



## May news 2009

### 21 May 2009 - Lao Wang Orphanage Visit (an excerpt from the full report)

A number of toys and games were distributed among the children by Jan, whom brought them back after her recent trip to the US.

Four children who had travelled to Hangzhou for cleft palate surgery had returned to the orphanage. Two babies had initial repairs, and an older boy had revision surgery. The fourth boy, also older, was denied surgery as doctors felt further work was not necessary to correct his speech. The opinion was that he needed speech therapy, not surgery. Three more babies will need cleft palate surgery when they have reached 6 months and gained the required weight of 7 kg.

On the day we arrived in Yingshang, we went to a hospital to see a six-day old baby girl who was born with intestinal atresia. She was abandoned by her parents and sent to Laowang by the Department of Civil Affairs. The local hospital was unable to operate on her and she was waiting to be transferred to a bigger hospital for a life saving operation. Gein named her Anqi (安琪) in Chinese, and Angie in English.

After many rounds of discussions, an urgent decision was made to have Angie brought to Shanghai for her operation. Jan and Joyce accomplished a challenging mission of bringing Angie to Shanghai, accompanied by Xiao Guan and a nurse from the local hospital. Wendy's friend Connie Pai helped to make arrangements with the Shanghai Children's Medical Centre, which is a teaching hospital of Jiaotong University. Thanks to Connie's help, Angie was admitted to the ICU of SCMC as soon as she arrived and was operated on in the same afternoon. Her conditions were better than expected. Only two spots in her intestines were found to be blocked. The first two weeks after surgery will be critical. We keep our fingers crossed for Angie to recover and become a healthy baby. Meanwhile, members of our group are busy looking for sponsors for Angie's medical bill and working on her rehabilitation arrangements.