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## WSV December 2016 NEWSLETTER

**We've all been so busy and it's been a great year for WSV and the children we teach in Vietnam. Since our last newsletter in May:**

1. Jason Horton and Adam Barratt travelled 140 km north east of HCMC to **Tra Tan in Binh Thuan District** to assist the local teachers and also to conduct a swim program for kinder kids who missed out last year.
2. **Schools in the Xuyen Moc District** conducted teacher training and a summer swim program for 45 teachers and more than 100 kids. Jan Williams conducted the teacher training and Duc Toan Luu, Georgia Small, Nicole Kruger and Kellie Presnell were invaluable to the success of the program.
3. Jan and Kellie then went on to **Vung Tau** to assist teachers run a program for Grade 3 children.
4. Duc Toan Luu, Riahna Wilson and Sam Harris returned to assist the local teachers at **Than Thach in Ben Tre Province** teach 50 kids again this year.
5. **Ho Tram Water Safety Consortium** requested that we train more teachers in anticipation of a big turn -out for the Summer Holiday period. Tim Kemp assisted by Adam and Jason conducted this training. Darryl Beales also conducted a Surf Water Safety day for 30 children in October.
6. In October we received an urgent request to train more teachers in **Xuyen Moc District** and to assist them to conduct swim programs as part of the school curriculum. **This is what we have been trying to achieve over the past 5 years!**

Gail Mortimer returned to Vietnam and with the assistance of Darryl Beales, Duc Toan Luu, Thuy Nguyen and Natasha Vaughan, assisted the local PE teachers at 3 schools to conduct swim programs for 250 kids for the first time in these schools.

## New programs for 2016

In **Phan Thiet**, Duc Toan Luu organized for Jan to train 11 teachers and for Riahna and Sam to conduct a swim program for 50 kids.

In **Vinh Long Province**, Sophie Le set up a program where 30 PE teachers were trained from 23 schools. Gail Mortimer and Linda Mohr went in June and then Gail was invited back in November to train 40 more! Natasha and Darryl assisted and 60 children were taught to swim and to be safe near water.

So the momentum is still growing with more and more people realizing in Vietnam that if children learn to swim and be safe near water, this knowledge could some day save their life.

**Thank you to our six volunteer Co Ordinators, who have done such an amazing job in organizing all these programs.**



## Fundraising continues unabated!

Robyn Lain and a small group of helpers, organized a great Ladies Luncheon in June, at Doyles Bridge Hotel, Mordialloc with Charles Kovess as our MC.

Loyal supporters (both individuals and companies) continue to make **donations and pledges** and we sincerely thank you all.

**APT** has continued to be most generous in their support. Following their donation of a cruise on the Mekong as an auction item, they have provided new marketing materials and a new website design.

**More swim centres** have come on board and we are getting a steady supply of great swim teachers.

Swim Centres in the **City of Greater Geelong, Kemp Aquatics in Maffra, ARC in Narre Warren and Swimworld in Glen Waverley** are all supportive of what we are doing in Vietnam.

Thanks to **Ocean Grove SLSC** for the donation of two Nippers Boards for Ho Tram. Thanks also to all the wonderful donations of kickboards, bathers and caps we are able to fit out all children, boys and girls, with swim gear.

We sincerely thank our amazing **volunteer swim teachers** who work under extremely difficult conditions in some instances. They are just so prepared to do anything they possibly can do to enhance the WSV name and reputation in Vietnam.

They also work hard here to raise funds to contribute 50% of the total costs of sending them to Vietnam. Check out our Face Book page for details.



Support from **great local people in Vietnam** is critical to the success of our programs and we thank you all. This includes translating, touring, transporting, interpreting, socializing, cooking for us and making us welcome into their homes.

**Our next fundraiser** will be at the Blue Water Challenge to be held at Queenscliff on 28<sup>th</sup> January 2017. This is a great chance to gain exposure for WSV at a major event.

If you can help on the day, (sponsorship or in person) please phone Gail on 0405 346 200

## Donations

Please use the **Donate Now** button on our web page [www.watersafetyvietnam.com](http://www.watersafetyvietnam.com) or mail your cheque to Robyn Lain, Administrative Manager, WSV 151 Melbourne Rd. Rye. Include your name and mailing address and all donations will be acknowledged.

For large amounts, tax deductibility is possible if the donation is made through Rotary Australia Overseas Aid Fund.(RAOAF) Please phone Robyn for details on 0413 493 893

**More information on WSV can be found on our websit** [www.watersafetyvietnam.com](http://www.watersafetyvietnam.com) or watch what we do and like us on Facebook.

**Thank you all from the little kids in Vietnam. 3212 children have now been taught to swim since WSV started out in Vietnam.**

