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WSV May 2016 NEWSLETTER

Most of our 2016 teacher training and swimming programs in Vietnam are now confirmed and already we've had some great successes.

1. Sophie Le and Ben Asmussen started the year by assisting local teachers teach their children at **St Josephs, Bien Hoa**, in Dong Nai Province. It's great to know that this program is now almost entirely run by local swim teachers.

2. Tim Kemp and trainers from Swim Vietnam conducted training in HCMC with Physical Education students from **Hong Bang University International and the University of Physical Education and Sport**. These PE teachers go out to many Provinces once they graduate. We hope that this will ensure many children are taught to swim in Vietnam within the school system.

3. **Schools in the Xuyen Moc District** have planned a summer swim program. Jan Williams and other teachers will be there to help out.

4. The **Vung Tau People's Committee** and local education authorities wish to continue the program started last year. Just the one Primary school in Vung Tau has 8 Grade 3 classes, each with 40 kids!

5. Jason Horton and Adam Barratt will travel 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.

6. Duc Toan Luu, Riahana Wilson and Sam Harris will return to assist the local teachers at **Than Thach in Ben Tre Province** again this year.

9. We conducted our first ever Kindergarten program at **Ho Tram Community Pool** last October and will return this year.

These little Children are so quick to learn!

Ho Tram Water Safety Consortium has requested that we train more teachers in anticipation of a big turn -out for the Summer Holiday period.

New programs for 2016 have also been introduced to **Phan Thiet and Vinh Long Province**. 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.

With all this activity, it has been necessary to appoint **six Project Co Ordinators** to manage the day to day planning and administration of our programs. It is with great pleasure that we have appointed two young **Vietnamese Co Ordinators**, Sophie Le and Duc Toan Luu to join our team.



Last November and December were our **main fundraising months** for 2015 and many wonderful people contributed.

- In September, a dinner was held at Sapa Hills Vietnamese Restaurant in Hawthorn. Thank you to Helen Mann and family for organizing this great night.
- In November an auction and dinner was held at the Rye RSL. Robyn Lain and Charles Lyne again excelled and with assistance from Guy Hoevenaars as our auctioneer, it was a very successful fundraiser.
- In November we were thrilled to be announced as the **AUSCHAM Charity for 2015 in Vietnam**. All proceeds from a Gala Melbourne Cup dinner in HCMC and two golf days came to us and this funding means that we can now action our three year plan with confidence.

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

Committee members have been guests at **Rotary and Probus Clubs** throughout Victoria who have been most generous with their donations. Please contact us if your club would like to hear more of what we do in Vietnam.

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

Kingswim of Frankston and Langwarrin and **Funkita**, makers of Funky Trunks, have again kindly donated new children's swimwear for 2016.

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 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 and making us welcome into their homes.

However, we are always looking for more volunteers, not just qualified swim teachers but if anyone thinks that working on our Committee sounds like a good idea, please phone Robyn Lain on 0413 493 893

Of course donations are always welcome. Please use the **Donate Now** button on our web page 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 website www.watersafetyvietnam.com or watch what we do and like us on Facebook.

