

HADA



Health And
Development Aid
Abroad –
Australia Fund Inc.

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NEWSLETTER

Issue 25. May 2006

Water Saves Lives

by Dr Norman Hohl. MBBS, DTM&H, FAFPHM
HADA board member

HADA Yunnan - Water Project

Please refer to the main story in our last newsletter, issue 24.

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HAVING visited the Wenchuen primary school in the Himalayan foothills of western Yunnan Province in 2004, I was delighted that HADA was able to support the provision of purified running water and heated showers in 2005.

One of our colleagues in the nearby city of Ninglang has visited several other schools in this region also in urgent need of a similar facility. In these very poor communities the students are desperately determined to gain the education that will open doors to better opportunities in their lives ahead. Some of these students live too far away to go home after school and push the benches together to sleep on overnight, with very little to keep them warm.

It is not hard to imagine how chronic illnesses from intestinal infections, or chest infections would drain their strength, limit their learning capacity, and hinder their much dreamed of economic liberation.

The opportunity to simply wash our hands is something we take for granted, but is denied to these children, without our help. Most of us are taught from childhood of the marked reduction in intestinal infections that is achieved by washing our hands before eating, for example.

Even medical people were surprised by the results of a major randomised controlled trial involving 900 households in Karachi squatter settlements, over one year, and published in the prestigious medical journal *The Lancet* in 2005. This showed an amazing 50% reduction in pneumonia purely from promotion of hand washing. As expected the study also confirmed a 53% reduction in the incidence of diarrheal disease.

I encourage all HADA supporters to get behind our colleague who works very closely with the local branch of the National Women's Association. The results in changed lives will be amazing.

These children in Buo Luo (page 3) are saying thank you for their clean water.



Notice to Members re Annual Membership

Unfortunately some of the envelopes we supplied to you for the annual renewal notice were faulty. If you have renewed your membership and not received a receipt within three weeks please advise us and we will send you a new form.

If you used your credit card, HADA will show on your statement as *Stratapay*. Please check to ensure your details or cheques have not been mis-used.

We apologise for the inconvenience.

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Getting the Wheels Rolling Bridgewater Care News

From Karen

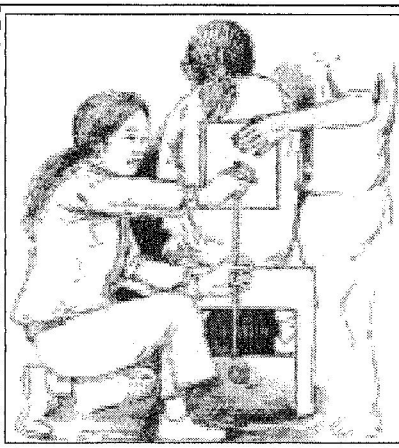
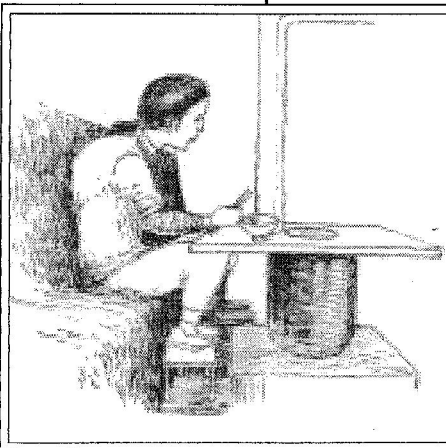
IN December 2005 we were pleased to receive funds from HADA to complete our goal of purchasing 30 wheelchairs for our Wheelchair Donation Project. We launched this in cooperation with the provincial Disabled People's Federation. They introduce us to poor, disabled people in the area who are in need of a wheelchair. People will be interviewed and 30 will be selected to receive a chair. By early February we had approved three people for chairs. Orders will be placed by the time you read this after more interviews.

These chairs are neither made nor available locally, so they will be shipped from another city in China. They have removable arm-rests and leg-rests which

away from home looking for work so her maternal grandmother is raising her. Leah appears to be a motivated young lady and wants to study, but has had little opportunity in her young life to do so due to her disability. She never had therapy or received any assistance to help improve her physical abilities. Presently she cannot stand at all or sit independently. Her back is curved and her arm and leg movements are severely limited. You can imagine how devastating this is for her especially in light of having no mum or dad around to encourage and love her. We can't give her a chair now because the kind of chair we are giving away is both too big for her and not adapted to meet her special needs.

We have approached a western family who lives in our city and provides a home for several disabled orphans, mainly Downs children. They have agreed to invite Leah to live in their home for up to a month so that a Bridgewater Care rehab aide can help her exercise every day. We hope that some changes will be forthcoming for Leah and perhaps her limbs will move more freely and enable her to sit better. We want her to return to her home with a chair that she can use. This may end up being a custom-

built chair, and we will have a table made to go with it. We trust that she will be encouraged and realise that there are people who really care about her. People like you!



Pakistan Relief News

We hope to bring you further news from this part of the world in our next issue.

Tsunami Relief
Please note: we are no longer asking for donations for this work.

promote more independence and easier use than standard chairs.

We want you to meet Leah, a 12-year-old girl, in one of the homes we visited. Her dad abandoned her and her mum is

STOP PRESS!

News just received!

We interviewed 34 people whose names were given to us by the Disabled Person's Federation. We decided that of these 34 there are actually 20 whom we consider need a chair or can use a chair at this time. Three of these need a tri-wheeled chair costing 750 yuan each, not 440. One of them needs an extra wide chair costing 520 yuan not 440. One child did not need a chair but needs a walker costing 196 yuan. We want to order 16 chairs at 440 yuan, one at 520 yuan, three at 750 yuan, plus one walker at 196 yuan. This totals 10,006 yuan, leaving enough money to purchase about five more regular wheelchairs at 440 yuan at a later time. The total number of people helped if we find five more who just need regular chairs will be 21.

A New Project Open Doors Community Centre

HADA Astana News

A Source of Hope Pregnancy Help Centre

Our activities at this moment are:

1. Computer courses: three to six people come to use facilities or take part in courses per week.
2. Mums & Toddlers group: once a week 3-8 mums and their toddlers come. There is now a stable core group with some taking more ownership and responsibilities.
3. English conversation club: once a week 4-10 people turn up for discussions.
4. Table Tennis club.

We are preparing to start support groups for former-alcoholics, learning from similar projects in cities and collecting materials in the local languages. Further down the track, we hope to make the right contacts with the local medical services.

The setting up of the Pregnancy Help Centre is finished and with that the direct responsibility for HADA-Astana. The project is running independently under its own fund with its local director. HADA-Astana is providing encouragement, advice and minimal finances. Regular expenses are met through the rent they receive from an apartment given to them by a former worker.

The following two activities are scheduled for the coming three months:

Ongoing: post-abortion seminars, telephone and individual counselling and the training of two new volunteers.

New initiatives: starting a women's club to discuss medical issues and to build trust through general activities.

China: School Children Need Good Water! *Ruth Brandon*

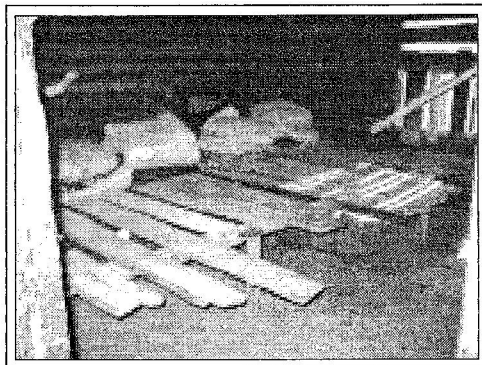
I HAVE serious concerns about the students' welfare in **Buo Luo Wanxiao**, a high mountain school. The school is pretty, set in woods in the mountains. The source of their drinking water is a nearby stagnant pool. I spent AU\$3,500 to get them a huge container and pipes from higher in the mountains where there is plenty of clean, fresh water. They are so excited to have this water and now all the students and teachers can drink pure water. The photo below is

be. The plan is to tear down this building which sits on the side of the hill and is in danger of slipping over because its construction is so weak. We will build a new dorm with 10 rooms for the 58 kids who ALL sleep in three rooms the size of this one. Many are on the floor. The cost for this is AU\$11,800 and will provide safety for all the kids.

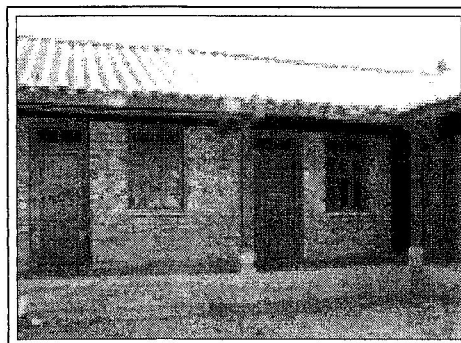
Another school, **Yao Cao Ping Wanxiao**, has no water. I have just finished doing the same clean water job there for AU\$3,190 and it is exciting to see so many less stomach troubles in the kids. These kids have no dorm so they sleep on the floor in their classroom every night. As it is winter here I purchased blankets for them all, but a real dorm is essential if we want them to be healthy and safe. On the hill behind the school is a house for sale. It has ten fields that the school can rent out and use to make some money for the needs of these really poor kids. We can either purchase this or look at building a dorm for them on a little property just behind the school. We must be legally appropriate and so if

we can't buy without hassles, even though it's more convenient, we will build. This too will be the same price, AU\$11,800. These two schools house almost 1,000 kids and you can make a difference!

This means I need your support for these projects, as they are expensive,



of their best beds. You will see there are no windows and the ground is dirt with holes out the sides of the building where rats come to visit each evening. I gave them new blankets but this is not a safe place for kids to



even in our country. We would like companies and individuals to be involved in contributing to these children, where their lives will be changed and much hope given to them for a new future. Already you have made a difference with your contributions to clean water. This of course is always the most important and so I will continue to research schools with no water. Many are drinking e-coli and other such ingredients. We have had the water tested in Kunming and it is no wonder there are so many stomach troubles among families here.

HADA's Vision: To see medical, education, agricultural and sanitation programs established in countries as needed.

Current HADA Projects

☑ These projects have been approved by HADA.

HADA, Yunnan, China

Managers: Dale and Jackie Bragg

Project Officer: Gary & Ailin Leong

- Ninglang: Micro Enterprise Development, clothing for school children sponsoring school children, training English teachers.
- Wenquan: Teaching English, training English teachers, sponsoring school children. Water purification and heating.
- Longchuan: Micro Credit loans to poor families in pig and cattle farming to improve the community's standard of living.

HADA, Astana, Kazakstan

Manager: Hubrecht (Hubert) de Vos

- Step: Training to achieve skills to ensure that people can find gainful employment or go into business themselves.
- Pregnancy Crisis Centre:
Helping people make sensible family planning decisions.
Helping women deal with the distress caused by sexual abuse.
Training counsellors.
- Open Doors Community Centre

☑ Associate organisations' projects.

STICHTING ASSISTANCE INTERNATIONAL, Sichuan Province, China

Manager: Keith and Barbara Richardson

- Shiqu: Screen and treat people with Hydatids.
- Educate the whole community in Hydatids prevention.

HARVEST INTERNATIONAL SERVICES, Phnom Penh, Cambodia

General Manager: Sharon Lim

Manager: Martin Aeme

- Vocational Training Centre: Training young people to gain saleable skills, in computers, sewing and metal work.

Manager: Tim Paton

- Bridge of Hope Street.
- Village school projects.

ENTREADE GLOBAL, Hohhot, Inner Mongolia, China

Manager: Philip Lam

- A Cup of Water: Provide finances for poor children to attend school; 89 beneficiaries. Teach English and English Teacher Training; 300 beneficiaries.

BRIDGEWATER CARE, Guiyang, China

Manager: Karen Malone

- Community based home rehabilitation and physiotherapy for recently disabled and trauma patients.

INTERNATIONAL ASSISTANCE MISSION, Herat, Afghanistan

Manager: Iris Jordi

- Primary Mental Health: Improve mental health care of local people, through training and equipping of medical personnel, community leaders and through the provision of mental health services.

LITERACY PROJECT, Côte d'Ivoire, West Africa

Manager: Denise Rhodes

- Literacy for teachers and children.

GRACE FARM, Brazil

Manager: Ian Wood

- Care for underprivileged children.
- Building project.

All projects in the Newsletter are approved for tax deductibility.

Please advise where you prefer your gift to be sent:



1. HADA general fund and not tax deductible.

2. Tax deductible for the following:

- distribution where it is most needed
- a particular project
- a particular person working in the project.

From the secretary . . .

We had our AGM on the 11th March and you will be pleased to read that we enter this new operating year with Neil Young back as president, Brian Allbutt as vice president and no changes to other committee positions. Our treasurer, project officer and secretary must have done something right as the record keeping has been scrutinised and approved by the auditor.

From our last Newsletter, where we showed the cost of providing fresh and solar heated water, you will understand just how valuable your dollar donations are in a developing country. We also see from Dr Norman Hohl's article how effective this is in reducing illness.

We thank you all for your support in every way and take this opportunity to remind you that we produce a simple black and white newsletter to ensure that expenses are kept to a minimum.

As previously mentioned, we are offering an emailed Newsletter in pdf format as a further cost-cutting measure. For those of you who do not have a computer with internet connection, we will continue to mail out the Newsletter.

*Till next time,
Kees Moolenschot*

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All gifts are forwarded in their entirety, less bank charges, to the projects designated.