



## NEWSLETTER DECEMBER 2005

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SALAM Children's Home has been a hive of activity lately, with approximately 5 months worth of knocking down and rebuilding finally culminating in a brand new dormitory on one side of the complex. Huge thanks goes to the Hosanna and Peace Stone Foundations for funding this big project.



Because of our current numbers we have swapped the girls and boys over, so the girls ended up with the new dorm instead! The boys were not disappointed though, as we undertook to spruce up the old girls dorms over a two week period. New ceilings were put up and the walls were plastered and painted. This did stretch the budget as only part of the material costs were covered by government funding. They all moved in mid November. The workshop area and library are now vacated and cleaned up after having housed all the boys for those months. As you can imagine it was quite an effort logistically and all are relieved to have finally completed the transition.

We are eagerly awaiting the arrival of our new water filter any time now, donated by the Alberton Lutheran Parish, Australia, in conjunction with Mr Gregg Scott in Hawaii. Gregg was able to arrange the supply of a high grade commercial filter that is way beyond our original expectations. This will make the morning rituals a lot simpler!

We are currently fixing the old cupboards and having new mosquito screens made up. A new chores schedule has been implemented and things are getting back to normality. SOM, a discipleship course, has been running since November. Many of the kids are involved in local church youth group activities. December marked the end-of-semester public exams so there has been a lot of study put in and we are now trying to find practical placements for our hotel and technical stream high school students for January.

We received an exciting donation of 6 guitars, a keyboard, maracas and harmonicas last month. The kids love using these and it has been very timely. We are now in the throes of practicing most afternoons for various church activities for Christmas – singing, dancing and drama. The kids are also singing at Le Meridien hotel on the 24th and 25th of December.

We have a wonderful Christmas Party planned for the 21<sup>st</sup>. This will be funded by Direct Aid and various other donators. Personal gifts have been provided for the children. It will be the best Christmas ever for these kids. We are very touched and grateful for the generosity that has been shown to SALAM this season. More news and Christmas celebration pictures will be posted soon!

Thank you again to everyone and wishing you all a Blessed Christmas,

SALAM Children's Home Steering Committee.



Best Regards,

Matthew Trevatt  
SCH Steering Committee