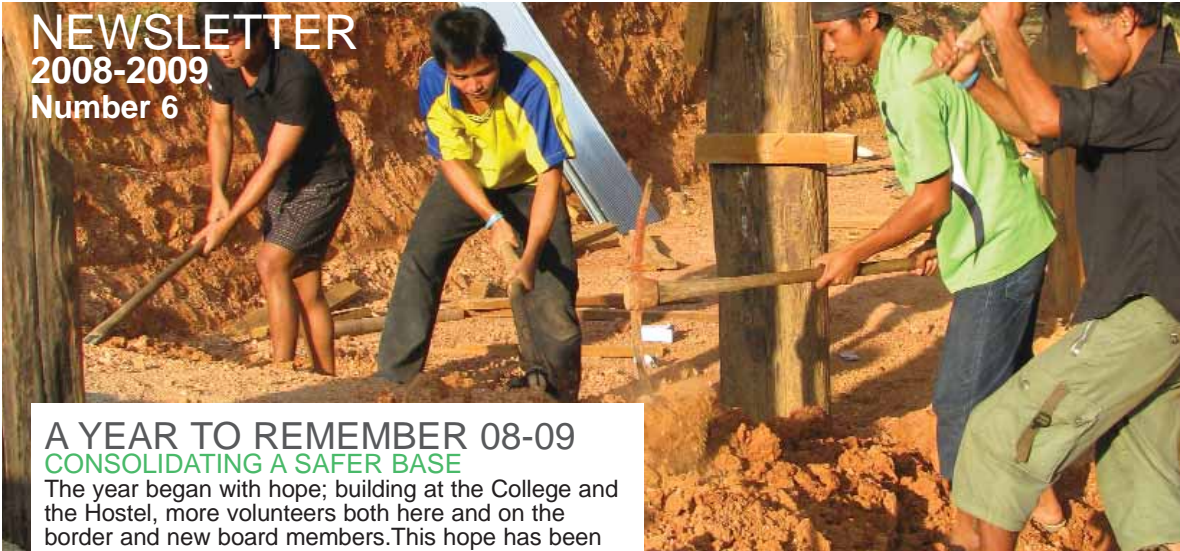


BUILDING & VOLUNTEERS

www.projectumbrellaburma.com



NEWSLETTER
2008-2009
Number 6



A YEAR TO REMEMBER 08-09 CONSOLIDATING A SAFER BASE

The year began with hope; building at the College and the Hostel, more volunteers both here and on the border and new board members. This hope has been replaced with despair and great sadness as the Karen have watched their lands being savagely invaded by the Burmese military. 4000 people, mainly women and children have fled their homes for uncertain safety in Thailand. This is very close to our College in a Thai Karen village and the Hostel in Mae La Refugee Camp and the Clinic. Our students and the medics, all too familiar with these atrocities, have joined in the helping.

The year 08-09 began with the well attended raising of the Karen flag at the Orillia Opera House. Awareness presentations were made to churches, service groups and clubs.

Cathy and David returned to the border in October and were followed by volunteers, Hilary Sayle and Sarah Weber who blended well, breaking the students' hearts and their own when they had to leave. But healing began when more volunteers arrived. Tracy Penley and Pam Bastedo were accompanied by Dr. Frank Brewster and Dr. John Toye. The students' knowledge of 'Canadian' improved enormously while our volunteers felt the magic of the heroic Karen people. The young women joined the ceremonies of the third Kaw Tha Blay Junior College Graduation. During the school break in April, PUB's Karen students became the volunteers and taught Karen language, reading and writing and computer skills to their Thai-Karen hosts. Then just as Cathy and David were leaving for Canada, Jolyn Campbell arrived from Huntsville with music, cheer and hours of teaching. The Karen leaders and Jolyn's independence proved Cathy and David were quite dispensable.

While this was going on there was the essential building of a cafeteria with improvements to the main teaching hall, new toilets, a boys' dormitory, a library and an access road at the College. At the hostel in the Refugee Camp, the new Retired Teachers' Library was built. We cemented relationships with the Thai government, with the villages around and with other educational and medical people on the border.

For the Karen people a devastating time yet for people in PUB's care, there was reason to hope.



RESPONSIBILITY TO PROTECT BY DR. DAVID DOWNHAM

In Burma/Myanmar there is no such thing as 'Human Rights', as the world is beginning to understand as it watched the appalling suppression of the Saffron Revolution. The Burmese government cares nothing for its own people, preventing international aid entering the country when Cyclone Nargis struck. Aung San Suu Kyi, the rightful voice of Burma, has had her illegal imprisonment renewed and now it has become much more severe after a Kafka-like trial. In Eastern Burma on the Thai border, renewed vicious attacks by the Burmese military on Karen villages began in June and continues, and in the United Nations, Gambari is sent to Burma again to shake the Generals' hands.

We, the people of PUB have been working together now for eight years. Small, 'Direct Aid', Community-based both sides of the world, the helper and the helped work closely together and sometimes it is hard to say which is which. The success of PUB is a hope for change and we should all be proud that we can help to improve the world. We know that it is our 'responsibility to protect' and we hope our care will continue to advance the idea and actuality of a global community. *Supporters of PUB know that in protecting another's humanity, we protect our own.*

THE NEW LIBRARY DONATED BY THE RETIRED TEACHERS OF ONTARIO

In 2002, Kshakalu asked us to supply books for a small dirt floor bamboo hut. This, he said, was to be their Library in the Hostel in Mae Lah, where he had brought 40 children displaced by conflict. Caring for the growing numbers of the children, we never had enough money for a library. Now 7 years later and thanks to the generosity of The Retired Teachers of Ontario guided by Heather Gaudie and team, we have a solid structure, with tables and chairs, and bookshelves and new books. The retired teachers opened a whole new world to them.

Our Vision is the safety and survival of all ethnic groups in a free and democratic Burma.

Our Mission is to provide care and education for young people and for medical clinics - to serve victims of ethnic cleansing and cultural destruction in Burma. To accomplish this our Canadian Foundation raises awareness and funds.

PUB is a Direct Aid Charity
All donations go directly to the children, the patients of Dr. Cynthia's Clinic and the Medics

Photos: Top Left The students help with the construction of the College cafeteria Top Right Students enjoy reading the NEW books Bottom Right Kshakalu, Cathy and Hostel Caregivers outside the new RTO/ERO Library Bottom Left All the students at the entrance to the College grounds named "Learning Centre" as the word "College" is not permitted. (more photos on website)



EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBERS
Dr. David Downham
Cathy Downham
John Mayo
Dr. John Toye
Lynn Toye
John Rosebush
Andrea Town
Dr. Frank Brewster
Eric Sayle
Cathy Sayle

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www.projectumbrellaburma.com
john.mayo@nbpcd.com
cc Lindsay.OCoin@nbpcd.com
Charitable #
87537 7905 RR0001

FINANCIALS

May 31st, 2008

Revenues	2008	2007
Grant - Barber Foundation	5,570	16,000
Donations	104,395	76,346
	109,965	92,346
Administration Expenses		
Accounting Fees	212	212
Print & Web	2,387	570
Conference	928	-
Bank Charges	523	506
	4,050	1,288
Direct Expenses		
Malaria Clinic	-	1,188
Clothing	11,278	4,546
Food	21,754	18,874
General Supplies	7,102	8,120
Stipends	4,781	4,509
Transportation	11,936	7,142
Recreation	5,952	2,546
Building & Premises	12,743	5,961
Clinic	5,743	1,877
Communications	1,404	1,321
Academic Supplies	4,646	4,040
Medical	1,240	3,571
Miscellaneous	2,092	1,661
Capital Items	6,482	14,095
Travel (donated by volunteers)	5,064	14,697
Total Direct Expenses	102,217	94,148
Total Expenses	106,267	95,436
Surplus (deficit) for the year	3,698	(3,090)
Surplus (deficit) beginning of year	6,292	9,382
Surplus (deficit) end of year	9,990	6,292



WHERE DID ALL THE MONEY GO?

Bamboo (it's not free), Wood, bricks, cement, sand, stone & tubs for mixing
Corrugated tin, cement roof tiles & roof leaf batts
Posts and beams and 2x4s
Gas, oil & grease
Nails and hammers
Hinges, screwdrivers, levels, measuring tapes, saws, planers, hand drills & sanders
Shovels, hoes & knives
Wires, florescent lights, fixtures, plugs, switches & electrical boxes
PVC, joiners, taps & filters
Shutters, frames & sandpaper
Paint, varnish & brushes
Eavestroughs, fitting & downpipes
New Water Storage Tanks
Labour charges
Elephant costs - Mahouts and Helpers
Rolls of Vinyl for flooring
Repairs and maintenance
Tables, chairs, shelves & whiteboards
Pots, pans, clay stoves, grills, dishes & spoons
Guitars n' strings,
Computers and UPS (Uninterrupted Power Source)
And then the consumables & wearables, readables, plantables, eatables, school fees, notebooks, medical supplies, toothbrushes and paste and so much soap!
Finally seeds, rakes & more hoes, knives & wood for pig pens, chicken coops, duck houses, goat houses & food and clothes for the 'cowboy' who looks after our cows.

WHERE DID THE MONEY COME FROM?

Agg, Michael & Jane
Alexander, David
Allan, Catherine
Applebee, Sandra
Ardrea United Church
Argent, Jean & Robin
Aston, Janet
Atherley United Church
Bailey, Joan
Baker, Gini
Baker, Michael
& Gillian Hamilton
Ball, Gordon & Jane
Bam, Homi & Linda
Barbanell, Stephanie
Barber Foundation
Barnett, Aaron & Tara
Barons, Harry
Barr, David & Margaret
Belfour, William & Jean
Bell, William
Benham, Murray & Cindy
Berube, John & Anne
Birtch, Rebecca
Boyd, Linda
Bolak, William & Liane
Bradford, Arthur & Margaret
Bradford, Karleen
Brahmst, Hannelore
Brechin United Church
Brechin, Barbara
Bremner, Coco
Bremner, Walter
Brett, Brenda
Brewster, C.F.
Bright, Heather
Brown, Marilyn, Allan & Lottie
Bryant, Jamie & Christie
Bunn, Walter
Burgess, Tom & Wendy
Burnett, Kenneth & Shannon
Burton, Mardi
Byers, Jacquie
Caldwell, Agnes
Calverly, Jackie
Campbell, Jolyn
Campbell, Scott & Philippa
Campbell, Shirley



VOLUNTEERS CHANGE THEIR LIVES

BY JOLYN CAMPBELL Having just returned from Thailand on May 25th, 2009, my impressions of the 3 weeks I spent at Kaw Tha Blay are still fresh and vibrant in my mind. I was amazed at how willingly the students welcomed me into their midst, how gracious and gentle they were, and how aware they are of the privilege they have been offered in attending Kaw Tha Blay college. Together we learned, laughed, shared stories, played, sang, ate, and offered pieces of ourselves to each other. For this wonderful group of students and teachers, there is no question that PUB is changing lives for the better! And as for me, I am still counting the ways that my life has been changed by those short 3 weeks, while looking ahead to a time when I will return. Without a doubt, PUB not only provides assistance and hope to a people who shoulder challenges we can only imagine in our worst dreams, they also offer strength to the surrounding villages and communities both on the Border and here by its presence in Canada - loudly proclaiming, "We Care!"



Carpino, Francesca
Charlton, P
Charters, Anderson & Susan
Chattell, Brian
Chisolm, Aldwyth
Chong, Daniel & Therese
Christie, Douglas & Barbara
Clarke, Steve
Clement, Ian
Cole, Ben & Cathryn
Coleman, Ennis
Connor, John & Shirley
Cooke, Mary & Allan
Cormode, Edward & Leslie
Courtney, Claudia
Cox, Margaret
Crawford, Gordon
Cullis, Lois
Dadson, Marni
Darker, Helen Maria
Deans, Barbara
Decker, Heather & Chris
Dennis, Lloyd & Marilyn
Deimler, Carol
Dielmann, Ralph
Dohmer, Rolf & Helen
Doner, Warren & Mary
Downham, D & C
Doyle, Helen & Barry
Doyle, Norma
Driscoll, Edith
Duff, David & Barbara
Duncan, Kathleen
Dunn, K.J
Eberhard, Margaret
Edmonds, Ruth
Ellison, Erin
Emminghaus, Margarete
Entwhistle, Adele
Enns, Dianne E
Fairburn, Laura & Douglas
Fancy, Betty Lou & Peter
Ferguson, Ross & Ruth
Fretwell, Joan
Frumau, Jim & Peggy
Gabriels, Henry
Gauldie, Heather
Gemmell, Peggy

Gibbon, Lynne
Gilbert, John
Gillespie Jones Ltd. - Warner
& Christine Rohmann
Goddard, Peggy
Gordon, Janet
Gordon, Lorna
Graham, Karen
Griffith, Anne
Guerra, Remo
& Dale Morrison-Guerra
Hall, Robert & Kathy
Harris, Nancy
Harrison, Ann & Ronald
Heaton, John
Heaven-Smith, Cat & Ken
Heaven, James & Brenda
Heritage United Church
Hewgill, Donald & Margaret
Higgs, Mae & Allan
Hilary's Place Washago
Hilfman Millson, Karen
Ho Tung, Jane & Clifton
Hogan, Alex & Geoff
Horne, Evelyn
Hudson, Jean
Hunter, Dwayne & Faye
Hurson, Betty
Hutchings, Wendy
& Alexander
Hutchinson, Sandy
Ironside, Nancy
Jeffries, Donna
Jenkins, Sara
Johnson Inc.
Johnson, Shirley & Harvie
Johnston, Richard & Wendy
Jones, Barb & Michael
Jones, Bruce & Jean
Joughin, Elaine
Keast, Ronald & Elizabeth
Keates, Maggie
Kent, Kirby & Joyce
Kerr, Kristin
Kiwanis Club of Orillia
Knox, Grant
Koo, Siebbing
Koza, Jackie & Cully
Lapp, Anne
Laing, Janet
Lawson, James
Ledlow, Pat
Leeson, Paul & Joan
Leith, Margaret
Lemmon, Elinor & James
Lennox, Lynn & Wayne
Leroux, Gerard
Littler, Elizabeth
Locker, Tiffany
Lockhart, Anne

THE STUDENTS

BY CATHY DOWNHAM

PUB's Kaw Tha Blay students are stellar! My pride in them is overwhelming. They know Education is the Karen People's only hope for a future. Our young girls and boys WORK hard! From 6:00 am in the morning they start the fires, they study, do chores, eat their breakfast, and are at school by 8:30. At 3:00 it is time to work in the gardens, repairing fences, the cooking team is busy then with dinner and more chores or a time to play (kickball, volley ball, crafts and guitar music). A brief time to shower and do laundry before 2 ½ hours of evening study and then to their dorms to bed on a mat under a mosquito net. Whether at study, work or play, they live in the moment, always ready with brilliant smiles.

After graduation from college, some find significant work on the Border, a few went to America but most returned to Karen State to resist the Burmese Military; to help and to teach. Occasionally they tearfully leave because the family needs help, a parent is sick or dying or an older brother has been taken away by the military. It is so hard for them to give up a future. They seldom can come back.

Now with the recent offensive, territory lost, refugees fleeing across the border, they are helping the newer refugees by giving clothes from their own meagre supply, caring for their people. It is a great privilege to help them.

Photos: Top Left Volunteer, Pam Bastedo with Karen students, Thaw Lay Paw & Thi Thi Win
Left Students roll new water tanks to Hostel
Below Karen flag flying at the Opera House
Bottom Right David walks in the clinic followed by a refugee
Bottom Left PUB Board members

PUB RAISES THE KAREN FLAG

On July 10th from 10 am -12 pm the Karen flag, for the second year, will fly proudly over the City of Orillia until July 31st. The city in its wisdom, has chosen to honour PUB's mission and vision by endorsing this Flag Raising as an expression of their international awareness.

The Karen flag will be raised to join the Canadian flag, symbolizing our two countries coming together and working as one community to make a better world.

Check out details of the event at www.projectumbrellaburma.com

Long, Margaret
Long, Clarwyn & Beverly
Longford, Suzanne
Lowry, Josiah & Wendy
Loyst, Diane & Dale
Lwin, San
Lynch, Dale
MacAuley, Bonnie
MacNaughton, Ann Marie
Madell, M. G.
Main, Nan
Maltby, Cameron & Mary
Marshall, Sandra
Martin, A.W. & Lois
Massey, Rachel & Anthony
Maw-Naing, Kinsa
Mayo, John & Margaret
McBirn, Pat
McCall, Beth
McCarthy, Marlene
McCarthy, Phyllis
McElroy, Ross & Fran
McLachlan, Hugh & Shelia
McLachlan, Lori
McLaren, Peter, Ripley & Peggy
McNally, Jane
McRobb., Dorothy
Mick, Mary
Miller, Romaine & Susan
Mills, Hjordis
Millward, Andrea
Mitchell, Cheryl
Mody, Lynn
Morrison, James
Murphy, Bernie & Tom
Murray, Walter & Helen
Neal, C
Neelands, Tom
& Dan Spethmann
Newman, Duncan
Newman, Peter
Noganosh, Elizabeth
O'Coin, Karen
O'Connor, Elizabeth
Orillia Public Library
Lynn Gibbon
OSMH Dept. of Surgery
Ontario Society of OBGYN
Page, Jeanne
Paul, Peter and Donna
Peaceworks
Penley, Mary
Perri, Jim
Pomeroy, Margaret
Pounder, Brian & Vivian
Powell, Valerie & Jamie
Price-Jones, Greg

Pringle, Deirdre
Ramsay-Currie, Betsy
Reinders, M
Richard, Lyla
Riley, Elizabeth
Ritchey, Dwayne & Betty
Robertson, Lorne & Ruth
Robinson, Anne
Robinson, Gwen
Rosebush, John & Joan
Rowlinson, Hugh
RTO - District 17
RTO/ERO
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Rotary Club of Washago
St. James' Anglican Church
St. Paul's United Church
Salathiel, Ian
Sargeant, Jean
Sayle, Eric & Catherine
Schulz, Mary
Scott, Cynthia
Scott, Patti
Seki, J.T.
Set, Doreen
Shire, Jane and John
Sim, Yvonne
Sing, Roland
Smith, Barry & Pat
Smith, Dennis & Prudence
Smith, Jerry & Sylvia
Smith, Ken
Snowden, Margaret
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Taft, Trish
Taylor, Ron & Charlene
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Thomson, Adam & Shirley
Tillman, Bill and Gill
Tomlinson, William
Town, David
Town, Leslie
Town, Mary
Town, Robert & Andrea
Toye, John & Lynn
Trinity United Church
Tudco Corporation



THANK YOU TO OUR DONORS

We wish to thank you our donors who have continued to believe in PUB. Without your loyalty and continued support this work would be impossible. If you have been by chance, omitted, please forgive us, and let us know. We thank the following people who have supported us in the fiscal year **June 1st. 2008 to May 31st. 2009.**



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