



## It's our 5th Birthday



Here we are at our five year mark . WOW what a ride it has been. Such growth! At present we have five facilities at LIA Cambodia. We continue to take in children even if it is to help their parents through a rough patch until they can take them back, which can be up to 2 years or more. Most of our 85 children are permanent at LIA children's homes.

They get great education and life skills. We are now starting to see the fruit of years of input to their individual lives. It all started with a woman with a passion and love for the nation of Cambodia and shows what can be done through one human being saying YES ! We have very much a team spirit in all areas at LIA and a family atmosphere in all our homes with good Khmer staff. Ruth is amazing how she continues to live in Cambodia and oversee in a very hands on manner all our homes. Amongst all this, she mothers all the new born babies that come to LIA.

Tracey is project manager of LIA with our office based in Australia and frequently goes to the nation of Cambodia.

Ruth & Tracey are a great team. Putting all their life skills together along with their many years of experience, they run a reputable organization that people worldwide can draw from for training, advice and guidance.

Age or physical challenge has proven not to stop these two women accomplishing their heart's passion and obedience to the God they love.

When age is mentioned to Ruth she says, "**oh that's just a number**".

Tracey has fought extreme physical odds by the strength of her God to fulfil the life He has for her. What is the key to success?

They both say "**Well what would Jesus do**" That is their motivation ! Keeping their eyes on God! The future vision is huge for LIA.

Throughout 2009 we are in a maintenance mode through all our facilities. We are making sure facilities run smoothly.

Yes the recession does affect us but we are running fundraisers as much as possible. We are committed to helping those in need & we won't stop, but we need your help.

Love In Action has our "**1000 Sponsors in 2009 Campaign**" running this year trying to raise our basic monthly running costs. ( see link)

Letting people know that their little altogether can make do a lot.

In closing we say: **When you walk with God you have purpose and peace.**

Our thanks goes out to all of you who support us financially, emotionally and spiritually . We need YOU ! It makes our work even more rewarding when we do it on behalf of many.

*Our love to you All*

*Trace and Ruthie*

**Open your mouth for the speechless and plead the cause for the poor and needy**

### Our First Photos at Love In Action



Our first six children 2004



Eight more are added to our



Look at us now! and counting !

## Teams & Volunteers



**Carmel (our first Volunteer at LIA) & Mummy Ruth**

LIA is so assisted by volunteers that come worldwide whether in teams or as individuals. These volunteers give LIA much needed assistance in so many areas whether it be in maintenance, children activities and fun or medical assistance. We have lost count of how many we have had come through LIA in 5 years. They end up leaving more enriched than they come. So in giving they also receive. Our children remember those that return for a 2nd, 3rd or even 4th time. Many of you read the stories of these people that have come to us.

Some stories are posted on our website. At LIA we have a team house that provides a safe and homely place for teams to stay while they are on their Cambodian experience. We are very grateful to all of you that have come and assisted us over these last five years and we look forward to those that are still to come. Some people have come to us by being referred by a fellow traveller and come in to see and be part of what we do. They have a great experience that they didn't expect. We love to see you and thank you all for coming. We welcome you !



**Our first home**



**Our first collection**

God is a busy worker but loves to be helped.

## School Days



Our first children were tutored at home at LIA. Many come from no schooling at all. With wonderful sponsors we can now send them to private schooling where they are assessed according to their level of learning and placed in a suitable class. Love in Action young people that are gifted in music & the arts are given tuition by teachers within the nation that donate their time and skills. Others are tutored in computer skills in appropriate learning centres. They are given certificates of graduation. Every year at school one of our LIA children are dux of the school and



excel in all area's of learning. As you can tell we are very proud of our children and how hard they work to accomplish their grades and sharpen their talents & skills . We love them All....



**Music is what feelings sound like. These are our musicians.**



# Upon Reflection

## Isaac's Story



As you can see Isaac has come a long way from his devastating background. A community worker brought him & his mum to our gate. Isaac was only 15 days old, his mum had eight other boys & did not want him.

Isaac didn't even have a name when he came to us. Mummy Ruth prayed about a name and God gave her Isaac Samuel, two little boys in the bible who grew up to be great men of God. Isaac was so tiny we couldn't even find clothes small enough to fit him. Ruth could carry him cradled in one arm. We know this little boy was a gift from God. Isaac mean's "promised one". He was a peaceful little baby & now he is 2 yrs old & a great joy to us. He is like a four year old in a 2 year old body.

Isaac is a little boy that gives back into our lives and we thank God for bringing him to us. He is going to be a tall strong man. You should see his long hands and feet.



Even Bronco supporters need ice cream.

## Da and Peaktra's



**Coming from poverty & need.** This is a sad story but also one that has a future connected to it. Da and Peaktra came to us four years ago while still quite young. Their mother brought them to Ruth on one of her trips to collect children from the province

of Siam Reap eight hours from Phnom Pehn. At that time this mother knew she had contracted HIV which soon turned into full blown aids. She wanted her children to have a future and a hope and asked Mummy Ruth to take them, love and care for them as her own. This, Ruth did with great pleasure and they have thrived under our care at Love in Action. The picture on the right show this family together a few weeks before their mother died. She was gaunt and very weak yet somehow she endured the eight hour trip to see her children and

take them back one final time for Khmer New year holidays. Ruth and Tracey looked at her with great compassion all they could do was comfort her, give her some funds, nice clothes to wear before they all set off back to Siam Reap. We reflected on how great a mothers love is and what a mother will endure for her children. It can't help but remind us of how great God's love is for us. Da and Peaktra are brilliant in their studies. Da aims to be an accountant . Peaktra is a brilliant musician in learning & playing the piano. This is the legacy one mother's love can leave her children, the **legacy of Hope.**



Da & Peaktra with their mother before she died of Aids.

## Sreynie Story's



Then 2004

Sreynie was 18 months old when she came to us close to death She was a very sick little girl with tuberculosis, covered in rash and sores and never had much hair. She could hardly talk or even smile. With medication and lots of love from all our LIA family she has become a beautiful clever young girl she is now six. Sreynie is brilliant in school. She laughs and plays just like little girls are meant to.

( Note the difference in the photo's )

If Sreynie continued to live in the same conditions she would have died without the care she has been given.

God has a plan for little Sreynie and she has to choose to carry out the purpose for her life. There are many children here in similar situations but at least we can make a difference with ones like Sreynie who will go on to help others.



Now 2009

There are those that look at things the way they are, and ask why? I dream of things that never were, and ask why not;

Robert Kennedy

## Medical Clinics Commenced 2005



Ruth went into the town of Svay Reing and saw a great need in the outlying villages for medical aid. She went in early 2005 and gained favour with the local elder of the area and commenced the first medical clinics ever run in the area only 20 mins from the Vietnam border. There was and still is a great need for basic medical aid in the area. The clinics can have up to 300 people come through in two clinics over 24hrs. The soil has been so depleted from the use of the agent orange chemical used in bombs from the Vietnam war in the late 60's & 70's. It stays in the soil for many years. Anything grown in the soil still does not contain the vitamins needed for peoples' health. In four years with our medical aid we have seen the health of the people increase dramatically. We continue the clinics . LIA's vision is to cover more of the area around Svay Reing and in the city of Phnom Pehn with this much needed aid.



Volunteers preparing medicines.



What would you attempt to do if you knew you would never fail?

Robert Schuller

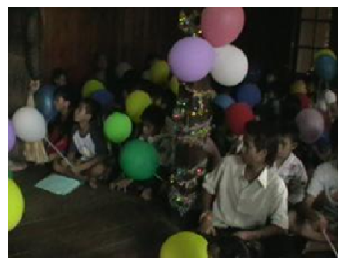


Ruth buying medical supplies



## First Christmas

2004



2008



First Staff & Ruth & Tracey



Trace, Santa's little helper



From reindeer to red nose and pink lips. Not much changes over the years!!!!