PROJECT TO PURCHASE BUS FOR ORPHANS IN VUNG TAU

Background.

In March and June this year (2015), I visited Vung Tau with fellow 102 Battery gunners Geoff Grimish (March), and in June, Robin Parkinson, Ray Darrah, Ian Dimond, Geoff Grimish and another ex-serviceman Peter Ryan.
Tom Brown also arrived from his home in Cambodia during our June visit.

The purpose of the visits was to meet with Ms. Le Thi My Huong, (My Huong), who is a representative of the Vung Tay Orphanage, Trung Tam Bao Tro Em Vung Tau (the Centre for Social Protection of Children).

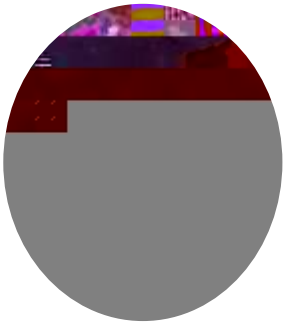
Geoff Grimish, Ian Dimond and Tom Brown have been supporting this orphanage for many years, both in money and kind which has been a tremendous help to My Huong, who runs the orphanage in Vung Tau as well as a school at Long Hai which she established in 2009 with the objective of providing schooling and a daily meal for poor children in the area.

My Houng

In 1975, at the age of five, My Houng was adopted to Australia from Vietnam She returned in 2004 to search for her birth mother, who she reunited with and she has remained in Vietnam ever since.

My Houng has adopted two children from the Vung Tau Orphanage. Her first son was adopted in 2008 when she became a volunteer at the centre and in April 2012, she was appointed as vice-director of the Vung Tau Orphanage.

My Houng, whose father is an Australian who she has not seen, is one of the few Vietnamese war adoptees to have returned to Vietnam, found her birth mother and made the commitment to permanently reside in Vietnam to help the orphanage children. She is their only "mother".
She has tremendous experience in working with street children and adoption issues and supports other adult adoptees returning to Vietnam to find their birth families.



My Houng

Geoff & My Houng at orphanage

Showing donated bikes at orphanage

Tom Brown receives acknowledgement.