



April Report 2010

Here we are in May reporting on April - it is scary to think that a quarter of the year has already gone. What a difference your help has made to all of these Orphans we are supporting.

Firstly to Lillian (Anna's Mother) and all of her friends and sisters: thank you for your kind thoughts and donations - we were so happy to pass them on to the children.

We were welcomed by Brits Abroad at their coffee morning, where I gave a 5 minute speech about Mifan Mama. They are supporting us and had asked the ladies to buy and bring a pair of shoes for the children at Lao Wang's Orphanage and also to bring chocolate goodies for them as it was Easter. It was lovely to see all of you who had gone out and bought shoes for these children. I know that some of you now have grown up children so it truly was a gift from the heart to these children - I thank you on their behalf.

A huge thank you to Connie from Crocs. Thanks to her, Crocs donated 350 pairs of Bob the Builder shoes to Mifan Mama to distribute to our Anhui Orphans. We were so happy to have her on the trip to Lao Wang's to donate some in person, after the Mifan Mama volunteers had lovingly boxed each pair and sized them. Have a look at [Connie's photos and comments on her visit](#).

Five Mifan Mama Volunteers met at the Pudong Intercontinental Hotel with the Board Members from the IBHS where we were presented with a very generous cheque to help feed and educate the wonderful Orphans of Anhui. Thank you so much for supporting us in all we do.

The Australian Women's Social Group is a bunch of lovely ladies. Diane and I met with them to watch a lovely video that Sandra had produced following her visit with us to Lao Wang's. We gave a 5 minute talk about what we do, but I think the pictures spoke for themselves and Sandra's experience there did the rest. A big thank you to you all for your continued support. A special thank you to the knitters who sent some blankets to the children - which were excitedly received, especially by the one little girl who heads for me each time I arrive at Lao Wang's who asked for one of the blankets and then excitedly hurried off to her room clutching it.

To all of you who donated items that you or your children no longer need, a big thank you. There are always people and children in need and it is wonderful for us to be able to pass things on, on behalf of you all. Things are always needed - we all know how quickly children grow. A huge thank you as well to Bridge Relocation, who supply us with boxes to pack and transport these

donations - they also gave us a huge donation of clothes and toys, which we gave to the orphans this month.

We delivered three sewing machines donated to us from Home Sweet Home and overhauled by employees at Nexans. I cannot begin to tell you how happy this made one of the Ayi's (Mummies) who looks after the children there - she was singing and dancing and getting everyone else to join in, she was so happy . She lives there caring for these children and her 82 year old Mother has joined her and is helping her with the children - isn't this dedication and love?. It is always wonderful working together with other organisations, after all we are all here working to better the lives of others.

25kg x 80 bags of rice, 25kg x 40 bags of flour, 15 bottles of oil, 50kg x 50 bags of soya bean, milk powder baby formula, nappies, eggs, fruit, shoes, 8 baby cots (these will be so useful in the summer months as it is so warm out there), 2 high chairs, a push chair, baby changing unit, clothes. A full truck again - thank you all, it is so marvelous to see.

Last, but by no means least, as promised in March, we took the young blind man a guitar to fulfill his dream. When we gave it to him he was so amazed, as he said he had never thought that we would bring him this gift. Now he can learn to play and not only bring happiness to himself but to others who will hear him play.

A very powerful month of receiving and giving. Thank you

Schooling:

I am so happy to report that we visited two high schools on the April trip. We had a very good meeting with Lao Wang and, thanks to Doris, we now have a better understanding of the whole situation. Our first high school boarding students will be sponsored from August to start school in September.

One young man from Lao Wang's Orphanage is taking exams to enter University and we will sponsor him - isn't this amazing?

We have also agreed to sponsor 8 children from Lao Wang's to go to Kindergarten school from September - we are so excited.

Elsewhere in Anhui we are sponsoring 20 HIV-affected children to be able to go to school. We hope to be able to sponsor 2 of these children to go to university - they have already been accepted.

Then we have one young lady in the Blind school.

With your support we can send more children to school. We started by feeding the body and now we must feed the mind.

The Mifan Mama Team know how lucky we are to be able to do all this, thanks to you all.

There are new reports written by Anne-Claire and Mary, who made their first visit to the Orphanage in April. We hope you will enjoy reading about their experiences - maybe they will inspire you to get more involved as a Mifan Mama Volunteer, or perhaps join a future trip to see for yourself how wonderful these orphans are.

Julie

