



ACTION

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Sowing the seeds of a new tomorrow for Cambodia



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Cambodia Action

Registered Name:
Southeast Asian Outreach
UK Charity Number: 293382

GENERAL INFORMATION

Cambodia Action is an evangelical inter-denominational mission and development agency, founded in 1973 by Major Taing Chhirc of the Cambodian Evangelical Church. The object is to promote the Christian faith and relieve poverty and distress among the peoples of Southeast Asia. Work is now solely amongst Cambodians.

Cambodia Action is a member of International Co-operation Cambodia (ICC), Global Connections and the Evangelical Fellowship of Cambodia (EFC).

DONATIONS

We rely on God to meet our needs through gifts. All donations are acknowledged unless otherwise requested. General gifts may be allocated to the greatest need, although donors can indicate a preference. Funds given for a specific appeal will be used for that purpose.

Cheques should be made payable to "Cambodia Action" and sent to the Yate Office.


BANKERS


National Westminster Bank Plc,
12, High Street, Doncaster,
South Yorkshire DN1 1ED, UK.
Current A/C: 69404054;
Sort Code: 60-02-50
A/C name: Cambodia Action

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 CambodiaAction

 @Cambodia_Action

Cambodia Action is working in partnership in
Cambodia with a number of local NGOs

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For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders. Isaiah 9:6



Dear Friends,

Most people will hope to see the back end of 2020 and are resigned to this coming festive season being a little less festive than years gone by. In a very short period of time the world has become totally unrecognizable with many people's lives changed. The effects of Covid-19 can clearly be seen in our day to day living. This all can be quite distressing as we approach Christmas 2020. However, there is one truth that cannot be changed and should be remembered. This still is the season to remember and celebrate the child that was given for the sins of the world.

Despite all the news and all that has gone on in 2020 there are still things that we can be grateful for. As a mission we rejoice at the hard work our team members have put in to help people adversely affected by Covid-19, in different parts of the country. We celebrate the continued good news that the virus is in check in Cambodia with

low infection rates and no single reported death. We were happy at receiving the news that children who were kept home for many months, missing their classmates and teachers, were allowed back to school, bringing some form of normality.

As a mission we are thankful for all our prayer partners and wonderful donors that have kept funding us during 2020. We are also grateful that Cambodia Action has partnerships on the ground that are working hard to alleviate poverty, help the vulnerable and bring some small joy to many people. In this issue I have attached a Christmas giving catalogue from our trusted partners, a small way that we as a charity can raise funds for those in need. Please be generous.

As the close of 2020 draws near, let us join with the host of heaven as we sing "Joy to the world, the Lord has come..."

A blessed Christmas to you and your family.

Chris

Action Magazine & Prayer Update



If you would like to receive a regular Prayer & Praise update, write to us at c.catlin@cambodiaaction.org and we will add you to our list. Also, if you would like to receive our magazine by email, please notify us on the same email address.

>> 'There's a work for Jesus none but you can do'

The old hymn line applies not only to planned works we undertake in Cambodia but also to the individuals God intends us to reach. We never forget that our first calling is to love those to whom we are sent - and be ready at any time to reach anyone the Lord brings our way. This applies as much "at home" as well as "in the field". If we pray God gives opportunities, because his heart is to seek and save the lost.

I was in our weekly prayer meeting when someone rather enthusiastically said we should pray for Buddhist monks. Not in the most positive frame of mind I was feeling sceptical when another missionary told an amazing tale of how the Lord had used her in the salvation of a Buddhist monk back in New Zealand! Feeling suitably rebuked I ventured to suggest that if the Lord was prompting this, we should ask him for opportunities this coming week.

A couple of days later I went for lunch with friend Deth to a nearby Khmer café we hadn't used before. After 20 minutes three monks came in for their lunch! I knew I should talk to them but had no idea how to introduce myself. Eventually we rose to leave and I was frustrated and disappointed with myself. However, I had put my phone on the table while eating and, now leaving, left it there. The lady in charge shouted to me – I laughed and said it was my age – the monks looked up and laughed – we made eye contact – and I then felt able to quite naturally sit with them and we began to chat. As a result I was able to visit them at their pagoda and become good friends with one of them Roearn. He's not yet come to saving knowledge of Christ but we continue to pray....

Zoran Sulc



Christmas Giving Catalogue, 2020



With the onset of Covid-19 and the recent flooding, this year has been very difficult for many families in Cambodia. Please help us help those that are less fortunate. All the gifts featured will play some small part in bringing the goodness of the Lord over this festive season.

To give, please select a gift, complete an order form and return this to our address. Don't forget about gift aid, this can add 25% to the gift and every bit helps. We are still receiving cheques in the mail but if you would prefer online giving go to the give section of our website at www.cambodiaaction.org and follow the prompts. Finally remember to reference all gifts as Christmas gifts.

PPC Bright Future: Support towards a child's schooling costs



Each year we give children an opportunity to go to school. Most of the children that receive sponsorship through the Brighter Future Program come from poor families who are not able to afford the uniforms, books, stationery that they need. This is an opportunity to help change that. Also, part of the funds go towards giving the children a good balanced meal each day.

1 month	£20	Code 10001
3 months	£60	Code 10002
6 months	£120	Code 10003
1 year	£240	Code 10004

M'lup Russey - Vaccines

M'lup Russey provides a number of services to support children in crisis situations, with children being rescued from very difficult circumstances caused by poverty, exploitation, abuse and abandonment.

Many of them arrive with untreated medical conditions. One of the first services M'lup Russey provides to the children is a medical, along with the vaccinations they need. The vaccinations are very important to protect their health when they return to live in community, and are given according to the age and need of each child.



Tetanus (over age 6)	£6	Code 10005
Polio	£10	Code 10006
Tetanus (under age 6)	£10	Code 10007
Tuberculosis	£28	Code 10008
Meningitis	£35	Code 10009

Sunrise - Families affected by HIV



Families enrolled in the Sunrise education program have a parent and/or child living with HIV. As they are poor, the temptation to take their kids out of school and put them to work for family income is great. Sunrise supports the

cost of study and provides accountability to make sure the kids stay in school. They do this by providing a backpack and school uniforms. Can you help with these costs?

Code 100010 - school Uniforms and Backpack- £10

PFC Prisoner Food distribution

Through 2020, with the help of kind donations, Prison Fellowship were able to help many prisoners with food packs. The prisoners, both male and female, are dependent on food that is given through families and friends. Many prisoners do not get enough food - please help Prison Fellowship to continue this important work.



Code 100011 - £10/pack per prisoner.

(Each pack contains the essentials like rice, fish and noodles.)



Christmas Gifts Order Form

Please complete and return to the Cambodia Action office, address below.

Title: Forenames:

Surname:

Address:

..... Postcode:

Tel: Email:

Gift Code	Description	Price	Quantity	Total
			Grand Total	

I would like Cambodia Action to treat this donation as Gift Aid:

This Gift Yes No

giftaid it

All donations from the date of this declaration until notified otherwise.

Yes No

(I confirm I have paid or will pay an amount of Income Tax and/or Capital Gains Tax for each tax year (6 April to 5 April) that is at least equal to the amount of tax that all the charities or Community Amateur Sports Clubs (CASCs) that I donate to will reclaim on my gifts for that tax year. I understand that other taxes such as VAT and Council Tax do not qualify. I understand the charity will reclaim 28p of tax on every £1 that I gave up to 5 April 2008 and will reclaim 25p of tax on every £1 that I give on or after 6 April 2008.)

Signature: Date:

Please return this form and payment to the address below. Cheques payable to Cambodia Action. If you would like to receive a receipt, please tick box.



Christmas Gifts
Cambodia Action
120 Maisemore,
Yate B537 8UW

Registered as Southeast Asian Outreach.
Charity No: 293382

You can also email your order to:-
c.catlin@cambodiaaction.org

>> Doing it for 'the Least'



Matthew 25v40 states that whatever we do for “the least of these” we do for our King of Kings. Who is “the least of these” in your life and, in contrast, what spheres of influence or resources can you draw on?

Living in Cambodia is a constantly humbling experience as I witness the faithful service and commitment of “the least” to “the least of all”. In September, I spent a few days in the rural north west of Cambodia with a network of churches and Pastors seeking to serve “the least of all”: orphaned and vulnerable children in their communities. I bear testimony to Pastors’ willingness to minister to their communities, even when they themselves are living at barely subsistence level, perhaps disabled in some way, arguably already one of “the least of these”. They faithfully continue to preach and witness to Christ yet often see little response to their work.

As I struggle to process the poverty and the need I see, I wonder how it is to live with this, day in and day out, and to have such commitment that you drive a motorbike 242km in a day over slippery, muddy, pot-holed roads,

potentially in tropical storms with their stair-rod rain and gale force winds, just to see if you can access some limited emergency help and support for the widowed and vulnerable children in your community.

Praying with one Pastor in particular, I was acutely aware of his need of spiritual encouragement, refreshment and renewal. I shared with him these verses from Matthew that the Lord sees what he is doing. His responsibility is to be faithful in his work and ministry - the outcome belongs to the Lord. His resulting tears touched my heart.

Following Jeremiah’s example, in this world-wide shaking of the nations, I invite you to lament before the Lord for the global situation, but also for the Pastors and the vulnerable in Cambodia, trusting in God’s goodness and faithfulness, but laying out their needs and seeking the Lord’s grace and mercy to intervene. If you do it for “the least of these” you do it for your King.



By Sharron Catton with M’lup Russey.

>> Covid and Cambodia - It's not all bad news.

As the world adjusts figures on a daily basis with certain countries seeing an increase in infection rates, Praise God we can report that the virus continues to infect very few people in Cambodia. Covid mostly has been brought in by foreign travellers and those who have been abroad and returned infected.

The government in Cambodia has been very pro-active in curbing the spread or importation of Covid with tight restriction on entry into the Kingdom and a monitoring of movement of people. This monitoring process is paying off. But despite all these efforts in keeping it out, Cambodia has not been spared the effects that this horrible virus has wreaked on the global economy. Economic recovery and business confidence will be slower, the World Bank has revised its 2020/2021 growth forecast for Cambodia, downgrading this figure to -2.0%. The main drivers of Cambodia's economy are tourism and merchandise export such as shoes and clothing, which have been hard hit by Covid-19.



It's not all bad news

It is not all gloom. Cambodia is open to receive visitors according to the government. In a bold press statement, the Ministry of Tourism called on International tourists not to cancel their travel plans to Cambodia, with the



country prepared to receive thousands of travellers again. Furthermore, the Ministry encouraged visitors to share their positive experiences in visiting Cambodia on social media. They recently released an eight-point instruction manual to help guide tourists back to the shores of a country that offers such beauty and value for money holiday breaks. We are not negating the recorded \$5 billion loss in tourism but we

are applauding all the efforts being made to turn this around.

The workers are returning

Some of our partner churches that minister mostly to the garment factory workers who were laid off months ago, report that they are getting back to work. Getting back to work means much needed money for day to day essentials. On the 20th of September, a victory was won concerning the minimum wage for factory workers. A figure of \$190 per month was agreed on with an extra £10 for regular attendance and \$7 dollars for transportation and rent. This may seem very low in the west however it is a huge blessing to the hundreds of thousands of workers in Cambodia.

Getting back to school

Children need to meet up, play and interact with each other on a day to day basis. With the lock-down and restriction placed on the country's schools, this was a very difficult time for the tens of thousands of children who were barred from the school grounds. Parents had to adjust working hours and restructure their home lives because of their children being at home. This was a difficult time for many families. But the good news is the schools are open and children are once again enjoying that interaction with friends and teachers.

Final great news

Last month the Ministry of Health announced that restrictions on churches have been lifted and that churches and groups may gather to worship. They have to adhere to strict health guidelines and limit the time spent inside buildings. This is really wonderful news according to many Pastors that have battled to minister to their flock online. We praise God for the steps the Cambodian government have made to bring some normality back to the Khmer people.

We praise the Lord for His mercy endures through virus and through all difficulties. Psalms 136.

Chris Catlin

>> CAN YOU HELP US?



Cambodia Action's board have taken the necessary and essential steps to secure our continued commitment to answer the Lord's call concerning the nation of Cambodia.

The most significant step involves the recruitment of an in-country Executive Director for the mission based in Phnom Penh. In order to understand and respond to the current needs within Cambodia we recognise that Cambodian based leadership is essential.

We need to raise sufficient funds to underwrite this appointment during this transitional phase in order to enable the work of Cambodia Action to be effective in the long-term. We have identified a strong candidate for the Executive Director role but unless we can secure our target of £50,000 over 2 years, we will not be able to progress further with the process of making an appointment. If you would like to help and need more information please write to us at c.catlin@cambodiaaction.org

PRAYER CHANGES EVERYTHING

Flooding in Cambodia

Even as the impact of Covid-19 continues to devastate the vulnerable economies of Southeast Asia, in recent weeks tropical storm Noul has moved over Cambodia dumping massive amounts of rain, severely affecting several regions. Many of the coastal towns and larger cities, including Phnom Pehn, have not been spared the deluge while many of the smaller towns are reported to be cut off. This has created a great deal of problems for those whose livelihood depends on daily travel and trade at the many markets, which are now under water or swept away.



The floods in Cambodia are the worst in years

Sadly, 24 people are reported dead due to the flooding. Thus far, 270,000 people are reported displaced and in need of shelter. Bridges, roads and infrastructure are damaged and in need of repair. Rice crops are at risk of being lost. Purportedly the military is stepping in to help harvest.

The Government is advising people to remain vigilant regarding localised flooding and contaminated waters carrying water-borne diseases.

Through the regular incoming updates, Cambodia Action is monitoring the situation on the ground and through the efforts of our team members and partners we are doing all we can with our available resources. Please stand with us in prayer for Cambodia during this difficult time.

- Pray that the rains would cease, that flooded waters would recede quickly and livelihoods recovered.
- Pray against the spread of water-borne diseases.
- Pray that the rivers and dams would hold the influx of further rain without disasters.
- Pray for the protection of all our partners and team members in the field.
- Pray that donors would be generous in helping Cambodia get back to normal.



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