



# CASUNIK

## The Cambodian Society in the United Kingdom

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REGISTERED UNDER THE CHARITY ACT 1960 No 292074

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## Annual General Report December 2011 - September 2012

### Activities

#### Christmas Party Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> December 2011:

It was a successful night attended by around 100 people from the community plus friends; parents and children, teenagers, students group. There was the opportunity to meet up with Santa Claus (Mr Mark Blomfield) and afterwards Disco Dancing (DJ Sorel).

#### Khmer New Year Celebration Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> April 2012:

- The Buddhist Ceremony was conducted by Mr Tan Nam by request of five precepts, Bang Skaul. Chanting blessing by Ajahn Amaro, Monks & Nuns from Amaravati and guest Monk invited from Phnom Penh.
- National Anthem & Pong Savada (Music arranged by Mr Sam Ruos), all sang together with leading singers Mr Salideth, Mr Maneat, Miss Vicky.
- Traditional dances by Miss Dinal, Chantrea, Sinuon Blomfield
- Songs by new talent: Mr Maneat, Miss Chanserey.
- Four Songs by Miss Daniele Owen
- Classical dances: Hanuman and Vey Reap by Mr Kakada Pich
- Comic show: Khmer traditional comedy (Ayai) performed by Miss Dinal Blomfield and also by a student.
- Music background entertainment for lunch and dinner by Mr Sam Ruos
- Music disco for afternoon and evening dancing organised by Mr Sorel Nou and his children.
- Easter Eggs distribution to the children organised by Mrs Soravy Dom and Mrs Sorany Ogston with assistance of Dr Sambath on stage.

#### Supporting team:

- Mr & Mrs Tan Chea for gifts monks Packs/ Raffles gifts organiser
- Mr & Mrs Moeng Phok: flowers & beverage drinks for the monks (as a private donation).
- Dr Sambath: Raising fund for Bang Skaul, and forwarded directly to the Monks.
- Treasurer & financial assistance: Mrs Soravy Dom, Mr Sudarit Unn.
- Mrs Sorany Ogston: Day General Manager.
- Mr Usaly Tan: Evening General Manager
- Mr Thy Hy General Assistant
- Mr Maneat Stage Assistant
- Mr Kunthea Tep (Head of Student Association), 5 Students, Mr Long Sareouy for Assistance of stage decoration.
- Miss Vicky and Mr Salideth (Students): Stage presenter.
- Mrs Soravy Dom, Mr Sudarit Unn, 2 Students: Receptions, sales of Raffles.

- Costume Assistance: Miss Rithy Keo-Pich
- Food & Catering Assistance: Miss Muy Eng Toeuk, Mrs Soly Jenkison, Mrs Bopha Chan,
- Music Sound check & Control System: Mr Sam Ruos
- DJ Traditional Khmer Ramvong & Disco dancing: Mr Sorel Nou.
- Photograph/slide show: Mr Moeng Phok

**We are honoured by the numbers of guest from the UK and abroad including:**

- Ajahn Amarao (Abbott of Amaravati Buddhist Monastery), Reverend Sy Heng Rem (guest Monk invited from watt Moha Montrei, Phnom Penh), The Royal Embassy of Cambodia's staffs members.
- Seniors members and community's members from around the UK
- European & Cambodian guests from different places, national and international.
- Students group from all around the UK
- The VLC management team members
- The Laos Management team members

Approximately 200 people during the day and 150 at the evening dancing-party.

**We had once again another successful event:**

We are very touched, despite the world economy crisis by everyone's effort and the time in taking part, to help to celebrate the only one Special day of the year, highlighting the Union of a big Family.

**Other Community Events**

- **Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> May 2012:** International Visak Celebration at Chithurst Monastery .Nr Petersfield.
- **Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> June 2012:** International Bonn Phka promoted by Mr & Mrs Tan Nam, Mr Tan Chea, Mrs Tan Sivna, Dr & Mrs Sambath, Mr & Mrs Moeng Phok and the religious team for fund raising event to support the new foundation of Buddhist Temple Moni Sikkharam in France the sum of approx 9000.00 Euros and donated directly to the Temple.
- **Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> June 2012:** International Thod Pha Pa fund raising event for Chithurst Monastery. Donation received approximately 7226.00 GBP were forwarded to the temple by Mr David Glendining and the team members.
- **Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> August 2012:** Casunik General Secretary Mr Usaly Tan welcomed Mr Vath Chamroeun, Secretary General, National Olympic Committee of Cambodia (NOCC) and some of our Khmer Olympic Team delegate members and also two of our Olympian swimmers. Accompanied by Mr Kunthea TEP, Leader of Student Association group in the UK, and three student members and Mr Thy Hy, adviser committee member who is very active in the sport scene, we had a get together with our Khmer Olympians. We were able to learn about the many activities of NOCC including promoting sports in our homeland and raising the profile of Cambodia in the international sport arena. One area NOCC are very keen to develop is to find talented Cambodian sport-persons who could represent our nation in competitive events. Casunik would do their best to link the two teams together.
- **Monday 27<sup>th</sup> August 2012:** A get together with Paralympics team members at the Royal Embassy of Cambodia hosted by HE & Mrs Hor Nam Bora, Counsellor Paul Sengky, all Embassy's staff members, Mrs Sobopha Owen (Casunik) to meet up HE Yi Veasna, Mrs Neuv Leakhena, Mr Mao Sochea, and the Paralympics Champion Miss Thin Seng Hong. Once again HE Hor Nam Bora has kindly given his advice and support to our Para-athlete Miss Thin Seng Hong.

## **Forthcoming Events:**

- **Pchum Ben Ceremony** will be on Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> October at Amaravati Temple.
- **Kathina International** will be on Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> November 2012 at Chithurst Monastery (on Ajahn Sucitto Birthday).

To ensure the availability of venue for future events, I have also made provisional advance bookings at the VLC Centre ahead of the election of the new executive committee (on 13<sup>th</sup> October 2012) as follows:

**The Xmas Party:** Saturday 8th December 2012.

**The Khmer New Year (Chaul Chhnam):** Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> April 2013.

## **Special Recognitions**

- To support the Khmer New Year Celebration, the Royal Embassy of Cambodia has generously donated: 500.00 GBP and another 500.00 GBP will be donated on Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> October at Pchum Ben Ceremony.
- The VLC Centre has generously contributed: 1300.00GBP to support Casunik's activities for year 2012.

I would like to express my gratitude to you all for another successful year. Your continued support and help to our community are in line with the common aim of the Society, striving to work for the benefit of all Cambodians in the UK thereby ensuring a positive image of Cambodia internationally.

Yours Sincerely,

Mrs Sobopha Owen  
President of CASUNIK