



Dear supporters of Golden Futures,

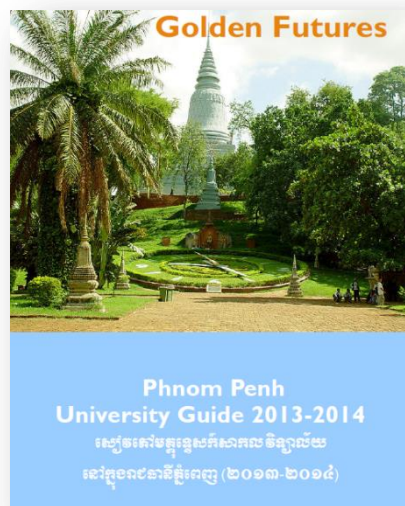
As I am writing to you, we have entered the final days of our voluntary work; it has been an eye-opening experience for myself and the rest of the group. During the last six weeks, we have worked hard and played hard. Without doubt, in a few days' time we will miss being in this culturally rich country, and with the kids in New Futures for Children (NFC).

Unlike previous years, the duration of this year's project has been extended from four weeks to six weeks, meaning that we have been set more ambitious goals and have more tasks to complete.

One of the first things we did when we arrived was to interview students who are in grade 10, 11 and 12, as well as current university students. Our aim was to find out who was in need of support, and what kind of support Golden Futures could provide. This process helped us to get to know the students better and aided us in planning our training sessions and university visits.

Alongside the interviews, we have updated the Phnom Penh University Guide. We added a few extra courses onto this year's guide, such as Fine Arts and Performing Arts, and American Studies. As last year's volunteers did a great job revamping the guide, our aim this year was more focused on increasing distribution. We have successfully increased the number of orders from last year's 80 copies to 134 copies this year! We have even delivered copies to Siem Reap!

University visits have always been the highlight of Golden Future's work here, and as British students we are all very curious in finding out what Khmer universities are like! After arranging meetings with tutors from various universities, we took seven students out to visit six universities and two specialised institutions. These were fantastic opportunities for students to ask questions about their course and the college, and to gain an idea what university life is like, whilst allowing them to make a more informed decision.



Successful Golden Futures loan borrowers for university!

Cover of Phnom Penh University Guide 2013/14!

Thy Vitcheang, Chhorn Laluy, Hang Sochann

As in previous years, we have held several training sessions, both in and outside of NFC. We have invited students from the external NGOs Cambodian Organisation for Living and Training (COLT) and Australian Center for Education (ACE) to join the meetings at NFC with our students. We have also made a trip to Empowering Youth Cambodia, an NGO based in Phnom Penh. We have delivered sessions on CV writing, budgeting and interviewing skills. Through these sessions, we intended to raise awareness and to help the students understand the importance of these particular skills. As we are a very diverse group of volunteers with different expertises and experiences, our collection of skill sets made these workshops very interesting and relevant. In addition, we have also set up a CV clinic where older students can have one-on-one sessions in checking their CVs and writing cover letters.

With your support, three grade 12 graduates were given Golden Futures loans. With this money, they are going to begin their studies in Architecture, Economics and Computer Science at the University of Fine Arts, the Royal University of Law and Economics and the Royal University of Phnom Penh respectively this September. These students applied for the Golden Futures' microfinance scheme, which promotes self-reliance and independence. Their applications were well thought through; we gave realistic suggestions and guided them through the applications alongside the loan advice booklet that we updated this year!

All in all, Summer 2013 has been a successful year for Golden Futures. Not only have we increased the distribution of the university guide but, through this, we have networked with other external NGOs. We have expanded our database of institutions who we will keep in contact with in future years. We have delivered the aims of Golden Futures, giving these students the tools and opportunities to take control of their lives and gain brighter future.

Thank you so much for taking an interest in Golden Futures. There is still a lot to offer the young children of Cambodia, and we need your support to continue to make a difference in their lives. Please visit our website, www.goldenfutures.org.uk, for details on how you can help us to give these children the opportunities they deserve!



Golden Futures Volunteers 2013!

**Soma Kang, Alejandro Lozano, Elle Flynn,
Tak Wai Chan, Elly Turnbull**



Children of NFC!