



Friends Without A Border

*Angkor Hospital For Children*

Monthly Report



**Just one of the thousands of children to receive free care at AHC in 2007**

## Patient Totals December 2007

	December	Year to Date	Total
<b>OPD</b>	9,311	107,732	508,736
<b>Emergency</b>	694	11,925	81,633
<b>IPD</b>	255	3,829	22,537
<b>ICU</b>	56	787	3,272
<b>LAU</b>	68	826	6,885
<b>Surgery</b>	112	1,345	8,108
<b>HomeCare</b>	224	2,731	10,315
<b>ARV (new)</b>	10	85	432
<b>Dental</b>	2,746	25,201	87,416
<b>Eye Care</b>	262	2,865	9,943
<b>Lab Tests</b>	4,005	56,177	256,689

Thank you to all the staff and supporters who helped to make 2007 another exciting year at Angkor Hospital for Children (AHC). Following are a few highlights of some of the things we accomplished together in 2007...



**Ouk Soryroth assessing patients in the hospital's Outpatient Department**



**Dr. Sreng Kea writes his final exam for DCH certificate**

## January

In January of 2007 our Outpatient Department saw an average of 350 children each day. The total number of visits to AHC for the entire year exceeded **100,000!**

## February

In February, 9 AHC doctors began studying for a Diploma Child Health (DCH) certificate course offered via long distance from Westmead Children's Hospital in Australia. All the candidates would go on to successfully complete the course and pass their exams in December.

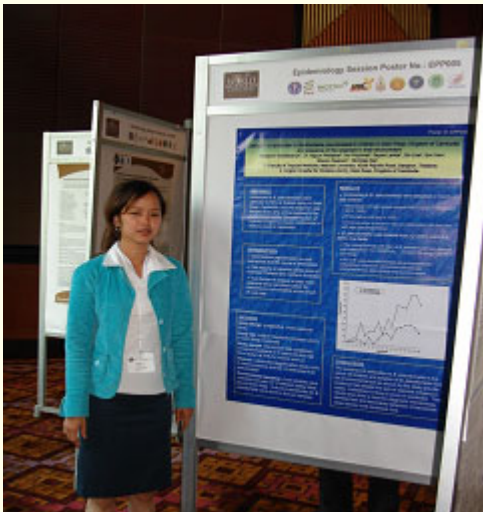
Throughout 2007, continuing education was provided for all hospital staff. Lunchtime lectures, journal clubs, workshops by visiting specialists, regional and international workshops, and bedside teaching all helped to make our Cambodian staff stronger and more independent.

## March

In March, construction began on AHC's Visitors Center. The new building has been designed by the world renowned architecture firm, Cook + Fox, and is to be eco-friendly. It is expected to open mid-2008.



**Workers start construction on renovations to the hospital**



**Sin Lina presents at the international conference in Thailand**



Through the generosity of donors there were several other projects completed in 2007 as well. These included renovations to the Medical Imaging Room and Laundry Room, as well as the construction of a Minor Procedure Room, an outdoor Play Room and a new Kitchen.

### April

In April, AHC's Medical Education Coordinator, Dr. Leakhena, traveled to Ontario, Canada to present at the Pediatric Academic Societies' conference. Her presentation was called "Barriers to Neonatal Care in Developing Countries".

Also presenting research projects on an international stage in 2007 were Dr. Pagnarith and lab technician, Sin Lina, who presented at the World Meliodosis Conference in Thailand, held in November.

### May

Providing education to families remained a constant during 2007. Education included:

- o Poster, pamphlets, in-hospital video system
- o Informal one-to-one bedside teaching
- o Individual counseling
- o First-aid classes for parents of children

**AHC staff, Plech Mom, conducts daily demonstration cooking classes to target parents of children diagnosed with malnutrition**



**Nursing student practices assessment skills while studying at AHC**



**With a shortage of beds during the Dengue epidemic, many children were placed on straw mats on the hallway floors**

staying in the hospital

- o Play therapy
- o Demonstration cooking classes

## June

In June, AHC began its fifth year of collaborating with the Cambodian Ministry of Health (MOH) in implementing a national Pre-service Training Program for Nursing Students. Over the next several months, more than 300 Cambodian nursing students as well as their school instructors attended clinical placements at AHC.

A busy year for education, AHC also hosted 22 training sessions of the WHO promoted IMCI training course. In total, more than 600 government doctors, nurses and students attended training in 2007.

## July

This past year Southeast Asia was hit by one of the worst Dengue Fever outbreaks in years. In Cambodia there were more than 30,000 confirmed cases over the course of a few months. The peak of the epidemic was reached in July. Between the months of May through September, more than 2,300 cases of Dengue Fever were treated at AHC (compared to a total of 314 during the same



**AHC Home Care nurse, Peng Khun Chan Phaktra, visits a patient in the community**



**A September visit by an Australian surgical team to work with AHC's local staff**



**AHC dentist, Dr. Bou Naren, during a dental**

time period in 2006).

## August

In August our Home Care team made almost 250 follow-up visits to children and families in their homes. In total, there were almost 2,500 visits made in 2007. Approximately 70% of the children in the Home Care program are diagnosed with HIV/AIDS, the remaining are diagnosed with other chronic conditions such as malnutrition and complications from meningitis.

## September

In 2007 more than 290 individuals generously volunteered their time at AHC working alongside our Cambodian staff. Although the majority of volunteers arrived from the USA, Canada and Australia, there were many other countries represented, including Austria, Cambodia, China, Denmark, England, France, Germany, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Korea, Malaysia, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Scotland, Singapore, Spain, Sweden and Thailand.

## October

2007 saw an increase in the amount of outreach services provided by AHC, not only

**outreach trip to a local school**



**More than 500 toys were collected by the De La Paix Hotel and donated to the children of AHC**



**AHC's Medical Director, Dr. Pheaktra, exchanges MOU with Hasbro Children's Hospital's Dr. Aaron Friedman**

by the Home Care team, but also by the Dental Clinic and Eye Clinic staff.

- o More than 7,000 children received eye screening through community outreach activities

- o More than 2,800 children received assessment and treatment by the dental team through community outreach work

### **November**

With an increasing number of tourists visiting Cambodia each year, many come to visit the UNESCO heritage site of Angkor Wat, more and more hotels are being built. AHC is the proud recipient of support from many of these hotels. Hotels such as the Amansara, the Residence D'Angkor, the De La Paix, and the Golden Banana have generously held fundraising events, encouraged their guests to visit the hospital, and many have even donated linens. Restaurants like the Soup Dragon continue to provide AHC with a percentage of their sales.

### **December**

In December, AHC signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Hasbro



**Hospital staff participate in 2007 Angkor Wat Half Marathon event**

Children's Hospital and the Brown Medical School Department of Pediatrics. The agreement formally acknowledges the desire for the exchange of knowledge and skills and includes the American Academy of Pediatrics (Rhode Island Chapter) as a partner.

Other international partnership agreements formally recognized in 2007 include the University of Pittsburgh School of Nursing, Stony Brook University Medical Center, and the University of British Columbia Faculty of Dentistry.

### **Thank You!**

Thank you again to the hard working local staff of AHC and to the many, many supporters from around the world that helped to make 2007 such a success. Together we have made a difference and helped to ensure that tens of thousands of Cambodian children do not go without adequate health care.

We all look forward to 2008 and the challenges and rewards that lie ahead.





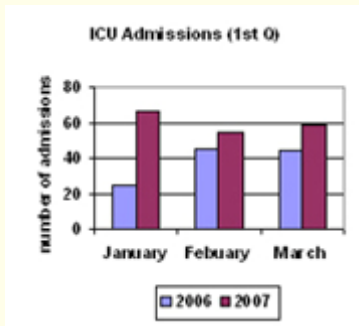
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AHC nursing staff caring for a baby in the Acute Care Unit

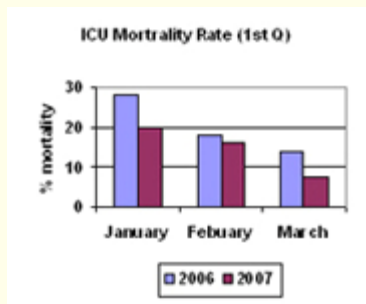


**Patient Totals May 2007**

	May	Year to Date	Total
<b>OPD</b>	7,760	35,914	436,918
<b>IPD</b>	225	1,339	20,047
<b>ACU</b>	52	283	2,768
<b>LAU</b>	61	334	6,375
<b>Surgery</b>	116	580	7,273
<b>HomeCare</b>	218	1,160	8,733
<b>ARV</b>	368	1,795	n/a
<b>Dental</b>	2,444	10,740	72,955
<b>Eye Care</b>	266	1,286	8,355
<b>Lab Tests</b>	4,798	22,541	223,053

**Improvements in ACU Care**

Angkor Hospital for Children is very proud to report improvements in Acute Care Unit (ACU) patient care over the last year. A comparison of activities during the first quarter of 2006 versus the first quarter of this year shows continued advancement. Significantly,



Overflow of patients into the hallways due to Dengue Fever outbreak this year



Dr. Lyda leads a group of Referral Hospital doctors

even though the number of children requiring admission to our ACU has increased, the mortality rate has decreased.

The improvement in patient outcomes reflects the commitment and dedication of Cambodian staff at the hospital. Moreover, these improvements would not be possible without the expert guidance of volunteers working alongside our staff and the wonderful donors who have provided up-to-date equipment and supplies.

## Dengue Fever

In the May newsletter we reported that AHC had begun to see an increase in children diagnosed with Dengue Fever. Surges of the disease typically occur every few years, and we feared that the problem might be particularly acute in 2007.

Unfortunately, our prediction seems to be coming true as the number of children arriving at the hospital with Dengue fever continues to increase week by week. In May, there were well over 100 children admitted to the hospital with the disease. As with the last epidemic a few years ago, we have already placed straw mats on the hallway floors to accommodate the overflow.

## Health Worker Training

May was another busy month for AHC, an educational center for Cambodian health workers. A variety of programs continued throughout the month and each day an average of twenty to thirty doctors and nurses from throughout the country attended some type of program hosted at AHC.

In May more than forty Cambodian health workers attended the WHO promoted Integrated Management of Childhood Illnesses (IMCI) sessions hosted by AHC. Eleven government doctors and nurses working at rural Referral Hospitals continued a Basic Pediatric Care course. Six nurses from local health centers participated in part three of a three-part training program. More than thirty participants from



Members of the Siem Reap Provincial Police Department practice basic First-Aid techniques



Dental residents, Dr. Krista Lee and Dr. Bruce Moss from the University of British Columbia (Canada) volunteer in AHC's Dental Clinic



Volunteer physiotherapist Barbara Krueger works with children at AHC

the Ministry of Health participated in a Preceptor Training Program focusing on improvement of Cambodian nursing schools.

## Community First-Aid Training

AHC's First-Aid project continued to expand in May with more than 100 participants from the community joining the one-day training sessions. In addition to parents of children admitted to the hospital, staff from the Sofitel and Meridien Hotels, local taxi-drivers and members of the Provincial Police Department participated.

## Agreement Signed with UBC

AHC is proud to announce a new partnership with the University of British Columbia (UBC) Faculty of Dentistry. Under the agreement, UBC will send senior dental residents twice each year to work alongside our Cambodian dental staff. They will help care for children as well as provide the staff with valuable education and training.

## Physiotherapy

Thanks to a number of generous supporters in Germany AHC's physiotherapy program is off to a great start. This month, with the help of volunteer Barbara Krueger, a small space in the hospital was set up to provide at-risk children with physiotherapy.



AHC nurse, Dim Sophearin with his new baby boy

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Next month the hospital plans to hire one full-time Cambodian physiotherapist to provide valuable treatments to children in need.

## New Additions

Congratulations to HIV/Homecare nurse, Dim Sophearin on the birth of his new son this month. Rin Channavath was born May 21st and weighed a healthy 3.6 kg.



### [To Support AHC](#)

To learn more about the programs and activities of Friends and AHC, please visit our website at [www.fwab.org](http://www.fwab.org)

Friends Without A Border is a not-for-profit which provides financial and program support Angkor Hospital for Children (AHC) in Siem Reap, Cambodia. Friends and AHC are dedicated to improving the health and future of Cambodia's children by providing pediatric medical care and medical education



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10 year old Khimly holding her baby brother, 14 month old Leap



Dr. Vann Thy training in Singapore

### Patient Totals March 2007

	March	Year to Date	Total
<b>OPD</b>	7,579	21,315	422,319
<b>IPD</b>	292	845	19,553
<b>ACU</b>	58	171	2,656
<b>LAU</b>	73	207	6,248
<b>Surgery</b>	127	355	7,048
<b>HomeCare</b>	244	732	8,305
<b>Dental</b>	2,830	6,851	69,066
<b>Eye Care</b>	271	779	7,848
<b>Lab Tests</b>	4,496	13,480	213,992

### Training for AHC Surgeon

AHC surgeon Dr. Vann Thy returned home this month after spending the last six months studying general pediatric surgery at KK Women's and Children's Hospital in Singapore. During his time away Dr. Vann Thy was afforded the opportunity to observe a variety of surgical procedures, many



Volunteer Dr. Andre Anzurat (Canada) examines a child during a mobile health clinic



Volunteer Dr. Lindsay Rogers (USA) examines a small child at one of the mobile health clinics held in March



AHC surgeon Dr. Vuthy works alongside volunteer surgical

of which he had never seen before.

### Volunteers

In March we were very fortunate to host 39 volunteers who generously donated their time to help out the hospital. These volunteers arrived from around the world, including the USA, Canada, England, Japan, Australia, and Italy. **The following is an excerpt of a report written by Dr. Andre Anzurat, a Canadian neurologist who along with his wife, Sheila, volunteered in March.**

*"Sheila and I have just completed a three-week volunteer stay at AHC. We feel privileged to have had this exceptional and exciting experience. Words do not begin to describe the warmth and good nature of the Cambodian people. They were so happy that we had come and everywhere we walked in the hospital we were greeted by smiles. A particular highlight of my time here was to do the clinic at one of the floating villages on Tonle Sap Lake (the largest lake in Asia). Arriving at the hospital at 5:50 in the morning, the team (a pediatric resident from Brown University, the nurses, the dental team, the nurse translators, Sheila and myself) crowded into the van and headed off to the landing area. We were 12 people and boarded the boat, which drove us, for the best part of 45 minutes, across the lake to the clinic, on a floating raft. The whole experience was truly an eye opener. The mothers and grandmothers, surrounded by children, paddle up to the clinic in their boats. The clinic is just one room with small veranda space, back and front. The front area was where some of the siblings waited for their mothers and I was amazed that none fell into the water.*

*My daily routine in the hospital consisted of morning ward rounds, seeing the new and sick patients, starting at 7:30 a.m. The rest of the morning I would join the doctors in their cubicles seeing outpatients, which on an average day is between 300 and 400. Some families live hours or even days away from the hospital and if they were*

residents Olivelli Flavio and Sergio  
Pirola (Italy)



Volunteer Tanith Harley (Australia)  
entertains children waiting to be  
seen at the hospital's Dental Clinic



Volunteers Caroline Summer and  
Karen Wollemborg (USA) with  
AHC logistics staff Tab Banna and  
Thuon

*not seen on the day of their arrival they would patiently spend the night in the OPD waiting area, where mosquito nets would be put on them in the evening, and they would wait to be seen the following day.*

*My first few days here I was wondering if I was having any impact. I gave my talk on the central nervous system and my demonstration on how to perform a neurological examination. Within two hours of our having discussed some abnormal reflex someone came to tell me there was a patient in the emergency room with just that. It was really something to teach and at the same time be able to demonstrate what I was teaching on a patient. It was not something that was very usual and it was exciting to see how enthusiastic the young doctors were when they saw what they had heard about earlier in the day.*

*I learned so much from working with the doctors at AHC and saw diseases I had only read about. They were eager to discuss those areas where they felt that I had expertise to share with them. They are open and eager and they treat each other, and the visiting volunteers with great respect. It was an absolute pleasure to work in an atmosphere where colleagues, patients and parents were treated with kindness, consideration and thoughtfulness."*

### **Construction of New Visitors Center**

Drawn by the magnificence of the Angkor Wat complex, more than one million tourists now visit the town of Siem Reap each year. Construction began this month on AHC's new Visitors Center, planned to provide these tourists with information on the work being done at AHC and ways in which they can support the hospital. The 2600 sq. ft. facility, designed by renowned NYC architect Richard Cooke, will house an information center, a small auditorium, as well as a gift shop. The opening of our Visitors Center is scheduled for November, 2007. Funding for the Visitors Center has generously been donated by Sterling Stamos Capital Management.



Construction begins on the new  
AHC Visitors Center



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AHC's Dr. Chraing Seng with  
volunteer Dr. Sandhu

### Patient Totals for November 2006

	November	Year to Date	Total
<b>OPD</b>	7,620	80,420	393,106
<b>IPD</b>	300	2,934	18,386
<b>Dental</b>	1,674	23,992	59,551
<b>Emergency</b>	1,395	13,552	69,715
<b>Surgery</b>	85	1,128	6,588
<b>ICU</b>	56	507	2,419
<b>LAU</b>	92	794	5,956
<b>Homecare</b>	223	2,218	7,347
<b>Eye Care</b>	207	2,433	6,854

### A Volunteer Story

*"For two weeks in November we had the privilege of being part of the AHC family. We spent the mornings in the Outpatient department seeing patients with the junior doctors and would join the inpatient teams for rounds in the afternoons. Having had previous experience in developing world medicine we had certain sets of expectations and experiences. But these were quickly altered. We have been extremely impressed with the efficiency, organization and tremendous capability of AHC to deliver first rate care to the children of Cambodia. Tests*



Dr Pheaktra and Dr. Sam Ol in Vietnam



Dr Pises teaching in Laos

ordered are reported on the same day, teaching rounds occur two or three times a week, and there is excellent communication between services and specialties. There are more than a few hospitals in the Western world where efficiency would lag far behind AHC.

Also most exciting is the international community that works together at this hospital. In our short time at AHC we met a physiotherapy from Austria, Art Therapist from the U.K., teacher from Japan, administrative assistant from Denmark, physicians from the U.S., an ICU nurse from France and of course many Cambodians. What an amazing opportunity to meet and work with not only the Cambodians but so many international health care workers!

Finally we were most impressed by how well the staff at AHC treat patients. Each child and family is shown attention, given first rate care and treated with respect. We thank the AHC staff for welcoming us and would highly recommend volunteering at AHC to others!"

Drs. Preet Sandhu and Raj Dhillon (Calgary, Canada)

### International Teaching and Training

Dr. Ngoun Pheaktra and Dr. Sam Ol traveled to Hanoi, Vietnam to participate in an Annual Vietnam-Australia Scientific Conference. It is the first year for Cambodian doctors to be invited to the conference and we are very proud to have AHC doctors make a presence at the meeting. International conferences like this one are an excellent way for our staff to gain and exchange knowledge and experiences, making them better teachers and leaders for future generations.

Also this month, Dr. Ngeeth Pises travelled to Vientian, Lao PDR to attend a two-week Emergency Triage Assessment and Treatment (ETAT) course. The course was sponsored by the World Health Organization (WHO) and Dr. Pises was invited to act as a course Advisor. "It was a great opportunity for me to share my knowledge with the international community. Being a facilitator at the seminar, I not only teach but also learn from other medical professionals as I see this opportunity as a two-way street."

Dr. Van Thhy is continuing to develop his surgical skills with a six-month training placement at KK Hospital in Singapore. While there he will be studying general pediatric surgical procedures. This kind of hands-on learning is invaluable and much needed for Cambodian surgeons.

### Thank you to Residence d'Angkor Hotel

A big thank you to the staff and management of La Residence d'Angkor Hotel! Not only is the hotel one of the nicest and most luxurious places to stay in Siem Reap, it is also a hotel with a big heart. In a very generous display of community spirit, the hotel donated a huge supply of hotel bed sheets, towels, and other linens to AHC that were no longer being used in the hotel. The donation is wonderful. With hundreds of children admitted to the hospital each month, the need for replenishing laundry



Dr. Van Thhy in Singapore



AHC's Jon Morgan and PR staff present certificate of appreciation to Residence d'Angkor Hotel General Manager Mr. Manfred Ilg



items is endless.

## Khmer Water Festival

One of the most extravagant and exuberant festivals in the Khmer calendar is the Water Festival (Bon Om Tuk), this year taking place from November 4-6. The festival marks the start of the dry season and the changing of the flow of the Tonle Sap River. It is also seen as thanksgiving to the Mekong River for providing the country with fertile land and an abundance of fish. Over the period of three days a combination of three ceremonies takes place: the Boat Race, the Moon Festival and Bonn Ork Om Bok (eat the flat rice). The biggest event is the boat race. More than one million people venture from the countryside to the capital, Phnom Penh, to participate and watch. The boat races in Siem Reap are on a much smaller scale, but are thoroughly enjoyed by all attending.



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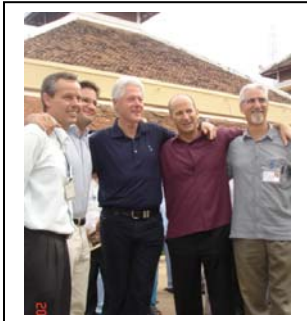
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## December Newsletter



### Former US President Bill Clinton Visits AHC

AHC was incredibly honored in December with a visit from former US President Bill Clinton. Mr. Clinton was in Cambodia for just two days to visit projects supported by the Clinton Foundation HIV/AIDS Initiative. Clinton's visit to Cambodia was the first ever by a former President and especially drew attention to the progress made by Cambodia in the fight against HIV and AIDS.



Mr. Clinton wrapped up his two-day visit to Cambodia by visiting the famous Angkor Wat temples in Siem Reap. After touring the temples in the morning, he arrived at AHC to meet patients and staff before heading to Vietnam.



There are more than 500 children registered in AHC's HIV/AIDS clinic and more than 350 of these children have been started on life-saving antiretroviral medications. The hospital's Home Care-HIV/AIDS program is providing a role model in Cambodia for providing continuity of care for children and families diagnosed with this disease – counseling, diagnosis, treatment, in-hospital, as well as community based care.

Support of AHC's HIV/AIDS-Home Care program is made possible through a recent grant from USAID/RHAC.

## Year End update December 2006.....Angkor Hospital for Children

### Government Doctors and Nurses Training



Twice each year in April and December AHC conducts short “refresher” courses for Cambodian doctors and nurse working at rural government hospitals and health centers. The aim of these courses is to improve their skills and knowledge related to providing safe and effective child health care. The nurses attend training for one month, the doctors for two.

This month 4 doctors and 8 nurses began the course. Participants included health workers from Angkor Chum Health Center, and Chey Chum Neah, Chey Prey, Chamka Leu, Kampong Cham, and Mokol Borie Referral Hospitals.



### APLS Training

Returning for their second time, a wonderful team of Australian doctors and nurses conducted a three-day Advanced Paediatric Life Support (APLS) at AHC from December 4-6. The course is designed to teach health workers the principles of managing seriously ill and injured children. A total of 23 participants, 14 AHC staff and 9 government doctors and nurses, attended this year’s training course. Key senior Cambodian doctors and nurses who attended last year’s pilot course were invited to attend the training again, this time to learn the skills necessary to teach and run these courses.



### Another Lucky Baby

Two-month old baby girl, *Houth*, arrived at AHC from Preah Vihear province, more than 200 kilometers away! Upon admission to the hospital’s Intensive Care Unit (ICU), Houth was diagnosed with septic shock and dehydration. Septic shock is a serious condition that occurs when an overwhelming infection leads to low blood pressure and low blood flow. The brain, heart, kidneys, and liver may not work properly or may fail. Houth was hospitalized for 3 days, three of those days on a breathing machine in the ICU



The little girl was lucky for several reasons. Unlike many Cambodian families, Houth’s parents decided to bring her to the hospital after she had been sick for only two days. Many Cambodian families delay seeking treatment for much longer due to financial worries or lack of knowledge as to when to seek health care. As well, Houth was lucky to

have been cared for at AHC where the doctors and nurses, through extensive training, knew what to do. Thanks to the hospital's generous donors, appropriate medical equipment was available to help in her care.



### Visiting Doctors from Japan

Again this month, AHC was pleased to welcome several Medical Residents from **Wajiro Hospital Group** of Japan. Wajiro Hospital and its management have been supporters of AHC since our hospital opened. In 2006, more than 30 staff of Wajiro Hospital have spent time at AHC. The three Residents pictured to the left take an opportunity to stop at a roadside stand to enjoy a local treat on their way back from visiting a patient with our Home Care team



### Team Spirit

One of the favorite events of every December in Siem Reap is the **Angkor Wat International Half Marathon**. This year the event drew more than 2000 participants from 36 countries. In addition to the 26km run, the event also offers 10km, 5km and 4km events. Once again this year AHC was well represented at the race with more than 50 staff and volunteers taking part in the fun.