



Dear reader,

In this news flash, the focus is on the coronavirus. Continuing the aid by Asia Care Foundation in coronavirus times has, contrary to expectations, proven to be quite challenging. The foundation was established in 2010 to support the work that Bob van Rijn does in Asia. This year also marks the tenth anniversary of Asia Care Foundation. Bob is grateful that he can and may offer this support. Care he can only provide thanks to your support.

Care continues during coronavirus times.

Thailand has a population of 69.4 million people. In the Netherlands we receive daily information regarding the amount of infections and deceased persons caused by the coronavirus. At the time of writing this newsletter, the number of infected and death in the Netherlands were 42,984 and 5,510 respectively, at a population of 17.3 million. Converting these numbers to Thailand would amount to about 172,000 infections in Thailand and 22,100 deceased. The actual number of reported infections and deaths is 3017 and 56 respectively. A notable difference, and of course, questions are being raised regarding the reported figures. Still, it seems that the virus in Thailand is striking relatively less. Nevertheless, rigorous measures have been taken, a selection:

- foreigners are not allowed to enter the country
- there's an curfew
- traveling between provinces is being discouraged
- shopping centres and entertainment is closed
- restaurants can re-open as of May 3, under strict conditions
- there's a ban for selling alcohol during 1 month



During a tour through Thailand, Gerard (Bob's cousin) and his wife Gerda spent a few days with Bob mid-February 2020. They have visited different locations where Bob provides support. The coronavirus was getting more grip in Europe at that time. In Thailand there was still very little to notice. A few weeks later (March

10), that already changed considerably. The photo shows the swimming pool of a hotel offering 220 rooms. Gerda and Gerard were the only guests (1 night), air traffic was stopped four days later.

Back to "help continues in coronavirus times". You may think, well, that should succeed. In practice it has shown to be a lot more complicated than thought upfront. During the period that Bob did family visits, he brought additional relief supplies to various locations. Enabling him to leave for a family visit to Australia with peace of mind. He left Thailand end of February... you can already feel it coming.

It is now mid-May and Bob is stuck in Australia. And given the current situation, his return will in any case be after July 1st. The planned short visit was and still is a months-long forced stay.



Fortunately he is lovingly cared for by family in Coffs Harbour. There they have horses, alpacas and other animals, so Bob is doing a good job cleaning stables, and shovelling poo from the meadows. Furthermore he has re-initiated one of his former hobbies, walking.

Admittedly, Bob had brought extra relief support in February, but he didn't account for this to happen. The plan was to be back in Thailand by the end of March. Yet, it worked out well to deliver support (rice, salt, palm oil, diapers, baby milk) to families, school and orphanage. Bob previously made arrangements with a Swiss (see photo), also living in Hua Hin and willing to help out. Thanks to him the support in Thailand continued, and deliver the necessary relief supplies for a longer period of time (3 months) to the spots. The financial support (rental price) of a family near Hua Hin is being advanced by the "Power of Love" foundation.



So much for this news flash with focus on Bob's work during corona times. In the next newsletter we look back on the tenth anniversary of Asia Care Foundation.

Use of funds

The foundation does not pay any remuneration, expense allowance or salary to board members, nor to persons working on behalf of the foundation in Asia.

Website Asia Care Foundation

Asia Care Foundation has created a website: www.asiacarefoundation.org. On this website, more information can be found regarding Bob's work. Bob's testimony is also placed here.

Support

You can support Bob's work in several ways:

Send a card to Bob van Rijn, P.O. Box 144, Hua Hin Prachuap Kirikhan 77110, Thailand, email to bob@asiacarefoundation.org

Transfer money to IBAN: NL49INGB0005641822 Asia Care Foundation. Money entering this account will be used for the purposes mentioned in this letter, among other things.

Thanks in advance for your support.

Sincerely, Bob, Gerard, Hans, and Matthias

Thai bank account

To Gijsbertus Hendrikus van Rijn

P.O. BOX 144

Hua Hin Prachuap Kirikhan 77110 - Thailand

Bank account: 4890100776

BIC: KRTHTHBK

Krung Thai Bank

234/1 Petchkasem RD

Hua Hin Prachuap Kirikhan 77110 – Thailand