

# RSIS UPDATE



Issue 3 | March 2012

## Project News

Well where do I start? What an outstanding December our teams had in Cambodia (2 teams), Thailand, Honduras, Kenya and India.

It's hard to know where to start with all our exciting news, but

how about you go grab a coffee and something to nibble on that's full of calories and sit back for a grand read! Enjoy!

*Liz Gray*  
RSIS Projects Manager

## December 2011 Projects Update

### Cambodia (Student Project):

This was our first RSIS Project in Cambodia, and it was a stunning success! The group built a one-room school for the community of Prokeab, whose children have very limited, or no access to education. So this school is free for all local children, and a teacher will be there each day to give them lessons in English. This is the first free school in the whole area, and is the first of a group of community buildings including a library (built in January 2012 by a Canadian Rotary Club), a community centre (which will be built by the 2012 RSIS team) and a medical clinic. The group worked alongside The Banyan Learning Tree and A Mine Free World Assistance Programs..

The group started their trip in Phnom Penh, exploring cultural sites and some of the recent historical sites of Cambodia. They then travelled to Prokeab and built their school in 10 days, with a mid-Project break at Angkor Wat Temple Complex. The team then spent 3 days at the beach over Christmas before flying home.

The group also fund-raised an amazing extra \$4,000 to buy bicycles and chicken-rearing businesses for local families.

Round Square is very grateful to Helical Bar plc, a London-based the materials with which to build the school; and to the team and their families for providing such a huge amount of money to buy bikes and extra items for the school!

There is a great series of photos, click here to view:

<http://bit.ly/ytaWui>

And a wonderful YouTube video of the students in their new school and library on:

<http://youtu.be/oj94FAU7r94>

The group consisted of:

A team of 21 students from 15 schools: Lakefield College School, Box Hill School, Abbotsholme School, St Clements School, Bunbury Cathedral Grammar School, Westminster School, Bayview Glen School, St Cyprian's School, Ivanhoe Grammar School (Plenty Campus), Strathcona Tweedsmuir School, Brookhouse School, Doon School, St Stithian's College, Mayo College, Westfield School.



Continued....

The Leader was David Maclellan (Honorary Member); the Project Managers were Lisa McCoy (A Mine Free World Assistance Programs) and Socheat Chea (Banyan Learning Tree), the Deputy Leader was Sonia Christian (St Cyprian's School).

Huge thanks go to the whole team from AMFW and BLT for all their planning and logistical help.

### **Cambodia (Adult Leader Training Project):**

This was our first Leader Training Project, which was designed to offer team members a 2-day workshop on Project Planning, Leadership and Safety; combined with a 10-day Project during which team members could put all their newly learned skills into practice, and get more experience of developing world service work. It was an extremely successful trip, co-ordinated expertly by Pauline Johns from A Mine Free World Assistance Programs and Chamnap Kethya from the Banyan Learning Tree. The Workshop took place over 2 days in Takeo, and then the team built a free school for the community of Bakot, about 30km away from the student RSIS Project team.

The school was built in 9 days, and the team also built a fence around the perimeter and painted a mural on the toilet building. All the candidates were put into leadership teams, having to lead a day each of the trip. They had to brief the team, prepare risk assessments, run the whole day and run the de-brief session each evening.

The group also fund-raised an additional staggering \$7,500 that was used to buy 62 school uniforms, 8 chicken-rearing businesses, 200 toothbrushes and toothpaste and 100 bicycles! Several local dignitaries attended the opening ceremony on the last day, and the group made it onto National TV twice during their stay! The group returned to Phnom Penh after the Project, and had a day and a half of cultural visits and celebrations! The feedback post-Project has been exceptional, with all the staff finding it a very useful, informative trip.



The group consisted of:

A team of 24 teachers from 15 schools: Landheim Schondorf, Windermere School, Cobham Hall, Cate School, Ashbury College, Appleby College, Dhirubhai Ambani International School, Doon School, Mayo College, St Philips College, Scotch Oakburn College, St Pauls School, Trinity Anglican School, Woodleigh School and Regents Pattaya.

The Leader/Trainer was Liz Gray (RSIS Projects Manager), the Deputy Leader/Trainer was Rod Summerton (Ivanhoe Grammar School) and Brian Dawson (Executive Director) attended the whole trip. Huge thanks go to the whole team from AMFW and BLT for all their planning and logistical help, to Brian Dawson for his support (especially at the cement mixing mountain!!) and especially to Rod Summerton for being a great support and an outstanding Deputy Leader and Trainer.

You can see a movie slide-show of the trip on YouTube:

<http://youtu.be/wEM-ptFmlv8>