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Date 2009 and 2011

Hare T-Total

Venue Thailand

On On Pattaya Orphanage

My visit to Pattaya by "Our Man" in Thailand:

John "T-Total" Piper.

"As I was migrating to the Far East for the winter I was very happy to visit the Pattaya Orphanage and meet Jiraphong who has been sponsored by the Surrey Hash for some years now.

Naturally I had trouble finding the orphanage despite excellent directions and a huge sign that said "Pattaya Orphanage" which I only noticed on my third visit. There again I was risking life and limb on a small scooter on the main Pattaya to Bangkok Highway.

When I arrived I was met by Ms. Siriphen Limsirikul, the Assistant Director, who was

Our Lad in Pattaya



"Our Man" in Thailand with Jiraphong



very friendly and pleased to receive your generous donations. She introduced me to the Director and then brought in Jiraphong to say hello...

Jiraphong proved to be a bright and intelligent young man. Regrettably as he spoke no English and my Thai was virtually non-existent it was difficult to communicate but I managed, via Siriphen as translator, to say that we would like to buy him a present as a more personal gesture beyond the money that goes to the Orphanage.

Jiraphong is very keen on football and it transpired that he would love a new pair of boots. A discussion ensued (in Thai) and the result was that a new pair of boots would cost around 400 baht (around £8), when would I like to get these?

"No time like the present" I suggested and the Orphanage car was duly dispatched with Jiraphong, his friend, and yours truly. It was decided we would go to the Pattaya Carrefour - a large supermarket just down the road.

Grand Master :
 Popeye
 (Peter Cave)
 07982 278467(m)
 01483 285189(h)
 Joint Masters:
 Sister Anna
 (Ann Brannigan)
 01372 277928 (h)
 07881 683918 (m)
 Golden Balls
 (Charles Bowman)
 01344 488365 (h)
 07712 843018 (m)
 Religious Advisor :
 Clutching Hand
 (Peter Atkins)
 01932 863093 (h)
 07922 111 004(m)
 Clutcher's Mate :
 G & T
 (Diana George)
 01372 373 856(h)
 Hash Cash :
 Chunderos
 (Lorraine Piercy)
 01372 454907 (h)
 Trail Masters:
 Atalanta
 (Karen Peek)
 07810 553755(m)
 and
 Bonn Bugle
 (Jo Avey)
 07718 903493 (m)
 DapperHasherie:
 Lightswitch
 (Mo Wood)
 (m)
 Biermeister:
 J Arthur (Thomas)
 01483 224491 (h)
 07986 048618 (m)
 Joint-Secs :
 Spingo
 (Angie Steers)
 01737 247579(h)
 and
 Tequil' over
 (Richard Piercy)
 07730 202263 (m)
 01372 454907 (h)
 01372 455397 (r)
 (r) = recorded !
 onsec@surreyh3.org
 www.surreyh3.org



We wandered around for a while until we found the sports section. Jiraphong eye's immediately fell on a pair of bright blue boots - they looked great but the price was nearer 2000 baht (£40). Hmmm I thought, I checked the other pairs on offer and there was nothing less than 1500 baht.

I wanted him to have what he wanted and decided the boots were the thing. He seemed very pleased!

We walked back and his friend kept wandering into the road and seemed to have something of a death wish. Nevertheless we made it back.

There was some consternation about the price but I suspect we ought to have been dispatched elsewhere to find cheaper boot and they do look good - see photos.

All in all, it was a moving experience.

It felt really good to be helping this young man and if any of you get the opportunity to visit Pattaya I would strongly encourage a visit to the Orphanage - I'm sure Sister Anna might find some small task for you as well! "

UPDATE: I also visited Jiraphong in March 2011. He had some bad luck in 2010, travelling to Germany to play football and breaking his ankle in the final practice before the big game. But he was fully recovered when I saw him. This year we bought him a memory stick to help him with his homework

To : Mr. and Mrs. Stephen Brannigan
From : Jiraphong Paanthong (Jiraphong)

Sawaddee Khrap. How are you? I'm fine. I would like to thank you for the cash you sent to me for Christmas, on top of the soccer boots, Thanks to Khun John for giving me a lovely vest. The weather is changing into cold season. I guess it's must be much colder in your place. I have lots of friends and activities to join. I play sports, computer games, and so on. For this coming Christmas and New Year, I wish you and your family lots of happiness and good health. May God protect you always.
With love and fond thoughts.

Dear : Mr. and Mrs. Stephen Brannigan

สวัสดีครับ ผมดีครับ คุณดีครับ + ขอขอบคุณ คุณสตีเฟ่น และคุณแม่มากๆ สำหรับของขวัญที่ส่งมาให้ผมในวันคริสต์มาส และรองเท้าฟุตบอลที่สวยงาม ผมดีใจมากที่ได้มีของขวัญดีๆ จากคุณ และขอให้คุณมีความสุขมากๆ สุขภาพดี และมีความสุขกับครอบครัวของคุณเสมอๆ

จิวแพนทอง

From : Jiraphong Paanthong

On the left is a thank-you card from "Our Lad"

and below anothe picture of "Those Boots"



OH OH