

CAMBODIAN HARVEST DRIED FRUIT CO. LTD.

SEPTEMBER 2023 NEWSLETTER



Visiting team from AustralAsian Community Church, Adelaide, staying at Cambodian Harvest factory for 3 days in July 2023



AACC team sharing in our village church

Esai, Joanne & Chenda

Oli and Lesley picking guava with Bunthoeun



These ladies were baptized by Netha, (holding Debra)

At least 50 children listened to the Bible story and learned the song, "I have decided to follow Jesus"



Over 300 members came together from our three churches in Kompong Thom Province. Some of the team went to S'mack village on a trailer, to share the Gospel for the first time. The Jesus movie was shown there in the evening. The AACC team was so delighted and amazed as people they prayed for were healed. It was the first time they shared their testimonies and prayed for healing, so they were very excited and encouraged to watch, as Holy Spirit moved and people were deeply touched. It was also a miracle that we could even hold a celebration in the villages when it was only two weeks before a general election! The village leader even loaned us his tent and chairs for the occasion!

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We give all our thanks and praise to Almighty God for His faithfulness over the past 20 years! Marion Fromm registered our project in November 2002 and we have all watched and seen the great things He has done for us. His love, mercy and provision has never failed. Truly a future and a hope has been given to people with disabilities from land mine accidents and the Kingdom of God has expanded in ways we could never have imagined, as a result. Jeremiah 29:11.

In July, the AustralAsian Community Church from Tasmore, Adelaide sent a team of young people to encourage Bunthoeun and Netha and experience an outreach into villages in Cambodia. They stayed three days at the farm with Cambodian Harvest families and blessed them all in so many ways. They worshipped and prayed and shared meals together and experienced many new things and tried new food and lived like the locals. We have much to thank AACC for over many years, as they supported us and encouraged Marion Fromm. They sent out a team in 2019, which was such a blessing and they also raised money for our Ford Wildtrac.



On Sunday 9th July, the AACC team and Cambodian Harvest's team left early for Kompong Thom Province. Bunthoeun's brother drove one vehicle and Bunthoeun drove the other 4WD ute. Bunthoeun's sisters from Kompong Thom city cooked a lovely Khmer curry and meals for lunch and dinner. They went to Doung Antak village where our three churches gathered for a combined meeting using the commune leader's tent and chairs. Over three hundred people gathered together to worship God. Eleven people received salvation and there were many healings too. As a result five ladies were baptized the following week, with more to follow soon. Matt played guitar and led worship and he plans to return to Cambodia early next year, (after year 12 exams) and teach Som and Sreyneang to play the keyboard and guitar. We have lacked a musician from the start of our church, so that will be a wonderful gift.

The "Jesus" movie was shown at a new village, S'mach, where a new church is being started. After this event, the team packed up and left for the factory. On the way a tire burst and the change over took ages so they didn't arrive back at the farm till 2.30am! They were so excited about all that had happened, not one of them slept on the way home. On Thursday, Bunthoeun took the team to Kampot to visit our small church there, which was planted seven years ago. They met about thirty members who were so excited to see Bunthoeun and our church team. Tim was there and they helped repair the thatch on his house and met the crippled lady and her son, who looks after her, now 13 years old. Her husband had slashed open her head with a machete leaving her permanently disabled. They brought back her wheelchair for repairs. It was so encouraging to see that our initial church plant was alive and well after seven years. Some older children had grown up and married and now had children and all of them had survived covid together and grown in their faith.



On September 18th Reverse The Curse of Landmines in Cambodia held the last AGM, when John Wilkins and Marion Fromm retired as directors and the Australian Mercy RTC Project closed here in Australia.

Cambodian Harvest Dried Fruit Co. Ltd., will continue in with Bunthoeun Thong and Netha Phy as directors. RTC has spent twenty years as an Australian Mercy Project and it is time to hand over the project to the land mine survivors as we promised from the beginning. For the past four years Bunthoeun and Netha have managed the ministry and planted three churches in Kompong Thom Province, now numbering 300 believers. A fourth church plant has begun in S'mak village near where Bunthoeun grew up. Bunthoeun has been teaching church members to grow vegetables and chickens to increase their income and help pay off their microfinance loans.

Production at the factory is quite small now, compared with before covid, and there are not many orders but as tourists and foreigners return to work in Cambodia, we expect the manufacturing and sales to slowly increase. Chickens, ducks, geese and fish are being raised and fruit and vegetables grown to supply food for the staff and meet a market for organic meat, eggs, fish and vegetables for sale to the local community.

Fundraising and Banking The Australian Mercy bank account for RTC Cambodia will close on 30th September 2023.

Please make sure that any donations are sent to that account by 22nd September, to be cleared before the end of the month.

From **1st October 2023**, all **donations** can be sent direct from **your bank account or through Western Union** direct to:

Cambodian Harvest Dried Fruit Co. Ltd. In **US Dollars**, including **bank transfer fees**.

Cambodian Harvest Dried Fruit Co. Ltd.
Account No. 2900-20455996-16
ACLEDA Bank Plc. Head Office, Phnom Penh, Cambodia.
SWIFT Code ACLBKHPP CHIPS UID 415637
US\$

Your prayers are very important to support Bunthoeun and Netha and the other 10 staff living at the farm.

The following are our prayer requests:

1. Please remember them as they travel out to the village churches every weekend and as they negotiate the horrible traffic in Phnom Penh.
2. Please pray for Leang and Neng's son Som as he sits for his year 12 exams in November.
3. Please pray for Joich, 20, (Ol and Praun's son) as he learns to drive and get his license. Som (18) already has his.
4. Please pray for much wisdom for Bunthoeun and Netha.
5. Please pray for the company to continue to expand and the farm to prosper.
6. Please pray for a great move of Holy Spirit in Cambodia and our churches to grow strong in their knowledge and love of God.
7. Please pray for John Wilkins and John and Judy Thomson and Marion Fromm, along with Bunthoeun and Netha, as we transition through the closing of RTC Cambodia and the ongoing expansion of Cambodian Harvest Dried Fruit

Many thanks are due to John and Judy Thomson, John Wilkins and so many others who have served RTC Cambodia over the past twenty years. Their tireless service and diligent prayer has undergirded everything that has been achieved. Now that the work is done here in Australia, we also want to thank all the many supporters who have faithfully prayed and given so much to this area of the Lord's vineyard. We pray God's richest blessings are yours and that you will continue to hold Cambodian Harvest and the ministry in Cambodia in your prayers. To God be all the glory—great things He has done. God bless you all.

Marion Fromm