

“Sharing Christ’s Kindness”

CHRESTOS MISSION UPD



From Mae Sariang, Thailand

JUNE

UK Trip 2015

Geoffrey and Pat had a thoroughly eventful and exhausting trip that lasted 6 weeks. There were 18 meetings sandwiched in between time spent with family. It was wonderful for them to catch up with so many loving and faithful friends – and to meet some new ones! There was insufficient time to see all their friends they would have loved to see. They hope it will be possible next year! They are so thankful to The Lord and His people for the prayers and support for His work here.

Tha Hser Minn, too, had a great trip that culminated with a 2 week intensive English IELTS course in Bournemouth. He lived with a host family and ate ‘English food’...EVERYDAY! He’s still calculating how many ‘cuppas’ he consumed...

...continued!

The Bible School syllabus is in Sgaw Karen so we pray that the new Po Karen students adjust well. Chrestos Mission has never had so many new students. We have 67 students - 43 young men and 24 young women. We pray for guidance and ask for your prayers.



1st Year Bible School Students

English Programme

This academic year will be the first year that Chrestos Mission will have 2 native English speakers teaching English along with a native Karen speaker. The English programme will comprise of 3 levels: beginner, intermediate and advanced. Daniel will be teaching advanced; Jim, an ex-helicopter mechanic will be teaching intermediate and Eh Htoo Hair, a senior staff member, will be teaching beginners. Jim teaches locally in Mae Sariang and has over 10 years of teaching English experience. This year will differ slightly as first to third year students will have the option to choose whether or not to study English. English will be compulsory for 4th years. The levels of written and spoken English vary vastly – with written English if anything being at a higher level than spoken English mainly due to practice and confidence.



Geoffrey & Pat with Mary, a daughter of an old friend, in Bournemouth



Tha Hser Minn enjoying a rare bowl of noodles in England with Peter Atkinson



Geoff gives a Chrestos presentation at The Haughton's



Geoffrey and Pat visit Pat's cousin, Bill

Chrestos Mission Baby Update!!!

Unbelievably, 12-15 months ago there were barely any babies around...and now there are 5 young boys either approaching or recently celebrated their first birthdays:

- Smart (“Sa-mar” in Karen), is 15 months old and son of Chrestos Mission manager, Tha Hser Minn.
- Samuel (“Sam-oh-el” in Karen) is 13 months old and he’s the son of Por Hta Shue, an ex-graduate and studio worker.
- Marcus (“Mar-kut” in Karen), who’s almost 1 years old and he’s Daniel’s son.
- Kevin is 10.5 months old and he’s the son of orphanage manager, Kri Htoo.
- ...and finally, Boat, who’s 9 months old and the son of chief cook, Yo Paw, and Prajak, Chrestos Mission’s second groundsman.

New Academic Year Kicks Off 07 June!!!

The new 2015-16 academic year will kick off on Sunday 07 June 2015 with a service and celebration. This year we have 26 first year students – 15 young men and 11 young women. Three of the first year students are Po Karen (a minority Karen group). Historically, Chrestos Mission, has usually worked with the Sgaw Karen – so we are pleased to see increasing numbers at the Bible School. Over the last 2-3 years, the Po Karen student intake has increased to about 10-20% and this year confirms the trend.

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Sharing Christ's Kindness

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Graduate Update

Eh Nee, one of the graduates from last year's 2014-15 class, has been appointed the pastor of his village. Eh Nee came to Chrestos Mission 4 years ago with very little education but a big smile and a heart to work, serve and grab every new opportunity with both hands. He was often mistaken for a teacher by visitors due to his smart appearance...and high waist line.

The Telaku Karen, a sub-group of the Po Karen number about 6,000 and are located very remotely in the Tak province and Karen State in Burma. It has taken many years to witness to the Telaku because of their location which until 20 years ago was only accessible via riding an elephant!

Eh Nee's grandfather was the first Christian convert in 2008. Eh Nee is now the first pastor amongst the Telaku with any formal training at a Bible School. His cousin, Naw Ma Se Wa, is in her third year and there are also two Telaku in their second year as well as one starting her first year. We praise The Lord that Chrestos Mission is given the opportunity to help mould these young lives spiritually.



Eh Row, Graduate



Pastor Eh Nee, Graduate

New Chrestos Employee

Eh Row is our latest employee who recently graduated in the 2014-15 class. He is 24 years old and half Sgaw Karen and half Po Karen. He can speak Sgaw and Po Karen, Thai and is one of the best English students in recent years. Eh Row's father is Pastor Nehemiah who completed a 2 year course at Chrestos Mission Bible School. Eh Row is working as Tha Hser Minn's assistant as well as honing his skills in the Media Department. Eh Row spent 2-3 years in Bangkok working in a kitchen to save money for tuition fees at a Bible School.

Items for Prayer

- Pastor Baw Mi Htoo's wife passed away after a long battle with failing kidneys. Chrestos Mission had donated money previously which had kept her alive on dialysis but unfortunately the renal transplant was too expensive. Geoff and Pat attended the funeral on 02 June 2015. Please pray for Pastor Baw Mi Htoo as he faces great loss.
- The start of the new academic year on 07 June 2015.
- 2 new boys @The Home of Peace & Joy. Please pray that they will adjust quickly to their new family.

Chrestos Sponsorship: Staff and Students

Sponsors are needed for several staff and many Bible School students. The cost is £25 per month. For further details until further notice please contact:

Pat Atkinson +66(0)9 1024 2408
pat.atkinson37@hotmail.com

Chrestos Home of Peace and Joy

Sponsors are needed for 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 +44(0)1787 373 474
randsthackeray@btinternet.com

Just a Few Thoughts

Every month Pat sends out to women in different countries 'Just a Few Thoughts'. If you would like to be included please let her know.

**Thank you from us all of us here at Chrestos,
With our loving greetings,**

Geoffrey & Pat



CHRESTOS MISSION Charity No. 1095325

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*"Your word I have hidden in my heart,
that I might not sin against You."*

Psalm 119:11

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