



NEWSLETTER

**Health And
Development Aid
Abroad –
Australia Fund Inc.**

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Beautiful Gate Orphanage *Lesotho Building Team, 2006*

IN May 2006 a few blokes from our church on the Gold Coast became aware of the need in Lesotho in Southern Africa for some work to be done at the Beautiful Gate Orphanage. Our friend, Sian Michalk, had been involved with Beautiful Gate for some time so we knew that due to a lack of funds their building program had come to a grinding halt!

This was the humble beginning of our trip!

Due to limited space here I've broken up the tale of our trip into the following STUFF:

Fairly Important Stuff

- A team of fifteen, made up of builders, plumbers, electricians and other trades people, went to Beautiful Gate to install services on their site.
- \$54,000 was raised from many people and churches around Australia for building materials.



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From the Secretary

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Important Stuff

- A well-equipped team was brought together during the preparation and planning of the trip, not only with regard to the skill-base of the members but also with regard to their psychological and spiritual position. There wasn't one negative moment or comment from the members of the team while we were there. Each member knew his calling to the task and set about undertaking his part in a truly purposeful manner.
- I mentioned the \$54,000 dollars raised – well that's a lot of money! I have to tell you that prior to getting to the site, we really didn't have a clear picture of what exactly we were meant to be doing. Don't get the wrong idea, it's not that we hadn't prepared or were going over on a whim; it is simply that there was so much work to be done. We were

Continued next page

unclear on exactly what part of the work we were to be doing. The moment we walked onto the site it all became crystal clear! We were there to install the water supply, sewer, electrical and telephone services. Remember the \$54,000! After the situation was assessed and we had a chance to quantify the job, we were able to determine the cost. Guess what! It came to \$53,850! We had \$150 left in the kitty. Tell me that's not a miracle!



Really, Really Essentially Important Stuff

- What a wonderful work the people of Beautiful Gate do! When we arrived, there were twenty-four kids. While we were there, four were adopted out, one died and a 1-day-old boy was brought in.
- Everyone on the team had the opportunity to spend time at the Beautiful Gate house with the kids, as they played during the morning. What an experience; you look at some of these beautiful smiling African children, full of life

and joy and know that if it wasn't for the work of Beautiful Gate some of the lives would have been lost.

- The team at Beautiful Gate is inspirational. Their dedication and commitment to what they have been called to is challenging to say the least.

Well, it's hard to sum it all up in a short piece such as this. I hope you get a little of what we experienced. At the end of the day

- It's not about us
- It's not about the money raised
- It's not about our church or the others that supported us
- It's not about what was done in our own lives.
- It's about the lives of the wonderful little children at Beautiful Gate.

Our prayer is that they will come to respond and grow personally through their second chance at life provided by the people and work of the Beautiful Gate ministry.

Many thanks go to HADA for facilitating the tax deductibility of the donations and for helping make the trip a resounding success.

HI from a sunny Sunday afternoon in Phnom Penh!

It happened two weeks ago . . .

Full time staff and volunteers met up to celebrate the first anniversary of the Bridge of Hope ministry. It was a time to celebrate together, for more than forty-three boys and girls, who in the last twelve months, have crossed over into a better life.

We are thankful that:

- ◆ Deurn, a 13-year-old orphan boy is enjoying a new life at a shelter and attending school.
- ◆ A 7-year-old HIV positive orphan girl and her 13-year-old brother are both in the care of an orphanage in Phnom Penh.
- ◆ Makara, a 4-year-old boy and his mother, both HIV positive, who we found living on the streets, are now in a safe place.
- ◆ Soka and Sampo, two siblings, 7 and 10 years of age, whose mother died, are being helped with housing and schooling.
- ◆ An 18-year-old orphan girl collecting rubbish on the streets is now settled at White Lotus, a

centre for girls. She is following a vocational training course.

- ◆ A family (both parents and one of their children are HIV positive) was given a small house by another organization. They are daily helped with food and the children attend a nearby school.

Bridge of Hope! Cambodia

- ◆ A 16 year old boy, after three years on the streets, is now settled in an orphanage in Phnom Penh.
- ◆ A 3-year-old girl, abducted from her mother and about to be sold, was rescued with the help of two other agencies and the anti-trafficking police. She is now safe in a foster home.
- ◆ Tamau, an 8-year-old boy, was found sick on the streets and taken to hospital for treatment. We are still following him up.
- ◆ Two small children from a very



poor family are regularly attending a private kindergarten.

- ◆ A 12-year-old boy from a very abusing family is now doing well in an orphanage in the province of Kompong Speu.

There are also others who have moved into a better life.

Please continue to support us for the many children the Bridge of Hope team is in touch with now. They have started walking on the Bridge. The progress at times can be slow.

MOROCCO: Consulting, Training and Service

LAST year we submitted a project to HADA and are now very grateful to have received financial support for it.

The aim of this project, in the east of Morocco, is to train families who have a child suffering from Cerebral Palsy, on how to best help them in their homes. The child will then be better supported and stimulated in his or her development. Basic physical exercises will be taught in order to prevent the contraction of muscles and the deformation of bones (due to lack of correct movement). Discussions about the place of the child in their family will also be held, to help the family to have a more positive view of their child. Some specialised equipment will be supplied to families when necessary.

We normally work in a centre where parents bring their children. This center is run by a local charity organization we have partnered with since 2003. About fifty children with Cerebral Palsy are receiving 45 minutes of treatment twice a week. Some parents won't (or can't) come to the center and we realised that they would be able to receive help in their homes. We tested the response of the population to the idea of home visits in order to evaluate the feasibility of a community-based approach. The result was encouraging.

However, our project has not advanced as quickly as we had hoped, as is often the way here. A well-trained Moroccan therapist suddenly moved abroad – we lost somebody very valuable. She had been chosen to carry out the home visits. We are also waiting on permission from the local authorities so that we can move ahead with the program at full speed. It is clear that we need to allow more time in this context.



Still, we are very busy . . .



Jeanne-Marie will train some ladies who know very little about special needs, anatomy, physiotherapy, psychology etc. After three months, three of them will work under the supervision of experienced workers in the existing center and four others will go back to their home town to a new center; they will get a monthly follow-up visit from us for at least one year.

So, we'll do our best to start the home-visits during the spring, when fields are green and ready to be harvested!

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.

HADA: hada@pobox.com

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

HADA's Vision: *To see medical, educational, 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 and 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. Drug rehabilitation program.

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 counselors.
- Open Doors Community Centre: Assisting the youth of the community.

● Associate organizations' projects

STICHTING ASSISTANCE INTERNATIONAL, Sichuan Province, China

Managers: Keith and Barbara Richardson

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

PHNOM PENH, CAMBODIA

General Manager: Sharon Lim

- Village school projects.

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: Assisting street children to a better life.

ENTREADE GLOBAL, Hohhot, Inner Mongolia, China

Manager: Philip Lam

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

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.

INTERNATIONAL NEPAL FELLOWSHIP, Nepal, Dang Province

Manager: Dr Julie Lincoln

- Leprosy and Tuberculosis program
- CATS Youth assistance program in Gourahi.

All projects in the Newsletter are approved for tax deductibility.

From the Secretary . . .

Dear Friends and Supporters of HADA,

This, our first newsletter of 2007, gives you a further insight into the way your donations are channeled to help folks in need. I am proud of, and grateful for, the team we have and for you, the supporters, without whom we would not be able to achieve a fraction of what we do, not forgetting those who apply your assistance directly to the beneficiaries. All in all, a great combination of effort, time and finance, and the results are amazing. Thank you, one and all.

Here in Australia, 'The Lucky Country', we are not short of anything, except rain at present. We do have needy folks, but not on the scale that occurs in those countries where HADA has a presence. Furthermore, in those developing nations, there is not the same central government-supported social security 'safety net', which we have in our own land. In Newsletter issue 27, we noted how we had disbursed some \$14,000. I wish to explain the process to you.

Some folks here might say, should we not buy the needed materials here in Australia and fill a container or a crate with goods and freight it overseas. In my experience, direct dollar assistance is very much more practical as long as we know where and by whom that dollar is being used. Our project officer vets the projects which we / you fund, to ascertain that the funding request is in line with HADA's objectives. If the project officer is satisfied that these conditions have been met, he presents the request and the details to the management team for comment and approval.

Questions are asked and if the committee is satisfied with the answers, a proposal is made to support the application, which is then seconded by another member. If all are in favour, the motion is carried, and the funding is approved. One really has to be on the spot to see the looks of appreciation the field worker receives from the beneficiaries. Words cannot adequately describe those.

I am pleased to report that I have just received a letter from the auditor giving us a good report for the year ending 31st December 2006, which will be minuted at the AGM on the 10th March 2007.

*Kees Moolenschot
Secretary*

