



B CCT's charity activity is largely concentrated on support for the British community in Thailand Foundation for the Needy (BCTFN), organizers of the Annual Ploenchit Fair. However, since 2005 BCCT has been able to access more funds from charity auctions at social and sporting functions. Donations focus largely (but not exclusively) on children and/or education.

1. British Community in Thailand Foundation for the Needy (BCTFN) – www.bctfn.com

Charity activities by members of the British Community in Thailand began at the British Club in 1941 when monthly activities including morning markets selling home-made cakes and other items run by the British ladies together with the production of several plays were organized.

The British efforts were combined with the YWCA in 1951 when they held their first International Bazaar, but in 1957 the British community, led by the wife of the Ambassador realized the potential for an annual charity Fair and the need for a dedicated committee. The Ploenchit Fair was born.

A committee was formed from a cross-section of the community, UKCTC, and charged with the objectives of maximizing the support from the British community for Thai charities, to ensure funds were properly disbursed and spent and to unite the promote British companies' charitable donations, giving them a forum to handle requests received throughout the year.

This first committee, UKCTC, obtained Foundation status from the Ministry of Interior in 1999 under the name British Community in Thailand Foundation for the Needy (BCTFN) and today continues the organization of the Ploenchit Fair. The members are entirely voluntary and, with the experience they have gained over the years, enables them to understand and administer to the needs of the recipient charities, advise them where necessary and monitor the work they are and have been doing over the decades on an ongoing permanent basis.

In recent years, priority has been given to self-help projects that benefit and enable a community to become self-sustaining. Assistance has also been given in the provision of basic necessities and equipment to improve healthcare, nutrition, education, agricultural projects and the disabled throughout Thailand.

Ploenchit Fair

Today, the Fair has grown immeasurably and is arguably the biggest event on the British Calendar and is known and admired throughout South East Asia. It has proved a very successful and enjoyable way to raise funds whilst promoting British interests in Thailand.

In 2011, H.E. Abhisit Vejjajiva kindly consented to open the Ploenchit Fair, held this year at Bangkok Patana School. Khun Abhisit admitted to being no stranger to Ploenchit Fair and BCTFN's work with Thai charities.

Visitors from all nationalities attended Ploenchit Fair. This would not be possible without the help and assistance of all sponsors, who donated their time, money and goods to help raise this amount, BCCT members in particular. The final profit from Ploenchit Fair 2011 was THB 4.7 million of which THB 827,000 came from the Grand Raffle run by BCCT.

With the floods that affected thousands of families in the country, the BCTFN committed to donating to flood victims. Therefore, the success of the Fair was imperative to ensure we continue to support our existing charities and find funds for such disasters and new charities that require support.

BCTFN would like to extend their thanks all sponsors and visitors which will enable them to continue to support projects for Thai Charities throughout Thailand in 2012.

After another successful Ploenchit Fair in November 2011, funds for the Foundation to continue its assistance to projects throughout Thailand have been replenished and BCTFN will donate some 5 million baht to Thai charities this year. In 2011-12 projects include:





Karen Hill Tribes Trust – THB 257,000

One Thousand family mosquito nets were donated to 27 villages in 5 districts.

Rejoice Charity – THB 90,000

Rejoice run a clinic that looks after HIV and Aids victims in outlying villages around Chiang Mai. This donation will support provisions for the mobile clinic such as formula milk, palliative medicines and diesel fuel.

Volunteer for Social Development, Rajabhat University – THB 200,141

Funds donated to provide building materials for the Volunteers for Social Development Camp Project No. 11 to erect a multi-purpose building and repair a playground.

Wildflower Home – THB 127,785

Donation used to furnish and equip a new baby nursery. This will include special touches that will aid in the development of the children including special flooring and toys that will help babies learn through play.

Thailand Hilltribe Education Projects – THB 52,000

Due to serious flooding in the north when the hill behind Baan Huay Mak Mai Tai School the canteen floor was covered in mud and dirt. Donation provided to pay for labour to work on this floor.

Rural Area Medical Aid Society (RAMA) - THB 225,599

Continued support was given for payment of drugs and medical equipment used in monthly trips by volunteer doctors, dentists and nurses to remote villages. Usually 500-600 patients benefit each trip.

Wildflower Home, Chiang Mai – THB 127,785

This donation was to support the new baby nursery. Funds were used to furnish and equip this room with special touches that will aid in the development of the children to include special flooring, toys that will help them learn through play and shelving units.

Where there is no Doctor – THB 150,000

Donation given to support the building of twenty toilets and two water supply systems (some of which require two to six kilometers of piping) to five hill-tribe villages.

St. Joseph's Home – THB 350,000

This home is for the aged and children who are either orphaned or where the families are destitute. BCTFN pledge this annual donation to them as it is the largest donation the Home receives.

Shalem House – THB 50,000

Shalem House provides a safe place for families of patients receiving treatment at Chulalongkorn Hospital where they can stay. It provides essential support and where necessary advocacy with the hospital staff. The house is rented by the Anglican Church and the funds have been donated for renovation to the house which includes removal of dangerous electric wiring, removal of mold on the wall and replacement of glass in sliding doors and further decoration.

Education for the Development Programme Foundation – THB 270,000

The Foundation supports children in the Northeast to ensure schooling for all, the funds will go towards the "Libraries Alive" project in two schools, this will renovate and stock libraries in the schools to promote the "Love of Reading" activities among children and fund 10 reading-themed student bursary's (five per school).





Some Yak Foundation – THB 150,000

To provide sponsorship for five students in grade 10 – 12 years who have good University prospects.

Good Shepherd Sister – THB 500,000

Donations made for two projects:-
 THB300,000 for helping with costs of materials for the 400 women who receive help from the Centre in return for their sewing work.
 THB200,000 to help support feeding and educating 96 little boys and girls in the Children's Day Care Centre. Normally funding is received from elsewhere for this project, but the Sisters used much of their funding last year to help those that lost most of their homes and possessions in the recent floods by housing families during this time and providing them with essentials.

Good Shepherd Sisters Ning Khaki/Regina Self Help Centre _ THB 403,230

The funds were donated to support a weaving project and provide funds for maintenance for Regina and Heyday Self Help Centre.

Siam Care Foundation – THB 191,300

Funding to finance a three day workshop/camp for 150 people from marginalized families living with HIV.

Project Life – THB 158,515

Project LIFE works alongside women of Sa Kaew province to provide for their families without the need to migrate to cities. Funding was made to support two projects which include a weaving project and insects.

Christ Church – THB 120,000

This is an annual donation given to Christ Church to support their discretionary funding, used mainly to assist those in need that appeal to the Church.

Foundation to Encourage Disabled Persons – THB 185,115

This donation pays the yearly salary of a physiotherapist who is working in three centres in Chiang Mai and running an outreach and training programme.

Christian Care Children with Disabilities – THB 64,000

Donated to contribute towards raising funds to purchase rice to assist some 400 disabled children and their families for one year. The Foundation required additional funds as much of theirs was used up to assist those affected by the floods.

The above charities will, no doubt, forward projects for 2011. Reserve funds are also available for any new projects forwarded to this Committee. For more information on funding and an application form, please contact BCTFN at:

591/17 Sukhumvit (Soi Villa), Klongtan Nua,
 Wattana, Bangkok 10110
 Tel: 02 204 1487
 Fax: 02 204 1589
 Email: bctfn@loxinfo.co.th

President, Carolyn Tarrant MBE

bctfn@loxinfo.co.th

Vice President, Greg Watkins

greg@bccthai.com

2. Students' Education Trust (SET) – THB 150,000

SET supports more than 500 students at university and college, sponsors young teachers from the UK, organizes drug prevention camps, English language camps, job-training for students and a host of other education related projects in Nakhon Sawan province. BCCT provides funds for two British gap year students, assessed for SET by Project Trust in UK, to teach English language in schools in Nakhon Sawan province.





3. Teacher Plus Foundation (TPF) – THB 100,000

TPF is a charity that seeks to improve the Thai education system by upgrading the quality of teachers in rural areas. In its four years of operation, TPF has arranged school-based workshops in modern teaching skills in various rural areas of Thailand. Teachers, students and parents at these schools have seen positive results.

4. The Beaumont Partnership (TBP) Foundation – THB 100,000

TBP Foundation was established by BCCT member The Beaumont Partnership to construct a school for the underprivileged in **Chaiyapoom Province**. TBP Foundation has secured 70 Rai of land for the school together with a hospitality college in the future. The school will initially provide accommodation for 200 students from kindergarten to the end of Primary.

5. Good Shepherd Foundation – Care for Kids Pattaya – THB 50,000

As a Gold Sponsor of the 2010 Care for Kids Charity Drive, BCCT helped to contribute to a total of THB 6.14 million. This has been used to improve the lives of underprivileged children in the Eastern Seaboard.

6. Royal British Legion, Chonburi – THB 25,000 – ‘Lest we forget’

The Royal British Legion Chonburi Branch was formed on 1st July 2007. The organisation is based at Tropical Bert's in Pattaya. Members meet every Sunday afternoon to swing the lamp and promote the Legion. All money raised is used for those in need in Thailand.



7. Child Protection – THB 180,981

BCCT has developed a partnership with UK police's Child Exploitation and On-line Protection Centre (CEOP) with the aim of engaging the business community in Thailand in order to raise awareness and educate communities in which member companies operate. Working together CEOP and BCCT developed a corporate engagement plan and then a Memorandum of Understanding which was signed at the first child protection conference in Bangkok in 2010. In 7th March 2011 BCCT and CEOP jointly organized a Child Protection Workshop.

On 25th October 2011, a new animated film jointly developed by CEOP and BCCT was officially launched by the British Ambassador. Entitled 'The Tales of Mai and Tam: Mai and Tam Take Control', the film has been created in Thai and English and focuses on issues of child trafficking and sexual abuse by someone outside the family. It was developed with THB 180,981 in sponsorship from the British Council, Shrewsbury International School, Property Care Services and Spirit of Soccer. The challenge for 2012 will be to ensure the most effective and widespread distribution of the film.

