



... there are few areas of the world where one witnesses so brilliantly the transformation from little ragamuffins into schoolchildren ... for a better, more fruitful life ... (Mr James Morris, Executive Director of the UN World Food Programme, after his visit to PSE),



Éditorial

Ghislaine Dufour,
Présidente

By the time you receive this newsletter, Mamie, Marie-France des Pallières, will be back on the road to come and meet you with fresh news of the Little Gems. Let everyone know! We are relying on you to tell your friends and family the schedule of the tour, tell everyone - those who are next door to you or at the other end of France, in Switzerland and Luxembourg. Each year, it's the famous PSE Tour that generates most new sponsorships and supports. It's also often an opportunity for our loyal sponsors, to raise the amount of their sponsorships. Because everything is getting more expensive in Cambodia as well as in our countries!

In December, the facilitators of our regional teams came to see, with their own eyes, the wonders that take place at the PSE Centre in Phnom Penh. They went home with the renewed conviction that, yes, destitution knocks at the PSE's door every day, and, yes, donations can turn thousands of little scavengers into schoolchildren and bright students. They also saw the preparation for the renovation works and constructions of new classrooms, for which we are still looking for funding.

We pay particular attention to human development, the transmission of values, education to "know how". Is not sport one of the best vehicles for this transmission? Our young people, supervised by specially trained teams, have access to valuable equipment thanks to the support of sponsors. Children with disabilities hold a special place there. They train and, every year, a few participate in the special Olympics!

Nothing of this would be possible without you.

Thank you!

It will be the 23rd tour...



Even before the beginning of spring, as has become a habit for me, I will leave Phnom Penh for a few weeks to come and meet you and tell you what we are doing here with your support. I will be accompanied, this time, by Ouch Seladavid (in English, Peter-David). He is the 6th and youngest one of a family that PSE has supported since ... 1999, when PSE was only 3 years old. Apart from the eldest, who was already 19 years old at the time, all the others went to school and now have respectable jobs and decent salaries. Like all our children, Seladavid had a very hard childhood, he is preparing to come and tell you to testify of his route. After finishing school and baccalaureate, he studied French literature at University. He then became a French teacher for 3 years at our Vocational Training Institute and, for the moment, he is responsible of the student's affairs at our School of Media.

I look forward to seeing as many of you as possible, to continue, together, this destruction of destitution!

The 4th year of remedial schooling

The alumni of the PSE family know that, from the beginning, we set up remedial schooling. In fact, we found ourselves with children who were already 12, 13, 14 years old, and who had never, or barely, been to school. They needed to progress quickly, and it was not possible to put them in the same classes as those of 6-years... So, we started off simply by following the year 1 programs for 6 months, then the year 2 ones for the rest of the school year. And so on. That's how our kids got to pass the Brevet (GCSE) within 5 years.

The Ministry of Education, seeing the results, made a very interesting proposal: rather than using two books a year, it proposed to create a specific course where 2 years are covered in 1, with specially designed textbooks. And so, our Pedagogical Team, and Ministry inspectors, have created, together, 3 years of textbooks covering the 6 Primary school years: year 1 = CP and CE1; year 2 = CE2 and CM1; year 3 = CM2 and 6th.

These textbooks that have begun to be distributed throughout the country, are 4 per year: Khmer, Mathematics, Science (physics, biology) and Social (history, geography, social sciences ...).

But those of the first 2 years of secondary school, 5th and 4th, were still missing. It has taken a lot of work and we have just received official approval from the Ministry, to test the 4 textbooks of the 4th year, in our Centre, in order to finetune them so as to develop the final versions.

What satisfaction, that the work of our teams can serve not only our children but also, schoolchildren in whole of the country!



Know your children

A single mother. In fact, she ended by divorcing due to the violence of her husband who drank and took drugs... She has 3 children to take care of: 2 boys, HP (12) and HS (5) and a girl HV (3). They live in a shack in an overpopulated area rife with drugs, school drop outs, gambling, thefts... The mother scavenges with HP, her eldest son who had left school 3 years ago to help her. The 2 youngest came with them or stayed alone at home. And when we know what the environment is... The family income is totally insufficient since they get only \$0.83 per person per day. PSE's urgent response for HP is the remedial school programme in our Centre (he is 4 years behind), the kindergarten for the 2 younger ones and 10.5kg of rice a week.



It should not be thought that the rapid development of Cambodia, 7% annual growth, means that there is no more need. Yes, the country is developing fast and is restructuring. But to benefit from it, one must have the means. And those that the Khmer Rouge period has broken and deprived of training cannot make it without handy assistance at the beginning. That is why we are here, today like before...

What has become of them?



Sopheak, on the left, with his team

Chan Sopheak: after 10 years on the dumpsite, without any hope for the future, and 12 years at PSE, since the Primary school until the Vocational Training in Restaurant Management, he is now manager of a renowned Phnom Penh restaurant, the Khema-Pasteur. Papy had rescued him and his brother from the dumpsite at 10 pm one night and brought them to PSE. He recalls with emotion, a shower, a good soap, a bedroom and Papy and Mamie who took care of them as if they were their own children... And the very next day, the school. After having started his trade, working on a tourist boat throughout the region, responsible for client relations, he then tried his hand in a local restaurant before joining the Khema where he quickly rose through the ranks to manager with a salary of \$850 a month. And recognizing that having a

good salary implies responsibilities, he has started an English club to help his staff improving their practice of English language because, as he says, he has a desire in his heart to share what he received from PSE over the years.

I always rejoice when our alumni don't forget what they have received and seek to share it.

Special Olympic games



On 28th October, the "Indochina Starfish Foundation" NGO organized special games at Phnom Penh's Olympic stadium. The goal is to integrate in a social activity, through sport, training and competitions, children and athletes with disabilities, in an environment of equality, respect and

acceptance of difference. 11 of our children with mental or physical handicaps, accompanied by their parents, brothers and sisters and PSE members, participated in these competitions. In athletic race they brought home 2 gold and 5 bronze medals!!! Congratulations to them and to those who daily care for them with dedication, competence and affection!



PSE's mission is to support the poorest. But in our very poor families, are the poorest not those with disabilities? So, what a joy when there are places where they, too, can be in the spotlight!

* Any sponsors who wish to receive their annual tax receipt by email, please let our secretariat know! It's good for the planet and it saves PSE money! The tax receipt will be sent to you mid-March 2019

* If you or one of your relatives is subject to property tax, we have solutions to offer you. Do not hesitate to contact us on 01 30 24 20 20!

We are recruiting for Cambodia, a volunteer (VSI) project manager ERP finance.



ECAP

The children's development requires other means just as important as school. That's why our ECAP activities (*Extra-Curricular Activities Program*) are essential to PSE.

With Anthony Fanget, at their head, they comprise a wide variety of activities, which often transform the northern part of our Phnom Penh Centre, on the other side of the road, into a hive of activity. In the evening, for example, when I join the boarders evening, I am always amazed to see all these children exerting themselves with a magnificent energy, after their school day.

Sport is already the weekly hour included in the school programme for nearly 1,300 children, but there are also all the clubs that are running in the evenings and at weekends. There is something for all tastes: football, basketball, rugby, taekwondo and other martial arts, front ball (related to Basque pelota), hockey, skateboard, etc... And our girls are not the last! I can still hear our rugby girls, at the very beginning, come back from their training, exhausted but delighted: "when we play rugby, we forget all our problems!"... But I won't be the one to tell you the benefits of sport, beyond physical health...

Art, that has also its weekly hour for 702 students a week, those of the Remedial School, with **traditional Khmer dancing**, which has also many followers, whether they are classic (apsaras) or folk, and which are the introduction to all our ceremonies, and music, with an orchestra that animates many of our parties.

The **scouts** programme, which was introduced for 100 youngsters by Clara and Thibaut, already has 200 students, with Pauline who organizes activities each weekend, with the recent help of Yannick.

The "**Entre-Deux**" programme, for its part, takes in children who are in academic failure or have started turning to drugs, for a route of reintegration, with the help, among others, of our psychologists but with many sporting activities.

ECAP, with its 10 clubs (sport, dance and music) that welcome 820 participants for competitions and training sessions, **free weekend activities** for 2,500 children a month, and also mobile ECAP, which moves, on Sundays, to the communities where our families live, to offer activities and snacks to children, has evolved into a large programme, supervised by 10 full time and 4 part-time staff.



Free activities



(ECAP is also about competitions of all kinds)

Building of cardboard cars



And to finish, I cannot resist the pleasure of showing you the work of our youngest children, proud of their success at a recent **cooking competition**.

Since the beginning, we wanted these complements indispensable for the schooling that, today, have blossomed wonderfully.

A visit from the PSE Branches (seen by Anne-Marie, PSE PACA Branch)

Coming from various branches from all over France and Luxembourg, we arrived at our Little Gems' and at Mamie's for an immersion/discovery of the Phnom-Penh Center, as closely as possible to them, we have experienced a truly human and emotional trip!

We have lived - and have fallen - for...

- * The communities and the deprivation of the families taken in by PSE
- * The "paillotes" and the adorable faces of the small kids, finally enlightened by smiles
- * Recreation time, class time, time in workshops, at the canteen, at the flag-raising ceremony, at the exit from school, at the evening meetings with the boarders ..., with the primary and secondary school children and college students, all alive with hope.
- * The Social Team, the heart of the matter, incredibly efficient in their search for solutions to problems, the medical team and the Foyer Source de Vie (for children with disabilities), overflowing with humanity, dedication and self-abnegation.

* The teachers in school and remedial schooling programs, the mentors in the Vocational Training, the Flip programme, the alumni, all the volunteers...

And what we experienced went far beyond anything we expected: OKUN! And it justifies, more than ever, the commitment of the PSE branches, faithful to the one of Marie France and Christian, on our Little Gems' service, to lead them FROM DESTITUTION TO A VOVATION!



Our branches are those who, throughout the years, organize all kinds of events, spread the word about PSE and motivate everyone they meet, to convince them about the urgency of continuing the undertaken work. Those of our branches who came to see PSE with their own eyes, have just left with renewed conviction that there is still much to be done, many needs.

PROGRAMME of the 2019 TOUR

FÉVR.	Je. 28	19 h 30	06400	Cannes	Salle 1901, Maison des Associations, 9 rue Louis Braille Johann et Christine Ozanne - paca@pse.org	06 63 58 57 96
MARS	Lu. 4	20 h 15	21200	Beaune	Comédie du Vin - 12 bd. Jules Ferry Patrick de Géry - pdegery@orange.fr	06 80 61 82 57
	Me. 6	20 h 15	38190	Crolles (Grenoble)	Espace Paul Jargot - 191 rue François Mitterrand Antoine Pinchart - grenoble@pse.org	06 89 10 03 06
	Je. 7	20 h 15	73000	La Motte-Servolex (Chambéry)	Salle Paroissiale de la Motte-Servolex - 230 montée St Jean Geneviève Mathian - les2savoie@pse.org	06 81 22 53 17
	Ve. 8	20 h 15	74290	Veyrier du Lac (Annecy)	Salle de La Veyrière - Rue des Écoliers Nicole Vincent - les2savoie@pse.org	06 26 98 50 79
	Lu. 11	20 h 00	CH-1260	Nyon	Salle du Conseil Communal de Nyon - Rue Maupertuis, 1 Fabien Dutasta - switzerland@pse.org	+41 79 831 44 25
	Ma. 12	20 h 30	CH-2000	Neuchâtel	Cinéma REX - Fbg. de l'Hôpital, 16 Anne Gex - switzerland@pse.org	+41 79 458 52 18
	Ve. 15	20 h 15	69006	Lyon	Église St Pothin - 127 rue de Créqui Rémi Morillon - lyon@pse.org	06 83 83 44 43
	Sa. 16	20 h 15	69370	St. Didier au Mt d'Or	Centre Laurent Bonnevey - 21 rue du Castellard Bruno Allenet - lyon@pse.org	06 07 26 88 33
	Lu. 18	20 h 15	63000	Clermont-Ferrand	Faculté de Droit - 41 bd. François Mitterrand - Amphi Michel de l'Hospital Philippe Farges - auvergne@pse.org	06 11 22 31 29
	Je. 21	20 h 15	65100	Lourdes	Cinéma Pax - 7 rue du Rév. Père de Foucauld Pierre Darré - midipyrenees@pse.org	06 75 47 27 80
	Ve. 22	20 h 15	64100	Bayonne	Lycée Largenté - 42 rue Jacques Loëb Martin de Roquefeuil - martin.deroquefeuil@pse.org	06 51 92 00 45
	Lu. 25	20 h 15	64310	St. Pée s/ Nivelle	Salle Culturelle Larreko - Place Xan Ithourria Martin de Roquefeuil - martin.deroquefeuil@pse.org	06 51 92 00 45
	Ma. 26	20 h 15	16000	Angoulême	Cinéma de la Cité - 60 av. de Cognac Alexandre Micheau - alexandre.micheau@gmail.com	06 43 44 74 24
AVRIL	Lu. 1er	20 h 15	37400	Amboise	Salle Francis Poulenc - Avenue des Martyrs de la Résistance Jean-Luc Fauconnier - regioncentre@pse.org	06 82 72 69 66
	Ma. 2	20 h 15	56000	Vannes	Université Bretagne Sud (campus de Tohannic - Bat. DSEG) - Rue André Lwoff Béregère Houivet - bretagne@pse.org	06 07 25 96 23
	Me. 3	20 h 15	29200	Brest	Salle St Louis - 51 rue Jean Macé Marie-Annick Chapron - bretagne@pse.org	06 07 55 03 49
	Je. 4	20 h 15	35400	St Malo	IUT de Saint Malo - 1 Rue de la Croix Desilles Marie-Astrid de Gaëlon - bretagne@pse.org	06 76 68 88 32
	Ve. 5	20 h 15	50100	Cherbourg	Le lieu sera indiqué sur notre site www.pse.org et notre page Facebook "psefrance" Marie Trifot - bassenormandie@pse.org	06 62 46 21 03
	Lu. 8	20 h 15	75007	Paris VII	Salle du Bon Conseil - 6 rue Albert de Lapparent Brigitte Houdinière - parisidf@pse.org	06 60 32 92 37
	Ma. 9	20 h 15	91430	Ignny	Mairie - Salle du Conseil - 23 av. de la Division Leclerc Jean-Claude Jaloux - parisidf@pse.org	06 72 21 48 84
	Me. 10	20 h 15	75016	Paris XVI	N-D. de Grâce de Passy - 10 rue de l'Annonciation Bruno Dognin - parisidf@pse.org	06 84 64 33 94
	Je. 11	20 h 15	78530	Buc	Théâtre des Arcades (Salle polyvalente) - 6 rue des Frères Robin Céleste Messina - celeste.messina@pse.org	06 89 81 97 90
	Ve. 12	20 h 15	77400	Lagny-sur-Marne	Le lieu sera indiqué sur notre site www.pse.org et notre page Facebook "psefrance" Tanguy Rodier - parisidf@pse.org	06 70 26 53 36
	Me. 24	20 h 15	59	Région lilloise	Le lieu sera indiqué sur notre site www.pse.org et notre page Facebook "psefrance" Patrick Pouillet - nord@pse.org	06 08 57 46 14
	Je. 25	20 h 15	59	Lille	Le lieu sera indiqué sur notre site www.pse.org et notre page Facebook "psefrance" Patrick Pouillet - nord@pse.org	06 08 57 46 14
	Ve. 26		59420	Mouvaux	Soirée speciale, sur réservation uniquement. Contacter l'association ; nord@pse.org	06 08 57 46 14
	Lu. 29	18 h 00	L-2953	Luxembourg	Banque Internationale Luxembourg (BIL) - 69 route d'Esch Nathalie Prieur - luxembourg@pse.org	+352 621 23 85 12
	Ma. 30	20 h 00	B-1050	Bruxelles	Institut St Boniface - rue du Viaduc, 82 (entrée par rue du Conseil, 57) Yves Dupont - info@abpse.be	+32 0475/530394