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Dear Friend



The girls enjoying exhibits at the Science Center.

MALAYSIA

For almost four days we were able to enjoy the hospitality of BLESSINGS HOMESTAY in Kuala Lumpur. It was a chance to renew friendships made twelve months before and to make new ones. Our Malaysian brothers and sisters went out of their way to provide for our needs and bless our stay. The main purpose of our visit had been to renew our visas, which was accomplished within twenty four hours. However, for the children it was a wonderful opportunity to enjoy the Kuala Lumpur Water Park, local swimming centre and

also a visit to the National Science Centre. All this made possible through the loving generosity of those Malaysian Christians we have come to know and love.

Praise God we all now have visas for the next three months which will be extended to a full one year with our work permit applications. We are praying that these can be obtained through a fully registered Eaglesrest Foundation.



The four children at Kamala Beach (Phuket).
Healthy and Happy!

ABOUT EAGLESREST

OK. We are not Abraham, we are not Noah, we are not anyone you may have heard of who did remarkable things through faith in God. The similarity however is that, like them, we are often looked on as foolish for following the call of God on the vision of Eaglesrest Retreat Centre. Yes, we are foolish in the eyes of man. Humanly speaking, Eaglesrest may never come about other than in the small temporary capacity we have operated for the last twelve months. It seems impossible that the amount of money will ever be raised to buy the land. It seems impossible that our desperate need of team members (particularly accountant; counsellors; people with culinary skills; builders etc etc) will be met. It is foolishness to believe that we will build all the necessary buildings and then find the sponsorship needed to bring our hurting Asian brothers and sisters in for care. It seems even more unlikely given our new status as 'independent'. (see OM announcement at end of letter)

And yet, IF this IS God's project and desire (and we believe it is) He will bring it to pass in His time. If this is God's way of building our personal faith and showing the world His Glory and power despite the world's idea of possibilities, then who are we to stand and declare it is hopeless?

We sincerely thank all those who have faithfully stood with us and prayed with us/for us and Eaglesrest. Thank you for daring to believe that our glorious God is bigger than all the impossibilities that Eaglesrest

*"...those who hope in the LORD will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint."
Isaiah 40:28-31*

represents. I have prayed from the outset that God would receive great glory from the establishment of Eaglesrest. When there is no way left BUT GOD – then the accomplishment will do just that – Glorify our magnificent God who alone is able to do the impossible.

ROMMEL LANGUAGE STUDY IN LOPBURI

We were all delighted when Rommel returned home after ten days of travel and study in Lopburi. The round trip was well over 2,500kms but he is adamant that it was time and money wisely invested. While he was mentally and verbally challenged by the task, he also admitted that he enjoyed the opportunity to come a little closer to being able to communicate in the native language. Rommel will now seek a local Thai



Some of our new friends – who were also with Rommel at Lopburi Language school.

to become his language helper as he continues to study the Thai reading and writing. It is also a personal goal to be the means of leading such a person to Christ and disciple in the process. He is hoping to be able to return to Lopburi for three months next year after using the coming months in preparation for the more difficult modules ahead.



Rommel with his tutor at Lopburi.

to become his language helper as he continues to study the Thai reading and writing. It is also a personal goal to be the means of leading such a person to Christ and disciple in the process. He is hoping to be able to return to Lopburi for three months next year after using the coming months in preparation for the more difficult modules ahead.

OUR DILIGENT VOLUNTEER!

We are still enjoying the quiet diligence of our OMF volunteer, Gordon (Germany). This month he has spent painting doors and furniture around the place. The church interior looks wonderful after careful patching and painting of all the walls; Pastor Prakop and Naw are thrilled with the professional result.

FIRST FOR EAGLESREST

We have employed a local woman to take on the cleaning of the guest house and guest rooms used for Eaglesrest. Noy was brought up in a Christian home in the north of Thailand but after marriage moved south to Phang Nga. Unfortunately her husband is an alcoholic and so she drifted away from Christian things. The family are very poor because her husband can no longer work. There are three children; the youngest girl (about 14 years old) has been attending church and other activities for some time. Noy attended for the first time a few Sundays ago. Please pray that she will feel free to continue to come and will be challenged to re-commit her life.

As Eaglesrest has no income we look to the Lord to cover wages as we go. Please also pray that we can find simple income generating ways to finance the growing costs of the ministry.

Until next month,

Janene, Rommel, Colleen, Stephanie, Jefferson and Nicole Ala

IMPORTANT MESSAGE FROM OM AUSTRALIA:

"OM Australia and Mercy Teams International (MTI) have been partnering with a ...ministry in Thailand called Eaglesrest. While Eaglesrest's vision of providing respite for Asian nationals serving the Lord in poverty is not core to MTI's vision for ministry in Thailand, we wanted to support this worthy ministry initiative in its start-up phase and give it every opportunity to flourish. Over the past two years the Ala family has established Eaglesrest's work and it is already actively engaged in ministry. MTI's involvement has been to provide practical encouragement and support services to the Ala family as they have developed this independent ministry. OM, MTI and Eaglesrest have agreed that it is now time for Eaglesrest to become a fully independent entity, looking after its own staff and finances under the oversight of the Eaglesrest Board. One practical result of this change is that any future financial gifts will need to be made directly to Eaglesrest, rather than through OM or MTI offices. Our prayer is that Eaglesrest would continue to grow and be a blessing to many workers in this needy part of the world."