

Newsletter No. 1: 26/1/2009 New Year's Day – The Year of the Buffalo

Hi Everyone!

Most of you have written to say that you are interested in my projects with Douglas A Campbell Foundation and the Children's Hope Foundation. (Some I elected to add to the list because I think you might want to be on it☺ – let me know if I am wrong!☺) This is the first newsletter wishing each and every one of you a Happy New Year!

The stage is set: it is off to Singapore on March 12 and then to Cambodia on March 14. The trip will start with Dr. Lynelle Kerr who does the special kind of chiropractic called NSA (Neural Spinal Analysis) which seems to be greatly helping the rescued child sex workers in a home near Phnom Penh. It is there that we are employing an English teacher for a year to start the girls off on a path to some sort of useful professional training.

I am looking forward to meeting the 80 girls there and also visiting other homes. It seems important to get a feel for what is going on there and to see what else can be done. We seem to have fallen into this particular area after giving a donation to the organization in Thailand a few years back. They did training programs for women who had left prostitution.

Another aspect of this trip consists in becoming acquainted with the projects being undertaken by a friend of my brother's. At present he is on the track of looking at a revolutionary way of providing clean water to as many places as possible in Cambodia.

These newsletters will be sent whenever there is something important to report. If you know anyone else who is interested then please let me know and also should you want to be removed from the list, this can be done at any time. My aim is to get the word out and to offer you all the chance to help, physically, mentally and spiritually.

Let me finish with a really great story about cultural differences.

HOW THE CHINESE STAYED PUT IN ITALY

About a century or two ago, the Pope decided that all the Chinese had to leave Italy. Naturally there was a big uproar from the Chinese community. So the Pope made a deal. He would have a religious debate with a member of the Chinese community. If the Chinese win, they could stay. If the Pope wins, the Chinese would leave.

The Chinese realized that they had no other choice. So they picked a middle-aged man named Ah Pek to represent them.

Ah Pek asked for one condition to be added to the debate. 'They would not use words, so that there could be no unfair advantage to the native Italian speakers over the Chinese'.

The Pope agreed. The day of the great debate came.

Ah Pek and the Pope sat opposite each other for a full minute. Then the Pope raised his hand and showed three fingers. Ah Pek looked back at him and raised one finger. The Pope waved his fingers in a circle around his head. Ah Pek pointed to the ground at where he sat. The Pope pulled out a loaf and a glass of wine. Ah Pek pull out an apple.

The Pope stood up and said: 'I give up. This man is too good. The Chinese can stay.'

An hour later, the cardinals were all around the Pope asking him what happened?.

The Pope said, "First I held up three fingers to represent the holy trinity. He responded by holding up one finger to remind me that there was still one God common to both our religions.

Then I waved my finger around me to show him that God was all around us. He responded by pointing to the ground and showing that God was also right here with us.

I pulled out the wine and loaf to show that God absolves all sin. He showed me an apple to remind us of the original sin. He had an answer for everything. What could I do???????? " "

Meanwhile, the Chinese community had crowded around Ah Pek. 'What happened?' they asked.

Well, said Ah Pek. First he indicated to me that all Chinese had 3 days to get out of here. I replied to him f*@k off and not one of us was leaving.

Then he pointed that this whole city would be cleared of Chinese. I showed him that we are staying right here.

Yes, and then???' asked the crowd.

I don't know, said Ah Pek. He took out his lunch, and I took out mine!!!!!!!

Take care, mujin