



Duang Prateep Foundation Monthly Newsletter for January 2020

A Leading Organization for Underprivileged Children and the Poor

Remembering Absent Friends



On 6 January 202, the Duang Prateep Foundation held a merit-making ceremony to remember and pay respect to former friends and benefactors of the foundation who have since passed away. Nine Buddhist monks were invited to lead the remembrance ceremony. DPF staff and volunteers participated in the event. The ceremony is an annual tradition, and also serves the purpose of blessing the current staff members as they move forward into a new year of work.



Professional Training for English Teachers



When teaching the English language to youngsters it's important that the teachers themselves have the right knowledge and skills. To this end, Ms. Claire Berger and her team of Australian educators (Fiona Brebner, Yvonne Langford and Vanessa Cullum) organized a training course for 25 teachers of the DPF Kindergarten, other children's

centres that we support, and the nearby Bangkok Metropolitan Authority government school. All of the local teachers are non-native speakers of English and the training sessions, which were sponsored by "The Seek Fund", ran from January 6-14. Also assisting the visiting team were two teenage students from Melbourne, Ella and Emily Brebner. Prior to coming to Bangkok, the Aussies took time to visit our New Life Project at Kanchanaburi to join in activities with the resident children. While there, they also took time to visit a minority hilltribe community and donated hand-knitted hats made by Ms. Claire's mother and some pre-loved clothing.



Children's Day at the DPF



Sunday, January 12 was the day chosen for the DPF's National Children's Day celebrations, and over 1,000 children came along to join the activities. As usual, music, dance, colour, excitement and plenty of food and drink were a big part of the event, with live performances on the stage and many prizes on offer in the lucky draws. But there was also a more serious side to the event, which was conducted under the theme "Slum Children Pay Attention on Environment Issues." The Director of Klong Toey District Office presided over the ceremony. Children moved between several specially prepared areas to join in fun activities to receive

knowledge and to improve their skills, but all in an enjoyable way. Through games and activities at each booth, the children learned about preserving the environment. Thank you to all the sponsors, including CP-All, CP Meiji, Kasikorn Bank, Mirror Foundation and Red Rabbit Group; other participants, Bright TV, Sikkha Asia Foundation, singers from CP Group, the US. Marines, and several TV actors; plus honored guests Mr. Robert Wilson and his friends, Ms. Susan Joachim and another two English teachers.





Klong Toey Slum People Help Australian Bushfire Victims



On 23 January, DPF and Klong Toey community people held a ceremony to present a donation to help support victims of the recent devastating bushfires in Australia. Much of the money had been raised by community residents themselves, and was presented to Ms. Kay Spencer of the Hands Across the Water foundation, which has done so much to help poor and underprivileged Thai children and families. Khun Kay will ensure that all the money raised will be utilized directly to help the suffering Aussies. As part of the ceremony, a video of our children from the New Life Project Kanchanaburi singing the famous Australian song 'Waltzing Matilda' (which is very close to the heart of all Australians) brought a tear to the eye of Khun Kay and her two colleagues, Annette and Steve Delaney of Sydney. In response, Khun Kay thanked the Thai people for their love and support.

