



GOOD SAMARITANS: Dr Andrew Clift and his neighbour Lyn Lea are working to improve the lives of Cambodian orphans.

Pair pours heart and soul into helping out

By **Meg Rayner**

SETTING up an orphanage in Cambodia was never part of the plan for Dr Andrew Clift and his wife Dawn.

The Dean pair is well-travelled and after seeing the urgent need in Cambodia, decided they would do what they could to help orphans.

Ms Clift now lives and works there full-time, while her husband visits monthly.

"We decided to set it up once we saw how badly off these children were," Dr Clift said.

Neighbour Lyn Lea watched as the pair poured their heart and soul into the project and decided to help support them.

"I just think what they are doing is great," she said.

However, the pair hope to now gain more support from local businesses to continue their work. "We plan to take on 10 children a year for the first three years," Dr Clift said.

Since its establishment in November 2007, the Siem Reap-based Children's Sanctuary has already welcomed 16 children, aged from two months to seven years of age.

The pair is working on a variety of projects, including building a school and developing a loans scheme for single mothers and vulnerable families.

At the moment they are saving for urgent surgery for one-year-old Hackleang Heng who was born with a congenital heart defect.

Donations and information can be found at www.thechildrensanctuary.com.