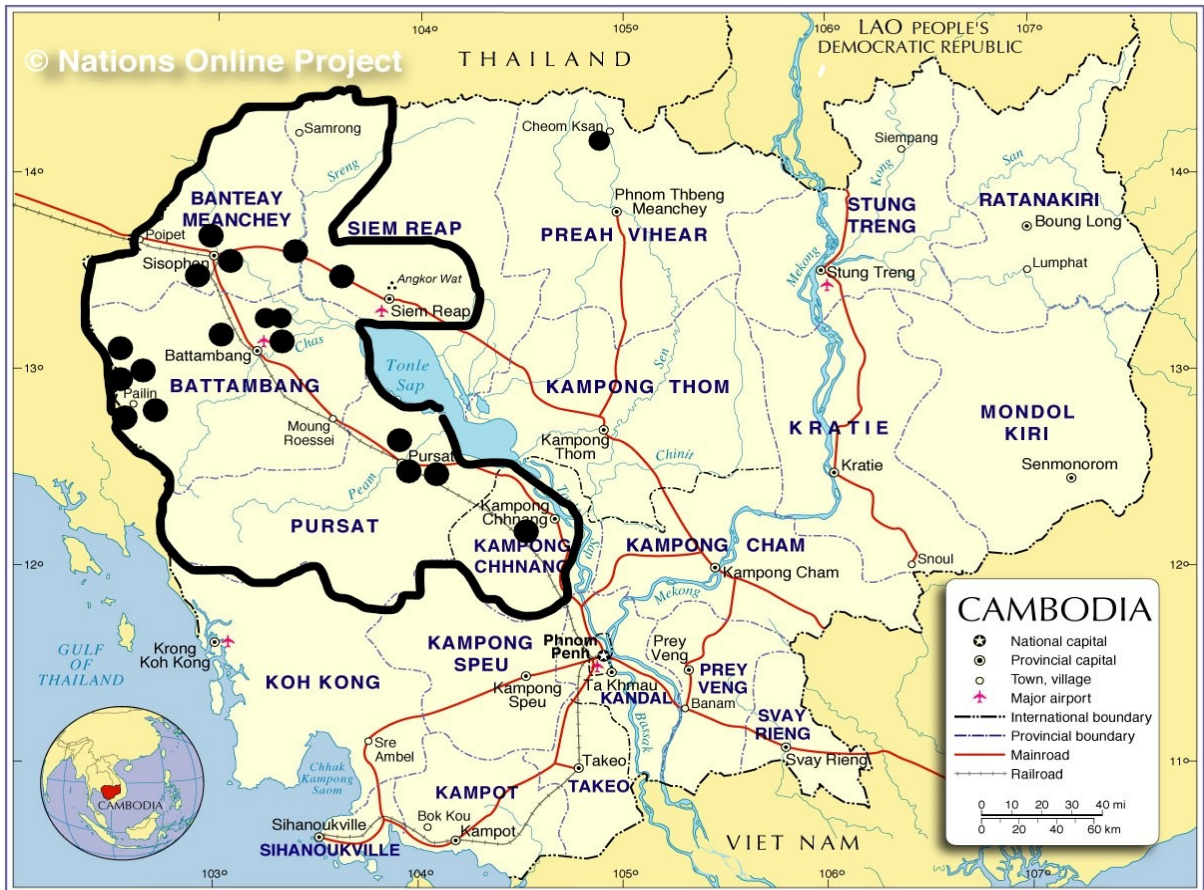
Sisophon area will be pleased to know these have all been distributed [via Jesuit Service [Sisophon] as have the T-shirts, play equipment and Family filters donated by **St. Francis Catholic Primary [Norwich]**. Three of the filters actually went 175k away from Siem Reap into the countryside and the villagers send a special message to the children thanking them for their gift of clean water.



The SC handwash facility at **Rohal Primary** is very impressive [picture Page 1] and is greatly helping the school's health programme....the wonderful **Xavier Jesuit School** proceeds apace with the final hostels and admin buildings now going up...but, as always, it's the wonderful welcome from everyone, old friends and new chums, who make our annual visits so very worthwhile. 'Okoon charen' to each one of them.

A LITTLE BIT OF GEOGRAPHY....

Cambodia and the United Kingdom are roughly the same size. Support Cambodia covers the area inside the black line, about 38,000 square kilometres – that's about twice the size of East Anglia. Projects completed in the last 12 months are indicated by the black dots.



FROM THE TRUSTEES: Bob Maidment writes...



A REMINDER that in addition to the **GENERAL FUND**, **SUPPORT CAMBODIA** now has six ring-fenced Funds, enabling the Trustees to direct donated money more effectively.

WATER, NUTRITION, WOMEN'S HEALTH, HYGIENE, BIKES & WHEELCHAIRS.

'One-off' projects not covered by the Funds may be added from time to time

For more information please visit www.supportcambodia.org.uk/NEWS. Contributions may be made at any time to any of the Funds – please indicate if you have a preference for any particular Fund.

During the recent Trustee Visit, several Water Projects were identified including two possible toilet blocks, a hand wash and repairs to the borewell at Prey Santeas in Pailin Province. For this reason, proceeds of our first two big events of the year will go to the Water Fund. Applications are due by Easter and the Trustees meet in early May. Priority is usually given to the poorest and most remote communities not supported by any other Non Government Organisation [NGO] or receive few, if any, overseas visitors.

SUPPORTERS: Although the old blue Registration forms have been discontinued, we still need to know the names of anyone willing to offer their **practical support as we rely on your help to keep the charity moving forward.** There's a list of suggestions on our website under **CONTACT US** or we can send you a form. If you've already volunteered, we'll be updating our list over the next few weeks. Thank you for **'Supporting Cambodia!'**

INFORMATION & CONTACTS

DIARY DATES [all events subject to public health restrictions]

MAY

Friday 8th : Support Cambodia Stall at Walsingham. 11am – 1pm only [TBC]

Saturday 16th : Support Cambodia Plant Sale, Catholic Hall, North Walsham 9am onwards

SEE INSET ON PAGE 3 FOR DETAILS.

Saturday 30th : Table Top Sale [Aylsham]

JUNE

Saturday 27th : Support Cambodia Stall at Lodden Scarecrow Festival 12noon - 6pm

LOOKING AHEAD

Saturday August 1st : Table Top Sale [Aylsham]

Sunday September 6th : Support Cambodia Stall at Walsingham. All day.[TBC]

Saturday October 10th : Race Night at Aylsham Town Hall

FOR LATEST EVENT DETAILS PLEASE GO TO:

www.supportcambodia.org.uk > **DIARY OR our Facebook Page OR WhatsApp**

THANK YOU TO OUR SIX ADMINISTRATION SPONSORS 2019/20



AND OUR OTHER 'BUSINESS SUPPORTERS' & TIN HOLDERS

AYLSHAM: The Unicorn Public House... Bond's Chip Shop...Bon Bon's

NORWICH: The Fat Cat Public House OTHER LOCATIONS: Ludham Village Stores

IF YOU CAN: please support these businesses at this difficult time. Thank you.

MAIL LIST

To receive Mango News and other updates **by email** please email Katie [details below]

OR complete the online form www.supportcambodia.org.uk/CONTACT_US

To ensure you get Mango News PLEASE ADD OUR EMAIL TO YOUR ADDRESS BOOK

Mango News is also available online at: www.supportcambodia.org.uk

To receive Mango News and updates **by post** please contact us.

DONATIONS Cash, Standing Order or cheque payable to "Support Cambodia".

Barclays Bank a/c no 13194868 Sort Code: 20 – 03 – 26 or donate online via the website

Gift Aiding your donation increases its value by 25%. Please ask for a form.

CONTACT US

email: info@supportcambodia.org.uk **website:** www.supportcambodia.org.uk

Facebook: Support Cambodia

WhatsApp: Support Cambodia Update [to join: message Katie **on 07759982011**]

phone: 01263 577784 **text:** 07759982011

post: Katie & Bob Maidment, 22/23 Regent Street, Wickmere, Norwich, Norfolk, NR117ND

NEXT issue: JULY 2020 Contributions to the Editor by June 30th please

*****PHOTO GALLERY*****



Baby Milk programme – Anlung Sa



Friendship bracelets – Svay Sisophon



Wheelchairs in Banteay Meanchey



T-shirts at Pongro Day Care Centre



Sister Vangie with David Patrick & Karuna



Kon Damrai Day Care Centre [Pailin Province]



Microfinance Farming [Pailin]



Brother Francis



New toilet at Chomcatamau