

# Dean couple set up orphanage in Cambodia



An orphanage in Cambodia set up by Dean couple Dr Andrew Clift and his wife, Dawn.

With a vision to set up a children's orphanage in Cambodia, Dean residents Dr Andrew Clift and his wife, Dawn, arrived in Phnom Penh in November, 2007.

A fortuitous meeting with Geraldine Cox, internationally renowned for her work with orphans in Cambodia, fast-tracked the process of setting up *The Children's Sanctuary* in Siem Reap, near Angkor Wat.

Now just a year and a half later, following many adventures, difficulties and much determination, Dawn and Andrew have provided a permanent home for up to 16 children.

The children are looked after by permanent nannies and a full-time cook.

Several of the children have health problems including cerebral palsy, epilepsy, HIV/AIDS, congenital hearing and speech deficit.

One 12-month-old child, Hackleang Heng, is awaiting heart surgery and funds are being

sought to pay for the operation.

In addition, 44 children from a nearby village now attend school, sponsored by the Sanctuary founders. Dawn arranged for a tractor-pulled lorry to take the children to and from school.

School books, clothes, mosquito nets and blankets were also supplied to the villagers.

A sewing program is being organised for single mothers so they can have a sustainable income.

One of the children is now being sponsored by an Australian family, who had visited the Sanctuary.

Little Vichet is very happy to have an older 'brother' and 'sister' and he carries their photo with him. All donations and sponsorships are tax deductible with 100% of funds going to the project. Contact can be made by calling 0438 200 541 or check the website: [www.thechildrensanctuary.com](http://www.thechildrensanctuary.com)