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SUPPORT CAMBODIA

Charity Number 1160483

Helping Communities in North-West Cambodia



MANGO NEWS

Spring 2022



IT'S BEEN A VERY GOOD YEAR...

Thanks to the time, effort and generous support of people like you.

Here's a snapshot of what's been achieved....



Water Well, House and Farming Projects at Ochra Kandal



Formula Milk and Vegetable Gardening in Pailin



Bikes, Emergency Rice and Wheelchairs for Jesuit Service Cambodia

And all this with both countries under Covid-19 lockdown for much of the year.

Over the last 12 months we've been able to send **£15,000** to Cambodia to complete a total of 19 projects, 14 of them in Pailin

Province, with another **£7,000+** shortly to be transferred, mostly to fund two exciting new initiatives.

It's also thanks to our partners in Cambodia, principally **Father Carlos, Sister Vangie** and the late **Brother Francis** but also **Betty Millena** [Siem Reap] and **Father Rajat Hassapurti** [Nikum] that we have been able to continue "**Supporting Cambodia**" despite the restrictions on movement and contact.

A full '**Summary of Projects 2021**' + costings was presented at the charity's AGM on April 6th [see report below] – a copy is available on request

Annual General Meeting

The **AGM took place on Wednesday 6th April** and was attended by 16 people including two of our six Sponsors and all three Trustees. There were 20 apologies.

A Summary of Projects and an overview of the Annual Accounts may be found on the website under NEWS.

A brief resume of the meeting follows with the **full Minutes available on request**.

- The Meeting was reminded of the charity's **funding criteria**: a] locations receiving little or no other funding b] community projects c] 'small money, big difference'.
- A **Review of the Year & the Annual Accounts 2021/22** were presented and illustrated with slides. A short tribute was paid to Brother Francis Attah who died in February.
- Details of two project proposals, a **Skills Training Centre in Pailin**, and separately **Vocational Training Fund** in memory of Bob Maidment were discussed and unanimously agreed. More about both these below.
- As part of planning for the future, the following **changes to the charity's Restricted Funds** were announced and approved with immediate effect:
 1. The existing **Wheelchair, Bikes and Hygiene Funds** will be discontinued. The monies presently in those funds will be distributed accordingly.
 2. The **Water & Nutrition Funds** remain with Formula Milk included in Nutrition.
 3. A new **Education Fund** will be set up to include provision for bikes, women's health classes and other education-related requests
 4. Everything else will be covered by **General Fund** which will also supplement the other Funds when needed. In addition, **Bob Maidment Vocational Training** will be a separate, stand-alone fund. It will NOT be supporting the new Skills Training Centre in Pailin.
- **Fundraising: Katie Maidment** announced she is stepping back from organising fundraising in order to concentrate on running the charity and asked that **Supporters** come forward to take on the fundraising. Despite 2021 being so successful, the events of the last two years have shown that big events [Race Night, Plant Sale etc] are no longer viable. It has been suggested that several small groups or 'cells' could be formed in different areas [eg: Yarmouth, Aylsham, Swaffham] to promote/co-ordinate/encourage fundraising, focussing on **small** events [eg: coffee mornings, garden gate sales, tombolas etc.] in their immediate localities, but could be in touch with each other, possibly via a WhatsApp group. *Anyone interested in helping in any way with Fundraising is asked to contact the Trustees who can put you in touch with other like-minded people.*
- **Sponsorship & Business**: Carol Shippey explained the importance of Administration and 'one-off' Sponsorship,

helping to pay for essentials such as web maintenance, insurance and bank charges, and reiterated the charity's gratitude to our current Sponsors for their invaluable support. She also mentioned the great job our other **Business Supporters/Collecting Tin Holders** do, not only in attracting donations but also in keeping the profile of the charity in the public eye.

Grateful thanks to them all.

*Anyone interested in becoming a Sponsor or having a collecting tin is asked to contact **Carol Shippey** via the website.*

News from Cambodia



After a long, Covid-affected delay, the three **Nikum Borewells** funded by the surplus from last summer's **Wickmere Garden & Village event** are finally complete and will serve over 100 families in the central part of the Nikum area. **Father Rajat** writes: *"All of the villagers express their heartfelt gratitude to Support Cambodia.....big thanks to all the donors."*

Skills Training Centre in Pailin

Initially based on Sewing and aimed at women/girls in the Pailin area, a new centre has been proposed by **Sister Vangie Dunton**. Local women have specifically asked for this project as a sustainable skill that will earn them money making school uniforms, T-shirts, dresses, bags etc.



Empowering rural women and girls will hugely benefit the communities they live in. *"When you empower a woman, you empower a nation [village]."*

The centre, jointly overseen by Sister Vangie and Father Carlos, will be housed in the spare space under the church in Pailin.

Support Cambodia will fund the initial set-up costs and the Trainers' salaries for the first three years, by which time the Centre hopes to be self-funding.



The Trustees intend this to be a long-term legacy of the charity's work in Cambodia.

Further details in the full Minutes of the AGM.

Tribute to Bob Maidment

It has been agreed that the contributions given in memory of the late Bob Maidment in 2020 should be used to set up a Vocational Training Fund to finance short vocational courses for young people, initially in Pailin, with the object of acquiring a practical qualification [not university degree] AND the business skills to use it to earn a living.

The Fund currently stands at **£2,000**, but going forward, it will be added to by donation and fundraising and would be kept separate, so donors can clearly see where their tribute money has gone.



As a teacher, Bob spent his professional life helping young people achieve their dreams, so this seems a fitting way to remember his immense contribution to the poor of Cambodia and to this charity. Details of the scheme are under discussion with not only Father Carlos and Sister Vangie, but also the **Marist Education Centre** of which Brother Francis was Principal - Francis would surely have wanted to be involved in this!
We'll keep you informed.

PROFILE: Father Carlos



Father Carlos Eduardo Alfaro Delgado is from Colombia in South America and is a Catholic diocesan priest, associated with the **Yarumal Mission Society** and currently serving in the Cambodian Diocese of Battambang.

He was born in 1977, ordained in 2005 and worked in Colombia and Cuba before coming to Cambodia in 2017. After spending time getting to know the country and learning the Khmer language [essential for working in the community], Carlos was appointed Parish Priest of Pailin and Sneung in 2019 and shortly afterwards also succeeded **Father Ashley Evans** as Director of the **Tep Im Student Centre** in Battambang, where he is responsible for the pastoral care and well-being of the students.

Support Cambodia's association with Carlos began during our last Trustee visit to Cambodia in February 2020 when **David Patrick** and **Katie Maidment** were introduced to him in Pailin. Their immediate impression was of a man with vision and energy, an obvious empathy with young people and a genuine commitment to serving the poor and disadvantaged – a real '**Support Cambodia**' kind of person!

Carlos writes: "*[When I was training] my dream was going for mission in Africa....to serve in places where the Catholic faith is not yet established and where there are not enough missionaries. I think this is possible by living a simple life among people, in joy, friendship and acknowledgement of their life, their problems, suffering and needs. But God called me and sent me here [Cambodia] and he will send the right people to help me at the right time.*"



Alongside – you might say, as an integral part of - his mission as parish priest, Carlos has introduced several initiatives over the last year to help those made homeless or redundant, or who lost their livelihoods during the pandemic. They include the sustainable house, water well and farming projects at **Ochra Kandal** supported by our charity, and working with Brother Francis, emergency food packs for the poorest families. Together with **Sister Vangie**, he has also undertaken co-responsibility for the development of the new **Skills Training Centre** to be funded by **Support Cambodia**.



And as if holding down two jobs isn't enough, Carlos loves his football and has started two teams in Pailin to encourage local young people not only to play sport, but to come together in a safe, welcoming and supportive environment. As you can see from the picture, there's no shortage of enthusiasm and they're training hard ahead of the prestigious Bishop's Cup, held in June each year in Battambang.

[The teams run on a shoe-string and although our charity is not able to finance sports equipment, we are very happy to facilitate individual donors. Please get in touch if you'd like to help.]

Clearly a busy man, but one very much focussed on his mission -
"There is no distinction in God's heart. We come to be just one more among them, to live with them, to learn from them....to show the face of Christ through our daily life and principles...and [always] we receive more than what we offer".

Money Matters

Donating to SUPPORT CAMBODIA

Although we are happy to accept cash, for ease of administration the charity's preferred donation methods are now **bank transfer** [BACS] or **cheque**.

All relevant bank details are available at:

www.supportcambodia.org.uk/donate

FOR ALL DONATIONS MADE THROUGH THE BANK...

PLEASE, PROVIDE A REFERENCE e.g Bikes XXXX [your name]

This helps us to identify your donation. Thank you.

Online Donation is still available but the donation platform has changed to **JustGiving**, which does not charge a platform fee. The *optional* administration contribution is for JustGiving, **not** for our charity - to opt out of this contribution, just click 'OTHER' and put in £0.00.

Please note: donations via JustGiving are anonymous and therefore cannot be personally acknowledged by us unless we are contacted directly by the donor.

Event News & Fundraising

Saturday June 4th - Aylsham Farmer's Market

Sunday June 26th - Aldborough Village Fayre

We have stalls booked at both these events.

CURRENTLY, THERE IS NO-ONE TO RUN EITHER OF THESE STALLS.
If no-one comes forward, we will have to cancel them.
PLEASE CONTACT US IF YOU CAN HELP

Saturday July 2nd - Aylsham Marketplace Tabletop

Fran Ludden is running a Table Top in Aylsham Market Place from **8.30am - 12 noon.**

Saturday July 9th - TulipTree Fabrics Open Day

Administration Sponsor **Tuliptree Fabrics** are holding an Open Day in aid of **Support Cambodia** at their shop in **Marsham from 9am - 5pm.** There will be sewing workshops and demonstrations, lots of wonderful hand-crafted items to purchase, a top-quality Raffle and refreshments.

Further details in the June Update or from **Tricia Hunt** at www.tuliptreefabrics.co.uk **01263 834353.**



Jam Alert

As the summer approaches, **we'd like to hear from jam makers** with spare fruit willing to help maintain the supply of **Support Cambodia** jam and preserves. Jars with the special red check lids are available but expertise, time and ingredients are needed.

Please contact us if you think you can help.

Garden Gate Stalls:

'The Hutch' at **22 Regent Street, Wickmere** is now open daily **10am - 5pm** initially selling jam, preserves and plants but including fresh produce and other items as the season progresses.

For now, the Shop will not be open except by private arrangement.

Carol Shippey will be running a **Plant Stall** throughout the summer at **36, Norwich Road, Cawston** and selling **secondhand books/CDs/puzzles** etc at **Docking Farmer's Market** every **Wednesday from 8.30am - 12.30pm**.

Change of Contact Details

Please don't forget to let us know of any **change of contact details** - address, mobile number or email - it makes it so much easier for us to get in touch!

And if you **no longer wish to receive our communications**, please let us know that too as we don't want to bother you with unwanted information. Thank you.

Contact Us

Would you like to know more about **Support Cambodia**? We can offer illustrated talks on both Cambodia and the work of the Charity. There is no charge but donations are welcome

SUPPORT CAMBODIA

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Send a text to 07759982011

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