



the Charlotte Jones Memorial Tsunami Fund

Char's Fund is a memorial tribute to 23 year old Charlotte Jones, beloved daughter of Alan and Liz Jones and sister to Vicki who so tragically succumbed to the Asian Tsunami on December 26th 2004. A memorial statue stands at the headland of Siam Bay beach on the island of Ko Racha Yai, Thailand and there is a memorial tree and garden in the grounds of the Cittaviveka Buddhist Monastery in West Sussex. We will never forget her.

## **NEWSLETTER**

**February 2010**

Welcome to *Char's Fund* 14<sup>th</sup> quarterly newsletter, a special edition update on Char's Students. The Charity now supports 15 students, aged 7-19, with long-term educational bursaries at Muang Phuket School, Phuket College, and Phuket Rajabhat University, Thailand. They receive a monthly allowance of 2,000 baht (= @£40) to spend on tuition fees, books, uniforms, etc and have so far received a total of £18,725. Some £124,750 gross has been raised in total.

### **Student Overview & Update**

- **Pitsini Pohpon** is sixteen and attends Chalermprageat Somdejprasrinakarin School, Phuket. She was awarded the scholarship because she is an outstanding pupil, works hard and has a sense of responsibility. She enjoys reading books.
- **Bencharong Luesakul** is nearly fifteen and attends Muang Phuket School. He was awarded the scholarship because his family has a low income. He is well-behaved and very conscientious in class. His hobbies are playing football and reading.
- **Anuwat Yuenyong** is sixteen and attends Muang Phuket School. He was awarded the scholarship because his family has been affected by the Tsunami. He is the best student in his school and wants to be a doctor of psychology. His hobby is badminton and likes good books.
- **Soitip Somboon** is seventeen and studies mechanics at the Phuket Technical College. She was awarded the scholarship because the family house was badly damaged by the Tsunami. She shows great concentration in class. She loves sports.
- **Natsuiki Raksanit** is eighteen and is in the last year of high school. She was awarded the scholarship because she is a good student and has a keen desire for higher education. She lives with her grandmother and would like to study languages in the future. Her hobbies are reading and sport. She says that the scholarship has been a tremendous encouragement for her.
- **Supapron Sukasem** is eighteen. She is in her last year at high school and is getting high marks in every subject. Supapron was awarded the scholarship because of her maturity, her excellent attitude in class and because of her poor circumstances. She is determined to become a doctor and wants to study at Bangkok University. She enjoys music as a hobby.
- **Pornkamol Kowdee** is eighteen. She is in her last year at high school and plans to study at the university in Phuket to become a teacher. Her family is extremely poor. She is very conscientious in school. Her hobby is reading any books she can get hold of!....
- **Thanakrit Siripangawong** is eighteen and attends Muang Phuket School. He writes, "*Here there are five of us in the family, which is why I decided to apply for help from Char's Fund. Now we are much happier as we can buy school uniforms, books, pens, pencils, rulers, etc. We are very, very grateful to Char's Fund*".
- **Narapong Nogsunteer** is seventeen and attends Muang Phuket School. He is a very good student who wants to become a doctor. His teacher says he is very smart and would like him to go to Bangkok Princess University. He writes, "*I would like to be a psychologist one day. Char's Fund has been great for me and I now look forward to being educated and facing the future*".
- **Thanapon Sittipoljareon** is nineteen and attends Muang Phuket School. He writes, "*I like playing football and table tennis. I would like to be a doctor. I live with my friend and I don't have much money to live on. That's why I applied for help from Char's Fund. It is making me much happier now as I am not a burden to my friend's parents. I can now afford to go to school. Thanks so much. I love Char's Fund.*"
- **Salita Yalong** is eighteen and is studying Tourism at Phuket University. On weekdays, she works at a tour company and attends university at weekends. Salita's family were fisher people and their boat was destroyed in the Tsunami with a resulting loss of income. Salita is a very conscientious girl and has a great determination to do well.
- **Kachornsri Tannucroh** is nineteen. She is studying Marketing Management at Bangkok University. Her hobbies are badminton and volleyball and she enjoys reading. When she finishes her education, she would like to work in Public Relations. Kachornsri is well behaved and very conscientious in her studies. She comes from a broken family and has had to support herself.
- **Jintara Kangbun** is nineteen. She is particularly interested in the hotel business and she is studying Tourism at Phuket University. She lives alone and has to work part-time. She plays badminton and table tennis. She was awarded this scholarship because she has to work to support herself and pay for her education. She is conscientious in everything she does.
- **Golf and Pookie** are the latest additions to the scholarship scheme and come from Racha Yai. The two children, a boy of 14 (Golf) and a girl of 7 (Pookie), go to school in Phuket Town. Raya Divers has known this family for many years. They were on the island at the time of the tsunami, survived but lost their beach restaurant and all their belongings. Charlotte played with them on the beach after she arrived on the island.

### **Other News**

The renewed media interest in the Asian Tsunami, five years-on Boxing Day 2009, saw considerable coverage of Char's Fund with a piece in the *Times* and interviews broadcast on BBC Breakfast and ITN. One of the BBC interviews can be accessed via the website. And on March 11<sup>th</sup>, two of the younger charity trustees, Sarah and Becky, will be leaving for Thailand to visit the students in Phuket. The next newsletter will have a special report on their trip. And on March 23rd four runners will line up at the start of the Reading Half Marathon in aid of the Fund. In 2009 some £5,000 was raised in sponsorship. And on Saturday 31<sup>st</sup> July, Onion Fest 2010 will be held once more, the 5<sup>th</sup> such music festival fundraiser.

*We are making a real difference to young lives in Thailand. Do please continue to support us. Thank you.*

**The Charlotte Jones Memorial Tsunami Fund. Charity Reg No: 1116217**

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