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...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 FCS),

## It is time to convert the try



With the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebrations, with [the film "Les Pépites"](#) (Little Gems), which at its peak was shown in some 130 cinemas and watched by more than 180,000 people and is still in cinemas; with [the book "Les Pépites"](#) (Little Gems) that many of you know, have bought or have shared with others and that can be ordered from "all good" bookshops; with [the DVD of the film "Les Pépites"](#) soon to be released, which you can buy and give or share; with [the article "The Angels of Phnom Penh"](#), published in [le Figaro-Magazine](#) that came out in late September ..., PSE garnered a good deal of valuable publicity in 2016.

We have reached out to many more new people, widening our audience, who now are hearing about our work for the first time. They have seen the wonderful acts led by Christian and Marie-France, and have seen "our children" and now realize how much more destitution there is still to relieve, and how many more "little gems" there are to train for work and to provide with a better life.

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## Happy New Year!

It's still close enough to the beginning of the new year. And since this newsletter is due out already at the end of January because of the tour dates, it is still time for our/your "little gems" who are so thankful for the hope and life you have given them, to wish you the best for the coming months.



## On tour with Mono

It's time again, to get ready for our tour. I am looking forward to seeing you again, our sponsors and donors - all of you who have pledged to help us lift so many children out of destitution and give them a future. Thank you for all that you have helped build - you can be proud! I hope that, thanks to you, many others will also join us in saving many other "little gems" who are still stuck in destitution and

awaiting a chance to break free and discover the joys of life.

This year, I will be accompanied by Mono, one of the directors working at our Film School. Mono comes from a family of four children who just barely managed to make ends meet. But one day, his mother's small business goes under, the family can no longer pay for the mortgage and they

have to sell their home. They find themselves in a tiny shack without electricity. Then, Mono decides to get an after-school job to help his family. But at the same time, his father becomes seriously ill and is let go from his job. As the eldest, Mono quits school and becomes a newspaper boy and shines shoes in the street until the day when, at 14, he is spotted by our Social Team. Mono joins our remedial school, moves on to Vocational Training and starts working as a computer technician. Then he returns to study film making in the school Papy created. Today, he is married to a school alumna who graduated from our Hospitality School and they have 2 little boys.

*We look forward to meeting many of you over the course of our tour.*



We can't stop now: *it is time to convert the try*, as I mentioned in our last issue: "*if everyone recruited just one new sponsor...*"), it is now, while this is fresh on everyone's minds, and while the iron is still hot.

Now, also, and above all, because we will soon welcome Marie-France, who will once again make the trip, will criss-cross France and will be present at some 29 sessions, in meeting rooms that we all will fill ... with our friends and acquaintances, of course - who will be happy to see her again, to welcome her, to tell her that together we will continue with her what she has started with Christian - but *also and especially* with those who have seen the film and who have not yet had the chance or the time to become PSE sponsors.

It is still time to wish you all a Happy New Year 2017 ... which will see, thanks to you, the growth of the "PSE family" to save still more "little gems".

*J.M. Bouchard, President*

## Papy at the Heart of the Centre

Here in Cambodia, funeral rites take place in three parts: the main funeral service, then the 7-day ceremony, and then the 100-day ceremony.

On 1<sup>st</sup> January, during a celebration, the last urn with Papy's ashes in was placed in a little "ancestor house" right at the heart of the Centre. Leakhéna and I, wanted this little house be very simple, without gilding or embellishment, to fit in to Centre's color scheme.

That way, everyone: children, youngsters, former students, families when they come to pick up their rice or to see the Social Team... can come to reflect and remember.



## PSE Scouts

We have long dreamed of having a PSE scout group. What better way to raised awareness in the young adults and children to the values of solidarity, respect for themselves and others, for diversity and for the environment? Scouting allows them not to listen to speeches, but



get trained in those values, by living them and putting them into practice. This year we are fortunate to have a young couple from Scouts et Guides de France (SGDF), doing their Community Service, who were available to get things started. They have started with 3 groups of 17-19-year-old who have each chosen a different specialty focus area for their activities (Solidarity, Environment and Disabilities) and 4 groups of 11-14-year-old.

But Clara and Thibaud will only be here for a year, and despite the great work they are doing, we still need instructors to take it on from here, at least for next year and very likely longer... So, I am launching an appeal: we are looking for a young SGDF couple or even a pair of teenagers (young man/young lady) who would come as part of their Community Service for a year continue guiding the teams we have in place and to set up new ones.

## Meet your children

This family with 8 children rents a shack, without a lavatory, in a dangerous area filled with thugs, drugs, trafficking ... The father works as a guard, but does not really take care of his family, and above all, he takes drugs, which often leads to outbursts of violent behavior. The mother takes care of the children, many of them being still small.

The eldest, **Seavsan**, (16 years old), although having just entered 9<sup>th</sup> grade, left school to sell flowers in the streets. The twins, **Ponleu** and **Reaksmey** (14 years old) and their sister **Chantrea** (11 years old) are in 4<sup>th</sup> grade. But Seavsan takes all 3 of them along with her when she sells flowers at night despite all the dangers of street life.

**Dara** (8 years old) is in 2<sup>nd</sup> grade and **Raksa** (6 years old) in 1<sup>st</sup> grade. **Sorlya** (3 years old) and **Doung Chan** (1-year-old) still little, are at home.

The spending is greater than the income, which is only 57 cents per person a day. Sure, with so little, the family doesn't have enough to feed themselves ...

The PSE solution, once again, is to take care of the children's education, provide one meal a day and give 10.5kg of rice each week.





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## What has become of them?

Sreypeou, 24. "I have finished my studies and I leave boarding school next week". That's how she arrived the other night, with bananas and longyans, to thank us. She already has a job, with an Australian company, where she has just been hired after a 3-month trial period.

It is always very emotional, to see all these young people leave to make their own way in the world, beaming

with hope and energy. Yet she, too, has come a long way and her life has not always been so easy ...

Her mother, sick, cannot work. Her father, a formerly in the military, is also sick and has retired with a pension of \$75. Her older sister had no choice but to work in a factory. Her older brother is a receptionist and, now married, has left the family home. The help given by the two elder ones



Sreypeou was admitted to board during her studies. And here she is, today, leaving our Management School, with a BBA (degree) in her pocket, ready to build her new life!

is not enough. This was why

Again, a support which has been worthwhile ...

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## Academic support



You are probably aware that not all our children go to school in the Centre. Onsite we have only the oldest and those who are furthest behind among those who need a remedial schooling, as well as all the youngest boarders and, of course, those who have been abused. And, also, all the Vocational Training classes.

Those who are behind but still young, as long as they are not in particular dan-

ger, are taught in remedial classes in State schools, set up officially with our remedial school curriculum.

And all those who are not behind, as well as those at secondary school levels, are enrolled in mainstream State schools.

As you may know, in Cambodia, children go to school for only half a day, either mornings or afternoons.

And each month, the order is reversed.

The problem is that during their free half-days, if there is no one at home because the parents work, for example, the children are left to fend for themselves.

That is why, from the beginning, we looked after a number of them in our Paillotes (Community Centres). But the Paillotes have not been designed for teaching. They are mostly occupied by our day-care centres and nursery classes and do not offer a good study environment.

So, since some time now, we decided, as it was the case when PSE started, to provide academic support within the Centre.

It is obvious that children left too much to their own devices during their half day without school, like all the chil-

dren in the world, tend to get into trouble, especially those who have difficulty in keeping up.

And then, dropping out of school is not far behind ...

To address this, those who go to State school in the morning are welcomed to the Centre for academic support in the afternoon and vice versa. They are taught by State school teachers, carefully selected by Mr Sameth, our Director of General Education.

We have fun seeing the difference in behaviour between our boarders, who are "almost" well-behaved, and the little newcomers not yet "civilised", who run and climb all over the place ...

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**Know your children.** We are often asked where do the children we take care of come from, now the dumpsite has closed. But, first of all, the dumpsite did not close, it was simply moved 12 kms away and, to this day, it works like the old one at Stung Meanchey. But in this country, that is developing very rapidly, as in all emerging countries, development is not happening evenly across the board. We still discover every day, pockets of extreme poverty. As a consequence of the Khmer rouge regime, some, without any education, in a world that is becoming more and more competitive, cannot cope alone. And when families struggle to only survive, their children need support for schooling and vocational training, sometimes even for food and shelter, so that they can in turn help their families and integrate back into this rapid development of the society.

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**FÉVRIER****PROGRAMME de la TOURNÉE 2017**

<b>Je. 23 - 20 h 00 - 92150</b>	<b>Suresnes</b>	Salle paroissiale du Cœur Immaculé de Marie, 1 rue Honoré d'Estienne d'Orves Charles Walkenaer charles.walkenaer@gmail.com 06 18 35 00 20
<b>Ve. 24 - 20 h 15 - 92370</b>	<b>Chaville</b>	Crypte de ND de Lourdes, 1427 av. Roger Salengro Claire le Gall cjlegall@yahoo.fr 06 67 29 54 44
<b>Lu. 27 - 20 h 30 - 60300</b>	<b>Senlis</b>	Cinéma Jeanne d'Arc, 10 rue du Cimetière St. Rieul Marielle Drouault marielle.drouault@hotmail.com 06 61 17 03 55
<b>MARS</b>		
<b>Me. 01 - 20 h 30 - 76000</b>	<b>Rouen</b>	Espace du Moineau, 41 route de Neufchâtel Stanislas Plantrou hautenormandie@pse.org 06 89 94 00 36
<b>Je. 02 - 20 h 15 - 14400</b>	<b>Bayeux</b>	Lieu prochainement sur notre site internet : <a href="http://www.pse.org">www.pse.org</a> Jacques Brochard jacques.brochard61@gmail.com 06 07 97 04 39
<b>Ve. 03 - 20 h 15 - 35800</b>	<b>Dinard</b>	Auditorium Stéphan Bouttet, 6 rue Sadi Carnot Marie - Noëlle Tan bretagne@pse.org 06 87 55 51 34
<b>Ma. 07 - 20 h 30 - 49000</b>	<b>Angers</b>	Salle de Conférence du Crédit Agricole, 54 bd. Coubertin F. de la Perraudière loireocean@pse.org 06 80 89 45 56
<b>Me. 08 - 20 h 15 - 44000</b>	<b>Nantes</b>	Lieu prochainement sur notre site internet : <a href="http://www.pse.org">www.pse.org</a> Hervé Bain loireocean@pse.org 02 40 54 86 01
<b>Ve. 10 - 20 h 15 - 17024</b>	<b>La Rochelle</b>	Groupe Sup de Co, 102 rue de Coureilles (Les Minimés) Bettina Mercier bettina-olivier@orange.fr 06 52 82 45 56
<b>Lu. 13 - 20 h 30 - 33000</b>	<b>Bordeaux</b>	Salle de l'Athénée Municipal, place St Christoly (tram A ou B - arrêt Hôtel de Ville) Paul Berranger aquitaine@pse.org 06 99 61 84 93
<b>Ma. 14 - 20 h 15 - 33500</b>	<b>Libourne</b>	Salle Honoré Vinson, 7 rue Honoré Vinson Marie-Louise Fagalde aquitaine@pse.org 06 67 16 65 03
<b>Je. 16 - 19 h 30 - 40100</b>	<b>Dax</b>	Cinéma Multiplex Le Grand Club, 11 av. du Sablar Christine des Déserts aquitaine@pse.org 06 17 45 64 49
<b>Ve. 17 - 20 h 15 - 65000</b>	<b>Tarbes</b>	Lieu prochainement sur notre site internet : <a href="http://www.pse.org">www.pse.org</a> Isabelle Morin ib.morin@wanadoo.fr 06 30 92 59 17
<b>Lu. 20 - 20 h 15 - 31500</b>	<b>Toulouse</b>	Orangerie du Caousou, 42 av. Camille Pujol Bertrand de Gaulejac midipyrenees@pse.org 06 83 56 64 28
<b>Ma. 21 - 20 h 15 - 34000</b>	<b>Montpellier</b>	Salle Guillaume de Nogaret, Espace Pitot, 168 place Jacques Mirouze Annie Barbanel languedoc@pse.org 06 07 37 46 52
<b>Me. 22 - 20 h 15 - 84000</b>	<b>Villeneuve - Lez - Avignon</b>	Salle des Conférences, place Jean Jaurès (à côté de la Poste) Jeannine de Villasanté paca@pse.org 06 87 19 23 30
<b>Je. 23 - 20 h 15 - 13008</b>	<b>Marseille</b>	Banque Populaire Méditerranée, 247 av. du Prado (m° 1 et 2 - Arrêt Rd-Point du Prado) Anne-Marie Vola paca@pse.org 06 77 78 72 53
<b>Ve. 24 - 20 h 15 - 13200</b>	<b>Arles</b>	Maison de la Vie Associative, 2 bd. des Lices Sun Hok Tan paca@pse.org 06 21 23 37 71
<b>Lu. 27 - 20 h 00 - 77300</b>	<b>Fontainebleau</b>	Cinéparadis, Halle de Villars Véronique Silcret parisidf@pse.org 06 08 74 30 77
<b>Me. 29</b>	<b>Paris 75006</b>	Amphi Mejecases, Lycée - Collège Stanislas, 22 rue Notre Dame des Champs Vincent Duthoit parisidf@pse.org 06 67 29 43 02
<b>Je. 30 - 20 h 15 - 75015</b>	<b>Paris 75015</b>	Salle St Léon, 1 place du Cardinal Amette Vincent Duthoit parisidf@pse.org 06 67 29 43 02
<b>AVRIL</b>		
<b>Lu. 03 - 20 h 15 - 01000</b>	<b>Bourg en Bresse</b>	Date et lieu prochainement sur notre site internet : <a href="http://www.pse.org">www.pse.org</a> Marie Tessier marie_tessier@yahoo.fr 06 45 86 44 43
<b>Ma. 04 - 20 h 15 - 69000</b>	<b>Lyon</b>	Date et lieu prochainement sur notre site internet : <a href="http://www.pse.org">www.pse.org</a> Thierry Gros lyon@pse.org 06 64 84 99 54
<b>Me. 05 - 20 h 15 - 38000</b>	<b>Grenoble (ou environs)</b>	Lieu prochainement sur notre site internet : <a href="http://www.pse.org">www.pse.org</a> Sophie Mezeix mezeix@orange.fr 06 87 68 76 10
<b>Je. 06 - 20 h 15 - 74000</b>	<b>Annecy (ou environs)</b>	Lieu prochainement sur notre site internet : <a href="http://www.pse.org">www.pse.org</a> Nicole Vincent les2savoie@pse.org 04 50 51 07 84
<b>Ve. 07 - 20 h 15 - 73000</b>	<b>Chambéry</b>	Lieu prochainement sur notre site internet : <a href="http://www.pse.org">www.pse.org</a> Geneviève Mathian les2savoie@pse.org 06 81 22 53 17
<b>Me. 19 - 20 h 15 - 95600</b>	<b>Asnières / Seine (ou environs)</b>	Lieu prochainement sur notre site internet : <a href="http://www.pse.org">www.pse.org</a> Thomas Valleteau thomas.valleteau@pse.ngo 06 32 57 22 62
<b>Je. 20 - 20 h 15 - 75000</b>	<b>Boulogne - Billancourt</b>	Lieu prochainement sur notre site internet : <a href="http://www.pse.org">www.pse.org</a> Vincent Duthoit parisidf@pse.org 06 67 29 43 02
<b>Ve. 21 - 20 h 30 - 78100</b>	<b>St Germain - en - Laye</b>	Paroisse St Germain, 4 place Charles de Gaulle (à la sortie du RER A) Ghislaine Dufour parisidf@pse.org 06 88 03 22 96

**Reçu fiscal 2016** : Parrains, vous le recevrez fin mars, début avril pour votre déclaration d'impôts en mai, juin.