



# Sunrise Cambodia Newsletter

January - March 2019

## A note from Geraldine Cox AM

I'm so thankful to have supporters like you by our side. Your generosity means so much to all the children and staff here at Sunrise. I hope you know what a difference you're making.

That's why I'm excited to share stories from Cambodia with you.

You might notice we've made some changes to our newsletter. We want to give our supporters lots of helpful and encouraging updates about the work you are making possible.

The children at Sunrise are learning a variety of new things - from basic reading, writing and maths skills, to creative skills like music and art. They are also learning practical skills such as English and computer programs - plus, let's not forget the sports they're getting involved in like tennis, boxing and soccer.

You can also read some great stories about wonderful acts of generosity towards our children, like the day they received brand new bicycles, or when everyone had their teeth professionally checked free of charge.

There's plenty more I could talk about, but I'll leave you to read for yourself - enjoy!

Okun (thank you) for your compassion towards vulnerable children in Cambodia.

Love and light,

Geraldine Cox AM  
Founder,  
Sunrise Cambodia



## You are providing a home for 120 children in our residential care

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These children have nowhere else to live and many are orphans. Thanks to you, Sunrise can give these young boys and girls a safe place to sleep, nutritious food, quality education, clothing, and the loving care they desperately need.

## You are helping 700 children living in poor communities

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Many of these kids are not able to attend school because their families need them to help at home, or they live too far away. With your support, we send buses to collect children from the poorest surrounding villages and bring them to Sunrise, so they can spend an afternoon learning new skills and having fun doing extra-curricular activities other kids.

## Bicycles make a big difference

After a recent visit to Sunrise to volunteer their time with the children, the staff from Gucci Singapore were moved to do more to help. They saw how many of the community kids were walking long distances to get to places like school because they couldn't afford transportation. Gucci Singapore very kindly donated 4 bicycles to Sunrise. We were able to provide these bicycles to some of the poorest families in the village to make it easier for them to get around.



There was a lot of excitement when the new bikes arrived!

## Thank you .....

You're a very important part of Sunrise Cambodia and we certainly couldn't help vulnerable children without you - thank you!



## Discovering musical talents

One of our kind supporters, Derald, recently shared his musical talents with the kids at Sunrise by giving them Disc-Jockey or “DJ” lessons.

There were 50 young children and staff eagerly awaiting their introduction to a new instrument – the DJ Controller. Many had never seen one of these before and there were a lot of fascinated expressions.

Each student received a bulletin, translated to Khmer, telling them all about the main functions of the Controller.

It became clear that there were more than a few natural musicians during the lessons of basic beat matching, scratching and drumming.

There was a lot of laughter as the kids discovered new sounds and moved to the beats.

Your generosity gives the children at Sunrise the opportunity to learn new things while having fun!

*“We danced away the afternoon, where each child got a chance to mix a track for their prospective clients - their peers! It was truly a beautiful experience. Thank you, Sunrise, for having me and I look forward to providing advanced DJ lessons in the future!”*

*Derald, Sunrise supporter and DJ teacher*



The up and coming DJs at Sunrise



Thank you for giving young people the skills they need to enter the workforce.

## Getting ahead with computer skills

Over the last year, we have been training 35 young people from the community in computer skills. We were thrilled to see all 35 of these boys and girls complete their course in December - with new skills in Microsoft Office, Photoshop and using the internet. Your generosity provides crucial skills for employability through education programs like these. This group of young community members is now set up to enter the workforce – and some of them have already started jobs using their new computer skills.

## Free dentistry for the kids

It's not cheap to get dental work done – especially when there are many mouths in need of attention!

Cambodian Prime Minister, Hun Sen, and his son, Hun Manet, kindly arranges for all the Sunrise children in Kandal to have complete dental check-ups twice a year.

The friendly dental staff recently visited us with their mobile dental chairs and special tools for the bi-annual check-up.

We're thankful they made the effort to come to our site so the children wouldn't have to travel far.

Every child got a professional teeth cleaning and those who had decays got the necessary fillings put in. The dentists even (gently) extracted some teeth that desperately needed to come out.

The kids behaved beautifully and not one of them cried!

Without this kind of support from the Cambodian Government, it would be a very expensive venture for Sunrise to get each child fully checked out.

*What a relief to know the children now have clean and healthy teeth and gums!*



The children did so well with their check-ups, thanks to the friendly dental team.



Lots of sparkling smiles after the dental check-ups.



Thanks for providing the Sunrise children with school packs!

## Thank you for supporting our Back-to-School Appeal

Many of you responded to our recent Back-to-School fundraising appeal with generous gifts. Thank you so much! We raised enough funds to provide 144 school packs to the Sunrise children. These important packs are filled with things like a backpack, text books, water bottle, snacks and exercise books – all essential for vulnerable children in Cambodia to receive a quality education.

If you'd like to help, there's still time to donate. You can make a gift by using the form overleaf and sending it in the reply-paid envelope provided. Thank you!

Not only is the rice essential for meals - the kids were very excited to draw pictures on the rice bags!



## An act of generosity

Thank you to one of our kind supporters, Graham, for recently donating MANY bags of rice for the Sunrise children's meals.

*"I believe rice makes a good donation as this is part of the Khmer people's main diet. It was great to be able to see some of the children with their rice... even writing and drawing on the bags."*

Graham, Sunrise supporter



## Common Myth: My donations won't make it to Cambodia

Sometimes people are hesitant to give donations towards programs in developing countries like Cambodia. They fear their donation won't make it to the people who need it because of corruption. We follow strict processes for best practice at Sunrise Cambodia. This means funding distribution channels are kept transparent and are closely monitored - to ensure your generous gifts go where they are needed most for vulnerable children in Cambodia.

## Keep in touch with Sunrise .....

If you have any questions or you'd like to share stories and feedback, we'd love to hear from you.

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## I'd like to help vulnerable children in Cambodia with a gift

Full Name

Address

Phone  DOB

Email

Donation Amount: \$

I would like to give by:

**CHEQUE** Please make payable to 'The Australia Cambodia Foundation'

**CREDIT CARD**

VISA  MasterCard  AMEX

Name on Card

Card Number

Expiry Date  CVV

Signature

**Please post your gift in the reply-paid envelope provided. Thank you!**

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