

# Yawa News - October 2022

## Greetings to you, our precious friends.

We again thank you for your interest & the various ways you encourage us knowing that you stand with us as we seek to live, pointing folk here in western Thailand to the Jesus who longs for them to know Him.

May you be encouraged as you live for Him and serve where you are.

Since last writing Jan has had a brief trip back to Australia for medical checks. Found that a PET scan here in Bangkok would cost twice the price of a cheap airfare to Sydney where the scan would be covered by Medicare. It was decided that making the trip, having scans, doctors' appointments and specialist referrals and collecting meds that can't be posted, was the best way - the mission gave the OK. Results encouraging.



Also saw a wound specialist for advice regarding a chronic leg ulcer that developed from infection in a slight graze. Varying advice and numerous treatments but no progress so now it is less painful and making some slow advance. Value prayer for wound improvement.

Jan arrived back in Thailand mid-September. Jit was relieved to have me back.

Mid-year, COVID was still rampant in Australia (where there had been more deaths to that point in 2022 in Aus. than all deaths on 2020 & 2021) so I wanted to be fully prepared to return. Having had my 4th vaccination before coming to Thailand in March I was then booked for No. 5 in Bangkok.

Then Jit came down positive in the early hours when we were due to travel in the morning - to take a girl for hearing test and then Jan on to Bangkok for vaccine. Considering all factors I hoped I might be protected already so went ahead with the trip.

But 2 days after arriving home it was now my turn!!!! At least we could quarantine together.

We were thankful to have a reasonably mild dose .

## Citizenship

Looking around the world we see so many refugees pouring across borders and beyond. This situation leaves many to be stateless which can last for generations. Many young and even not-young folk in our area have been born in Thailand but have previously had no hope of change. But now the government are granting citizenship to those who fulfil the criteria - born here - parents came within a certain time frame. Our team seek to help those with disabilities but it can involve quite a lot of processes and time awaiting answers!!!



Recently we had the joy of attending the citizenship ceremony for 2 of our young women. The district Mayor made several references to our girls and the added benefits they will now have - registration as Persons with a Disability - with the benefit of free medical care anywhere in the country and a small monthly pension. The Mayor ensured he joined our group photo (in brown suit).

But even more precious is the better citizenship - that of belonging to heaven !!!!

## Hearing



Updating news of Janapar - the girl with profound hearing loss. Initially so shy with us that we got no response. After

a trip to one hospital where they thought she had zero hearing I took her (with her big brother) to another where they decided a hearing aid could help a little. Since early Aug. she has been at the deaf school & another student says Janapar is also learning sign language very quickly & enjoying.



**ChaiYarThit** - the young man with quadriplegia - motorcycle accident - always greets us with smiles - he enjoys the visits from both the Shalom Home Care team and our Lanternlight team.

Both have the opportunity to encourage his growing faith and he has now said he would like to be baptised during Christmas celebrations.

Jit has taken on Christian teaching for him as he prepares for this step. Pray for his spiritual growth as also for his determination to continue physio to get every little improvement he can.



**Nowhere to go!!** Aye Wah has his wheelchair but the road to his part of the village was so bad he couldn't use it. Imagine our staff surprise to visit and find a new cement road to Aye Wah's house and to meet him at the main road - now able to be a bit more involved in community life !!



Page 1 shows Nong Fon becoming a citizen but that is only step one. Disability classification requires a doctor's certificate. This was done locally and her cerebral palsy is very obvious but they wanted another IQ assessment - a 250 km trip to the provincial hospital then to the government office and then confusion as she now had 2 doctor's certificates. Finally settled

just on closing time. So should be straightforward from here but the next hurdle - to open a bank account for her to receive the subsidy - bank rules have changed and now she's 18 she's considered an adult but she can't write to sign her name - currently working through this hiccup !!! Bureaucracy !!!!

**Walk Free** - we currently have 2 kids with a club foot - but accessing treatment presents different challenges. Neither Mums are Thai citizens so public transport is not possible. Cost to use of our mission car for multiple long trips is prohibitive. The girl pictured needs surgery even further away and there's also a baby brother - father (a Thai citizen) has deserted the family. And mum is afraid of the surgery anyway!! Early treatment cut by COVID.



The other family's boy is only 4 months and regular plaster casts will correct his problem - but, again, the issue of regular access to the city hospital !! Pray as we try to find a way these kids can look to free-walking future.

**Updating our data base** and making sure we remember who everyone is. We are in the process of visiting each home - checking our records and taking photos of the person with a disability, their family and their house. Tat is one of our earliest members.



**Thanks for:**

- \*Opportunities to share our lives with folk with disabilities & bring some light & hope into their lives.
- \*Citizenship received. Disability status granted or updated to give benefit.

**Prayer for :**

- \*Jit's teaching times with ChaiYarThit and others who encourage too - that he will be sure of his faith as he prepares for baptism.
- \*Plans to upgrade a couple of houses with some cement flooring for easier access - waiting for rains to stop and then we can go ahead.
- \*Our mission conference - to encourage & challenge
- \*Healing progress for Jan's persistent leg ulcer

News Update : "What we have lost, God has gained"  
A very dear friend - Meechai - hostel boy when I came - hospital chaplain for many years - died on Friday.  
Pray for his wife(nursery teacher) & 2 young adult kids

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