



**ELEPHANTSTAY**  
not for profit

# Elephant Rumbles

ISSUE 1

JANUARY 2010

**BUT WAIT  
THERE'S MORE !**

**Helping Haiti**

**The Gazebo**

**Light and Sound**

**Happy Birthday**

**Christmas**

**Cute Alert**

**Other stuff**

**The Elephantstay Newsletter! After a serious struggle against all odds arises like a golden pachyderm from the flames of promises with the sacred biro waving in it's trunk...**

There has been talk of a newsletter to keep all our elephant friends and supporters informed of what is happening with the elephants past, present and future at the Kraal for ages and it has never quite made it to your email box as we would have

liked. In times past the postal service could be blamed but not now that the digital age is upon us. Although still up to our eyeballs and beyond in elephant coconuts, an assortment of volunteers have variously come on board who have a genui-

ne affection for elephants to lighten our load slightly and get this rumbling thundering. So finally an update for you all on some of our fabulous elephants, events and experiences.

## Helping Haiti Jan 21st

Three of our tuskers were painted up with the Red Cross logo by their mahouts and the Elephantstay Team to parade with members of the Red Cross from Ayutthaya's town hall to Soi Farang in the morning collecting money and raising awareness of the Haitian disaster. The mayor, his wife and other local



Plai Noppokhao and Pat collect money on KhaoSan Road, Bangkok



Ele teamster Mel, paints Plai Yodyeam



Elephantstay Team pose outside Ayutthaya town Hall, happy to make it into the newsletter.

dignitaries gave their support and money. In the afternoon the entourage went into Bangkok and did the same in Kao San Road. It was a great success. Thanks are due to tuskers Plai Noppokhao,

Plai Yodyeam and Plai Kacha and to the Elephantstay Team who got to help people in need and spend time with some of our other elephants. To date over 600,000 baht has been collected. Excellent!

## The Gazebo "Kon Rak Chang" Jan 2010



Ilan and Nick pose in front of their "home away from home"

Some of you may remember the little round gazebo in front of the 'old girls' enclosure that was used as a chill out zone to watch the sun setting behind the retiree elephants. You may also remember that it was just the right size to be adopted as a toy for the elephants and as with most elephant playthings it eventually succumbed to their size and weight and became matchwood.

Now thanks to Ian turning 50 and wanting to spend this auspicious birthday with his

elephant family we have a new Gazebo! Ian's son knew his father and partner Nick did not need any more "stuff" "at their age" and so being very aware of their obsession with Elephantstay thought it would be better to collect lots of money from family and friends and get us something. Yeay! So now we have a brand new large, sturdy, bomb proof seating area that hopefully will be strong enough to resist even the most determined wayward teenaged pachyderm. Cool!



A great surprise was followed by a dinner in the best birthday present ever!

## Light and Sound Show Dec 2009

In the middle of December we had our Light and Sound Spectacular which was the best one yet; more bangs, more fights and, well, just more of everything.



## Happy Birthday Kerrie Jan 2010

Elephantstay Elephants enjoy eating



The Elephantstay elephants had a special birthday treat in January; it wasn't any of their birthdays but it was Kerrie's 50<sup>th</sup>. Kerrie is an Australian 'Elephantstayer' and she, her husband Peter and son Jacob, donated money to buy corn and cucumbers for the elephants instead of a birthday cake. Thank

you both and a belated Happy Birthday from all the girls who transformed themselves into vacuum cleaners and sucked up the lot in nano-seconds. The word 'sharing' was not in the elephant vocabulary on this occasion

# Cute alert! New additions!



The older babies check out their youngest sister



## Ngamnet

### Cuteness plus!

hantstayers who witnessed her arrival on our website [www.elephantstay.com/Element-Nursery-2009.html](http://www.elephantstay.com/Element-Nursery-2009.html)

Ngamnet arrived on the 28<sup>th</sup> December, Oijai the Mum was in Bangkok on a job at the time. After a few days they came home the night of 4th January. After spending the first few days here buried under straw and sleeping Ngamnet has woken up to her surroundings and is slowly widening her circle of exploration in each waking moment.

The smallest newcomer born to Mayura is the middle child. Despite being born on the 19<sup>th</sup>

day. Read more about her and the lucky elep-

December is tinier than Ngamnet. He and mum came home to us from Chiang Mai recently and he has become a firm favourite with everyone. One spoilt baby in the offing. He has not been named officially yet but because of his diminutive size and overwhelming cuteness he has been nicknamed 'Pocket'. No other name would be appropriate. Ewa is working on adoption papers and a reinforced bedroom to re house him in her hut as I write. Pocket has discovered that the white plastic chairs that people sit on are light and easily thrown around; if he realises that he can do this with visitors when he is older we will be in trouble!

You don't really want to know, do you???????

Ok! Ok! I'll tell you. We have three newbies at the moment. Starting with the eldest 'Opal' born on 11<sup>th</sup> October 2009 to proud mother Dok Sanu. Opal has got to the stage of being an adventurous little tank and is currently trying to increase her tally of flattened tourists every



Ngamnet enjoys her mother's milk



Pocket enjoys a plastic chair

## Spreading Xmas Cheer Dec 2009



Plai Noppokhao, Ewa and lots of kids

Christmas comes but once a year they say. A lot of children at Jirasat School had a very merry one when we took some of our elephants dressed in festive regalia for a visit. The Elephantstayers loved the 4,000 plus screaming kids. So too did the elephants who also got caught up in the electric, hectic frenzy of giving out presents and the oodles of media, trying to get the best photos, video and interviews in the midst of it all. Whew, crazy!



Elephants and Elephantstayers in Santa outfits. Smile!

## Other stuff



To all of you who have been here, and promised a testimonial, we would still appreciate getting one, no matter how long ago you came. If you have a blog or anything of that nature and have talked about us please send us a link. We would love to hear from you!

See you next time.....

Love from Elephantstay



### HIGHLIGHT

Elephants, Elephantstayers, Red Cross volunteers, and the Buddy group join forces to help Haitis Earthquake victims.



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