

Cambodia February 2011



One -2 - One Cambodia employed three newly qualified “Cambodian Dental Nurses”. These nurses train as medical nurses for 2 years and then have 3 months training to give local anaesthetic and extract teeth. They also do simple fillings with hand instruments. Their role is to visit rural areas where there is little or no medical and dental provision. I was given the task of planning and buying the equipment necessary then watch them work and provide them with guidance on treatment.

I was also able to try out the new mobile equipment donated from Stornoway. Thanks to the Rotary Club, St Columba’s Ladies Guild and donations from individuals I was able to buy a portable dental chair, operating light and complete dental unit with compressor and suction. It worked very well and the handpiece even had a fibre optic light.





The Happy Tree Orphanage based in Phnom Penh looks after 96 children who are all HIV positive. Thanks to medication these children are all surviving much longer. They attend local schools as well as extra tuition at the orphanage but as they get older they have a lot of difficult questions to ask as to how they will be accepted and what sort of life and friendships they could ever have.

The younger children were delighted to get the teddies knitted by our volunteers in Stornoway.

The care and support they get is wonderful. While I was there a room was being converted and fitted with some equipment from dentists in Taiwan to provide a dental clinic for all HIV children in and around Phnom Penh.



As One -2 –One Cambodia grows as a charity it has also taken on a dental clinic with 2 surgeries on the outskirts of Phnom Penh. This is to provide a service for the many orphanages around that area. More clinics are planned so I spent some time planning their stores cupboards and writing procedures for managing a dental clinic and staff.

