

University Women's



NEWSFLASH

December 2005

- **New Members**

UWAS extends a warm welcome to Maggie Choo Sau Sen, Teo Bee Hua, Quek Geok Cheng and Gwyneth Har

- **Members' Night – 11 October 2005**

Members' Night was held at the YMCA on 11 October 2005. In the spirit and celebration of Deepavali, the ladies who attended the function were introduced to an Indian dance led by Vijaya. After an invigorating dance, the ladies settled down to a sharing session by two guests from PAVE (Centre for Promoting Alternatives to Violence) who highlighted the role of PAVE in assisting family victims of violence. Dr Khoo Kim Choo updated on the Cambodia programme; Dr Rosemary Khoo and Brenda Goh gave an overview of the UWAS history and structure. Finally Esther Joosa informed the meeting that she was embarking on another training programme for the Toa Payoh Girls' Home and requested for volunteers to help conduct the programme. It was a successful night where members mingled and caught up with one another.

- **Toa Payoh Girls' Home Project**

This project is running its third training programme on communication skills for selected girls from the home". The volunteers have adapted the training programme to suit the profile of the girls. The attitude of the girls has so far been positive. For the September/October programme, the volunteer facilitators included Brenda(once), Marianne(twice) and Esther(thrice). And for the Dec programme the facilitators were Esther (twice), Chan Fong Kin (once) and Geok Cheng (once). If MCYS and UWAS should decide to continue with the programme, the chair (Esther Joosa) for this project suggests that it is timely to put together a curriculum for the purpose. Members who are interested in volunteering for this project please contact Esther at the following email address:- joosa@singnet.com.sg

- **“Learning Through Play” - Training in Kompot, Cambodia (24-28 Oct 2005)**

The objective

The project was organized by the local Early Childhood Education Department, Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports, funded by UNESCO, Phnom Penh, for local expenses while UWAS sponsored three trainers, all members of UWAS, to conduct the training. The three trainers were Dr Khoo Kim Choo (leader), Esther Joosa and Dr Lily Wong.

35 Cambodian participants from different districts of the Kompot province attended the training. The 35-hour workshop on **Learning through Play** equipped participants with basic knowledge and skills in working with preschool children. It was very much a hands-on, experiential workshop using games, songs, music and movement, art, other activities using low cost, recycled and indigenous resources interspersed with lecturettes. There were small group discussions, presentations, role-play and the making of toys and teaching aids. The focus was to introduce to participants the concept that it is possible to promote children's development and education

using low cost, recycled and indigenous resources. Topics covered included child development, language development, mathematics and science, art, music and movement.



Participants showing off the animal puppets they made for story telling



Art from nature.



A participant demonstrating how she made a 'car' from recycled material.

An excellent experienced interpreter did a very good job in interpreting for the trainers and the participants. Training took place in a large training room belonging to the Department of Education in Chhouk – a district of the province of Kompot. Training facilities were very basic,

surrounded by scenic padi fields, ponds with lotus and water lilies and cattle and turkeys. One toilet served all – although some preferred to use the great outdoors!

All the participants found the workshop very useful and applicable. They planned to return to their respective communities to share with others what they have learnt. The trainers were satisfied with the participants and found them very interested, eager to learn and participative in the sessions. Participants, officials and UNESCO were all very happy with the process and the outcome. Overall it was a success and a feather in the cap for UWAS.

- **Piano Recital Performed by Dr Lin Chiu Ling**

6365Pals organized a piano recital performed by Dr Lin Chiu Ling on 3 September 2005. The event was a commendable success with the support of musical enthusiasts, students and friends such as members of UWAS. From the proceeds of the concert, *6365Pals* contributed a sum of \$1400 to the UWAS Education Fund with the objective of contributing financial support to a musically-inclined and deserving student who demonstrates some commitment in musical activities through her course studies. *6365Pals* suggests that this financial net of support could be cast wider to include NAFA (Nanyang Academy of Fine Arts) students. UWAS is very appreciative of this support from *6365Pals*.

- **JAUW (Japanese Association of University Women)**

The JAUW is offering the 2006 Fellowship for women who are members of a national federation or association affiliated to IFUW (except members of JAUW) and who are carrying out or would like to carry out independent research or advanced study on the post-graduate level in Japan.

The amount of the Fellowship is ¥6000,000 to ¥1,000,000 for a successful candidate. The amount will be changed depending on the duration, the nature and actual condition of the work. The period of the award is not less than 3 months between September 1, 2006 and February 28 2007. The applicants should have the following qualifications:-

- academic degree equivalent to a Bachelor's degree;
- a plan of study or research which will advance applicant's professional competence and which requires to be undertaken in Japan;
- an acceptance by a Japanese institution at which she proposes to undertake her work;
- a member of a national federation or association affiliated to IFUW.

The deadline for 2006-2007 is 30 April 2006 (Postmark deadline). Late applications **will not** be considered. Completed application forms with all required documents and materials should be enclosed in one envelope and sent to:

Dr Sachiko Abe (Chairperson)
International Scholarship Committee
Japanese Association of University Women
11-6-101 Samoncho, Shinjuku-ku
Tokyo 160-0017, Japan
Tel (81 3) 3358 2882
FAX: (81 3) 3358 2889
e-mail: jauw@tky2.3web.ne.jp

(Please click [here](#) for application form. For more details contact Marianne Teo at jadelinen@yahoo.com.sg)

- **PAVE (Centre for Promoting Alternatives to Violence)**

UWAS is working with PAVE (Centre for Promoting Alternatives to Violence) to help disadvantaged children by making available to them personal tuition and enrichment courses. In a two-prong approach, this initiative will help to give older girls (tutors) an opportunity to earn money by giving tuition to younger children who will then be on par with their classmates. UWAS will be mentors to the "tutors" who will not only earn some money but they will also learn responsibility and coaching skills. UWAS will also keep track of the progress of the programme through regular reports.

Executive Committee (2004-2006)

President : Brenda Goh
Vice President : Serene Low
Honorary Secretary : Yip Siew Har
Asst Hon Secretary : Chenise Lim
Treasurer : Lim Kim Hoon
Asst Treasurer : Genevieve Ng
Program Chair : Esther Joosa
Int'l Hospitality Chair : Vijaya Mohan
Membership Chair : Yvonne Ying
Publication Chair: Quek Geok Cheng
Committee Members : Ong Yoke Yin
Marianne Teo
Katherine Chua

Project Leaders:

Dr Khoo Kim Choo - Cambodia Project
Dr Rosemary Khoo - Chicken Soup Project
Esther Joosa - Toa Payoh Girls' Home
Marianne Teo- PAVE (Centre for Promoting Alternatives to Violence)
Genevieve Ng - Educational Tours
Serene Low - Social Activity