

## Chrestos Update October 2011

Then said Jesus to His disciples,

**“The harvest is plentiful, but the workers are few. Therefore, beseech the Lord of the harvest to send out workers into His harvest.” Matthew 9: 37-38**

### Karen/English New Testament

Chrestos is in the process of reprinting the Karen/English New Testament with another 4,000 copies. The first printing sold out very quickly, and Karen in many countries did not get any. We are also publishing a new edition of this Karen/English version with headings, references, notes, a glossary and maps. We hope that the sale of each publication will pay for the next. Crossway gave us a license to use the ESV text and The Myanmar Bible Society gave us a license to use the Mason Karen text. SIL has given us consultancy support and enabled us to acquire the Paratext software. Scottsdale Bible Church in Arizona will kindly give to us the proceeds of the sale of the first printing for subsequent publishing.

During the month of October, we are looking forward to the visit of Rev Khoi, the General Secretary of the Myanmar Bible Society, and Mr Arun, who is Regional Director for the United Bible Societies.

Tony Wales (co-founder of Lion Publishers), who has given us much support and help, will visit to give several days of training. Then three of us will go to Hong Kong for the MAI-Asia Publishing Forum [Nov7-11] organized by the Media Associates International. This is encouraging and forming an international network of Christian publishers, editors and writers.

Our studio is embarking on a new evangelistic film in Karen written by Tha Hser Minn, our studio director. Last month a team of trainers supplied by Project Video, came for a few days to help train our camera men and other workers in the film. .

**Grateful thanks** to the Thackeray family for all their help while they were with us.



### Singing and Preaching Tour

Two of our Chrestos Staff, Thara Eh Ler Thah and Thara Mer Eh Wah, will soon be returning from a singing and preaching tour in the United States, supported by the many Karen refugees there. They have been warmly received and also shared about Chrestos.

### Teaching and Training

Our main ministries here are teaching and training. Young men and women are coming, keen to learn in the Bible School. Our staff, many our own graduates, want to continue to learn and also receive training in particular areas of service. They are preparing to go out into the plentiful harvest fields..

### Testimony of Naw Po [Bible School student]



I am the youngest of seven children. When I was young my mother died, and then my father became a Buddhist monk. My older brother is a drug addict. I did not know where to go or where to stay. By the blessing of God, they accepted me in a hostel. After grade 6, I felt discouraged. I did not know what to do and asked God to help me. The way opened for me to come to Chrestos Bible School.

I started to pray for my father every day and asked others to pray also. Every time the term finished, I visited my father and shared the Bible with him. By God's grace, he has now become a Christian and been baptized. When he came out of the water, his face was full of smiles and he sang a song with great joy. The Lord has done great things for me.

### **News from Laos: Children's Seminar**



Many seminars are now held inside Laos for the Khmu men, women, and children. They come from far distances to feed on God's Word.

About 123 children attended a 2 day seminar arranged especially for them. Each one paid attention as the Khmu Team taught them. They were hungry for God's Word, and asked the teachers not to stop. The teachers continued until 1:00 a.m., with no time to even take a shower! Then they had a short rest. The children came back at 5 a.m. with their books and pens, waiting for the teachers to get up and teach them again.

### **The Courage of the Children**

Please pray for eleven orphans in Luang Prabang, Laos. They are facing tremendous problems from the principal of the school, who is trying to make them renounce their faith and stop them going to church. Seven have said that they would not go to church anymore but have not yet renounced their faith. Four are standing strong and said they would not renounce their faith and would keep going to church. Their ages range from 9-11.

**We learn from such children.**

### **Thank you**

Pat has been in the UK for cataract surgery on both eyes. It has been such a joy to be with the family; Philip, Sarah, Moses, Anna, Daniel, Peter and Sandrine, and many dear friends. Thank you to those who have prayed, visited, written and phoned. She will return to Thailand on October 3<sup>rd</sup>.

Every month, she will be sending out to women who are interested 'Just a Few Thoughts', by email and by post. If you would like to be included, please let her know.

**Chrestos is a Community** of about 140 people including staff, students in our Bible School, and boys in the Home of Peace and Joy. The Lord has supplied our needs as we live and serve together.

### **Chrestos Staff and Student Sponsorship Programme**

Sponsors are needed for several staff and many Bible School students.

The cost is £25 per month.

For further details please contact:

**Sheila Martyn: 01883 344 947**

**[jsemartyn@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:jsemartyn@tiscali.co.uk)**

### **Chrestos Home of Peace and Joy Sponsorship Programme**

Sponsors are needed for 35 boys from the age of 6 up to 16 in our Home of Peace and Joy.

The cost is £25 per month.

For further details please contact:

**Sarah Thackeray: 01787 373474**

**[randsthackeray@btinternet.com](mailto:randsthackeray@btinternet.com)**

Thank you from us all here at Chrestos and the regions beyond. With our loving greetings,

***Geoffrey and Pat***

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