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COCOA
care of china's orphaned & abandoned

Summer 2007

It may be the wettest summer possible, but in COCOA offices the sun is shining in our hearts. You have been absolutely terrific at supporting us. Here's how:

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WHEELCHAIR APPEAL

Last summer we asked for your help to supply 100 custom-made wheelchairs at a cost of £120 each. And you rose spectacularly to the challenge. Five different orphanages now have their wheelchairs and you can see what a difference they have made to the lives of these young people. Look at the smiling faces of Li Li, Chen, Shu Shu and Ze-Ze. They are so proud of their new-found mobility. It has changed their lives. Can you imagine how different their world is, sitting up and with the table-tops to do activities on, or just being able to get about without a huge fuss? Life has become more interesting at a stroke. The wheelchairs are made so that they can be adapted as the children grow. Can you spare any more to help? There are two more orphanages that we would like to supply. At only £120 each, it shouldn't take us long. Use the form on the back page to help.



Remember Malcolm Rich? He was heading for the North Pole with the Polar Challenge in April, and was doing it for COCOA. You will be pleased to know that he and Team Spirit made it there and back in one piece, and came second in the race. As a result of his exertions Malcolm is certainly pounds lighter but COCOA is pounds richer - we're still counting the money he has raised but the total so far exceeds £6,5000. Absolutely fantastic.



Our other fund raisers have been hard at it. Kausar Bibi (second from right in this photo) and her colleagues from the British Consulate in Ghangzhou have raised over £1,100 by running in the Honk Kong Marathon on March 4th. Not only that, they plan to make this a long term commitment to fund raise for us. Thanks guys, we really appreciate it, and we hope your aching muscles recover soon.

WARWICK UNIVERSITY



A big thank-you in anticipation to Warwick University Oriental Community (wOc) who have adopted us as their charity. Regina Lui, the President and her team are planning loads of fun (and fund raising) events this year including a ball for Chinese New Year.

CUPPA FOR COCOA

Keely Fuller MUST be our Supporter of the Year. Not only did she ask her wedding guests to make a donation to us rather than spend money on presents for her wedding 5 years ago, but she has sent us £200 from her Cuppa for Cocoa events – one at St Peter's Infants School, Portslade, where she teaches, and another with her three year old daughter and yummy mummy friends. By popular request she even made up a cookery book of extremely naughty goodies which she sells for a modest fee on our behalf.



If you would like to hold a Cuppa for Cocoa event, please contact the office and we will send you a fund-raising pack.

OTHER WAYS TO HELP COCOA

You don't need to be a keen runner or tea maker to support us: you can do it from your own computer work station, especially if you buy online. How? Well, buy.at/cocoachina. It's a webshop where COCOA receives a percentage of whatever you spend at various retailers. If you shop regularly on-line with Amazon, John Lewis, Marks and Spencer, Waterstones, Thomson, lots of insurance companies then just buy on line through our website and we receive a donation. Take a look to see what is available. Can life get any easier? Remember, www.buy.at/cocoachina. Or you can access it via the link on the www.cocoa.org.uk home page.

And our other new web fund raiser is via Home Pages Friends who have also agreed to give us a donation every time you use the search engine *Ask*. Use the link on our home page. Again, you pay nothing yourselves, it's the website that pays US for YOU to use. A simple and painless way to help us. We hope you will.

SPONSORSHIP SCHEME

As you know, we have changed the way our sponsorship scheme is administered, and in the changeover we noticed that some of you are paying £15 a month, and others £18. We wonder if you would consider increasing your sponsorship. If so, please just sign the slip on the back page and return it to us. And of course, we would be delighted if anyone would like to join our sponsorship scheme. It's a wonderful way of supporting children in China.



Thank you for saving our lives and giving us a loving home



This little boy is Ying Jun and he's just past his first 6 months. He was abandoned when he was 2 weeks old. He has difficulty feeding and has some weakness in his limbs. But we found him a foster mother, and he is now in very good hands. His foster mother is taking great care with him, feeding him every 90 minutes, even at night. He is responding well, loves his baths, and playing with his 12 year old foster brother. Thank you for helping keep him alive and finding him a loving home.

This dear little soul is Yun He, a little girl who came into the orphanage at about a month old suffering from hip dysplasia or "click hip" – a common birth defect, easily corrected without surgery. We found her a foster mother where she is being very well cared for and loved, and she is responding well to treatment for her hip. We have great hopes that she will grow and flourish with her new parents. Thank you for helping her get a good start in life.



Little Ke Heng is approaching his first birthday, and came to us in September last year, abandoned by his family because of his medical condition. He was thought to have encephalitis and a thyroid problem. His parents did not have the resources to provide the medical attention he needed. While he is still in our baby room, he receives regular care and his thyroxin levels are stable and he receives his medication regularly. COCOA is proud to help keep this little chap alive and well. Thank you for helping him.

Shu Heng is another sick child that we are looking after. He was born with Down's syndrome, and on arrival with us we were very concerned about his health – he was very small and fragile and we popped him into hospital to recover from a severe bout of pneumonia. He put up a brave fight and he is now back with us again being properly nursed and fed. Despite a minor heart defect, he is doing well thanks to your continued support and the dedication of our staff.



DONATION FORM



- I would like to sponsor a child. Please send me more information
- I am an existing sponsor and would like to increase my sponsorship from £15/£18 to £20 a month
- I would like to contribute to the Hope on Wheels wheelchair appeal

If you have donated to COCOA since April 2000 either by cheque, credit card, standing order or direct debit, and you pay UK tax, we can reclaim the tax paid on your donations. Please complete your details below, sign the box at the bottom and return the whole page to us. Thank you.

Name:

Address

Postcode.....

Email

Daytime telephone number

(NB we NEVER share your details with other charities or organisations so you will not be deluged with unsolicited mail from unknown sites.)

I would like all donations I have made since 6 April 2000 and all donations in the future to be Gift Aid until I notify you otherwise. I am a UK taxpayer.

Signature Date

To qualify for Gift Aid, what you pay in income tax or capital gains tax must be at least equal to the amount we will claim in the tax year (currently 28p for every £1 donated)