

Captivating Nepal P02

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**Simply Captivating**  
December 2013  
AN UPDATE ON THE WORK OF CAPTIVATING INTERNATIONAL

Captivating International

Inspired by a new Generation



# Onwards and upwards:



Time flies when you're having fun. What a fantastically mad six months we've had since the last Simply Captivating update. For a variety of reasons - projects, opportunities, support and staff numbers have all taken a quantum jump these past months. It's exciting times matching perfectly with what we continually see as being quantum jumps in the needs of children and families of the world. What desperate work we (and you, our support base) are a part of. Thanks for journeying with us.

In this edition of Simply Captivating you'll read news of our expanding work in Western China, a part of the world where the sustainability of families and children is of critical importance to our work here. You'll read also of new appointments and changes at Captivating as we consider our plans for the next 5 years. This is China after-all, so nothing better than a 5 year plan.

We also update you on our activities in Nepal and Africa - two regions where the needs are so overwhelming to us, and we have so much work to do.

As you will also read, this is the last Simply Captivating update that Andrew will write from the office in China. After 8 years living in Shenzhen, Julie, Andrew and Tyler will be returning to Australia focused on expanding the support base in Australia and New Zealand. You can bet Andrew will still be responsible for writing the updates as both he and Julie remain 100% focused on leading the work of Captivating in China and around the world - just from a different chair.

As we always say, but can never say enough - "thank you so much for your support". Together we are impacting the lives of so many children and families struggling to survive with the bare basics of life. This Christmas, dreams are starting to come true with children, mothers, and families realizing hope for possibility the first time. Thanks for travelling this road with us.

**Andrew & Julie Colquhoun - Founders**  
CAPTIVATING INTERNATIONAL

# CAPTIVATING NEPAL

We are pleased to report this period the addition of another new project partner dealing with the desperate problems of child trafficking in Nepal. 3 ANGELS NEPAL (3AN) does amazing work in several locations along the Nepal/India border intercepting girls who are in the process of being trafficked into the sex trade without knowing what is happening. Thanks to the assistance from local police, hundreds of girls are being intercepted and saved from an incredibly cruel fate. Captivating is funding the establishment and running of two new interception stations in Western/ Central Nepal. Additionally, we are funding the running of a radio station focused solely on broadcasting free-to-air music and anti-trafficking messages to the whole of Nepal. Education is one of the key methods of prevention of trafficking, and this radio station will broadcast upwards of 4 hours of anti-trafficking messages each day. Future plans are the possibility of providing free radio's to remote locations LOCKED IN to set transmission stations so these messages will be heard and heeded. 3AN do amazing work and we are proud of our partnership with their expansive impact in Nepal. We are hopeful they will be able to help us get closer to our ultimate goal – to address this problem at one of it's root causes – family poverty.



**TINY HANDS NEPAL** – Our partnership with Tiny Hands continues also with a focus on establishing their border monitoring program on the Nepal/Chinese border. Because China's border is already very secure and controlled, intercepting these girls is more difficult and dangerous. Child smugglers take more treacherous and illegal entry routes into China and consequently, finding these places is difficult. Tiny Hands are still trialing different solutions and continuing their investigations and interviews of convicted smugglers to see whether we can implement a viable solution here. Fingers crossed. Progress has also been delayed due to extensive rain, landslides closing roads and other matters. We will know, however, within the next few months what our next steps need to be.



## 3 ANGELS NEPAL:

**Here's how the program works.**

Captivating's partnership with 3 AN will see them expand their successful border monitoring program into the West and Central regions of Nepal (targeting 12 of the most vulnerable districts). They will implement the following programs combating human trafficking and girls being forced into sex slavery:



**Prevention:** Prevention activities are carried out in project locations through radio broadcasts, distribution of printed materials, placement of information boards in prime places such as the busiest transit locations, market places, highways etc.

**Rescue:** Three different approaches: (a) Border monitoring stations will be established in two locations with staff deployed to intercept girls before they cross into India. These stations will be positioned next to police stations so as to minimize self risk and maximize effectiveness. Monitoring staff have the authority to stop buses and transit travelers to inspect anything that looks unusual. (b) Specific rescue missions are also carried out in targeted communities (brothels, bars, massage places etc). (c) Formation of specific community groups to bring awareness and educate targeted communities. The aim being to find information leading to the potential rescue of girls through the formation of women's groups; and youth and student groups who represent 3AN and carry out campaign's against Human trafficking.

**Rehabilitation:** Rehabilitation is when the rescued survivors get trained with skills and education so they can re-enter back into their own community or other places with resources to enable self-support. 3AN regards this as the most critical aspect to bring positive change in the survivor's life.

**Our aim in partnership with 3AN and Tiny Hands Nepal is to intercept and rescue 1,000 girls this next year (2014).**



# FUTIAN SHANGRI-LA, SHENZHEN

- WONDERFUL PARTNERS

It was a perfect morning to ascend 40 floors – 1028 steps – 191 meters up to the 4th annual Futian Shangri La Hotel's Vertical Run.

Emil Leung, General Manager and his efficient staff welcomed guests as they registered and started their climb up 40 floors. This event is well-organized year after year and the energy from the staff cheering on the runners to the dancing oranges and professional chefs who prepared a delicious and healthy brunch – you could not ask for anything more. And yet there was more....A check in the amount of RMB10,400 was given to Captivating International to continue funding their operations in Western China; specifically, the Seng Girls Home.



# SOUTHERN CHINA: Guizhou, Dongguan, Shenzhen



**Guizhou** - This project is working progressively towards seeing 450 families pull themselves out of poverty. Following a recent program audit performance by Mag and Francine, our results show impressive financial recording by the project partner and sighted evidence prove the results are working. To date, 153 families have received solutions in the form of either livestock (pigs being the most popular) or agricultural equipment and supplies to improve the yields of their farms. We jumped the gun in the last newsletter report about the next stage – passing on the gift. The first gifts will be passed on to new families started March 2014. This will be an exciting time of celebration for this project where we will see the benefits of “gifts that keep on giving” continue on to new families. Thank you all those in the Captivating Kaili village program. We hope you are enjoying your “donor only” updates and feeling great about the real change you are bringing to these families and their children.

**Dongguan** – 16 girls call Project Eden home and a place where they are learning catch-up Chinese Language, Math, English and now computers. In addition, several older girls will soon be commencing a work/study program



for the first time in March 2014. We give a big welcome to volunteer teachers, Ashley & Drew, who are helping these girls incredibly and are adored by the girls. We were also thrilled to see technology commence at Eden these past few months.



**Shenzhen** – This year 3 girls call Shenzhen home where they, like Eden, are fast tracking their language development. Unlike Eden (focused first on Chinese), Shenzhen is focused first on English development, followed by Math, Chinese and Computers.

## Technology comes to Project Eden

The students at Eden are taught English, Chinese, Math and have just begun a new Computer class. Earlier this Summer, there was talk of some computers being loaned for the students to use and some of the staff began renovating a room to house them in. The girls were delighted to hear that ten gently used laptops were going to be generously loaned by Shekou International School for use at Project Eden.

Many of the girls have had little exposure to technology and the staff would like to be able to teach them basic typing skills, how to navigate the internet and how to use simple programs. We know these basic skills will one day assist the girls in their schoolwork and future job.

We are so thankful for this generous gift and we would like to thank everyone at Shekou International School for thinking of our project! Specifically, a big thank-you to John Burns and the whole tech team at the SIS Genius Bar.



## CAPTIVATING HONG KONG



**Lynn Velez** – Everyone in Shenzhen knows Lynn and her involvement with Captivating these last 5 years. The Seng Girls Home project exists in its current state thanks largely to Lynn’s passion and ability to marshal together literally 100 volunteers and suppliers each year. The Captivating Annual Charity Auction event in Shenzhen was started by Lynn and has now become an annual highlight in people’s social calendar each year thanks to her inspiring vision and leadership. Over the past few months, Lynn and her family relocated to Hong Kong. And although Lynn still remains involved in co-leading the Shenzhen Annual Charity, she is the type of person who always wants to do more. We are thrilled to announce that Lynn Velez has accepted the role of Captivating’s (volunteer) **Director of Development** – Hong Kong, leading our fund-raising efforts in Hong Kong. Lynn, thank you so much for everything you do for Captivating and the children we jointly take responsibility for. Hong Kong is a new market for Captivating, so please email Lynn directly at [lynn@captivating.org](mailto:lynn@captivating.org) if you have any suggestions or want to get involved.

# CAPTIVATING KENYA

**THE KISII KIDS CARE HOME (KKCH)** continues its support of 44 children, the most recent addition being a 3 week old baby whose mother died. Sustainability programs (a chick incubation business) is still trying to find its feet with each months results being variable due to unpredictable electrical supply. A solution has been implemented which we hope has resolved this. A recent visit by Andrew saw happy kids, lots of laughter and amazing singing. We are so thankful to the small number of dedicated donors who make this project possible. We have never seen children so genuinely appreciative of the chance they have thanks to you. SPONSORSHIP is our greatest funding need for this project currently. 30 kids still need a sponsor with many of them asking who their sponsor is and whether they can write to them. Can you help? Go to [www.captivating.org](http://www.captivating.org) and click on SPONSOR A CHILD.



**Vivian Kerubo Mochama** was born in 2003. Her father died of TB, her mother left home in search of employment but has never been seen or heard from again.

Vivian and her little brother lived in their grandmother's house. Life was so hard. Since Vivian's father was the elder son, none of the other family members could provide for her family because all of the uncles were still in school. The grandmother was not able to provide for her own children and her grandchildren, Vivian and Briton.

Vivian has never been to school. Even having enough food to eat was a problem. The place where Vivian slept was terrible. She only could spread out on the old coat of her grandmother and used a piece of a blanket as a cover which was too small to even cover her fully! There were a lot of bedbugs and fleas in the single room where they slept.

Vivian hardly had any clothes. She was wearing her grandmother's blouse which she could tie in a way to try to fit her small body but she did not even have any pants.

Vivian is a very soft and polite girl who likes composing songs, playing with the other children, and also reciting memory verses in church. She is happy in her new home that is without coldness, bedbugs and leaking.



**THE CAPTIVATING ORPHANS & FOSTER-FAMILIES POVERTY FUND** - by the time you receive this newsletter, there's a good chance we would have secured a new partner in this Kisii county - the African Community Development Foundation (ACDF). Following several months of discussions, a Captivating Micro-finance fund will be established focused on helping families open to fostering an orphan (but too poor to do it) increase their family incomes through small business loans. In exchange for the loan and solution (implemented by ACDF) they will sustainably care for the orphan child until they complete school. We look forward to reporting how this goes in the future. We are hopeful this will be the starting point for seeing hundreds of orphans get back into families.

## THE CHALLENGE OF ORPHANS IN KISII

Recognizing the overwhelming poverty for rural farmers in Kenya, it is little wonder that when a family of three or four children become overnight orphans due to the death of their last remaining parent to AIDS, their situation is desperate. Relatives may not be able to help due to the already existing daily challenges of caring for the own children. Alternatively, drunkenness is a major issue for many men in these communities as they turn to alcohol to dull the struggle of daily life.

A growing problem in Kenya is what is termed CHILD HEADED HOUSEHOLDS (CHH's). This is the situation where the surviving children of a family choose to remain together rather than being separated, the oldest child then taking responsibility for his/her younger brothers and sisters. If these kids have no original home to live in, they become street children in the city as this has better begging prospects. If they are lucky, they remain on the original farmland of their parents and start to work the farm for food. In most cases, the situation is desperate, and it's not long before the older girl turns to prostitution to support the family, hopeful of keeping her younger siblings in school.

One Kenyan statistic suggests that 1 in 7 children in Kenya are orphaned.



# WESTERN CHINA:

These last few months we established a new “division” within Captivating. WESTERN CHINA, for Captivating’s use at least, incorporates: Qinghai, Gansu, Sichuan, Yunnan, Tibet and Xinjiang Provinces.



**Seng Vocational School & Home** – This project with our local partner LOVEQTRA remained at capacity this past period supporting up to 120 girls at the home in remote Qinghai. We were excited

to see several new buildings come closer to completion during the period. This is such a difficult exercise due to only a small window of opportunity before winter sets in again. However, we were pleased to learn the teachers will for the first time have small living quarters to call their own this winter; the girls will finally get to use their new dining room; and several new classrooms are now complete (along with some heating). The Tea-House and Guest-House are also now fully operational which will mean additional income being raised by the SGVTS to help them progress more towards sustainability. This is great to see.

We were also thrilled to see 35 girls progress from Grade 6 at the girls home into sponsored advanced education opportunities throughout China. This is a wonderful outcome and full credit to Philip and Dockpo (Directors of LOVEQTRA) for engaging willing and interested groups to invest in these girls. To think, only 5 years ago many of these girls were living in a tent in nomadic regions having never set foot in a school and living with incredibly questionable futures.

At Captivating we are so appreciative of the generosity of so many people for this project. Lynn Velez, Julie Pontier and the whole Auction committee who put on the Annual Charity auction in Shenzhen do amazing work. To all the child sponsors around the world who have “sponsored” a girl in this project – your consistent and generous giving makes so much possible. At Captivating, we are very lucky to be able to physically look many of these girls in the eye and see firsthand the changes that are taking place in their young lives – most of you cannot do this, and yet you keep on faithfully giving – trusting us with your support. You are indeed hero’s to us.



**Bason Llamoc (Carrie)** is a woman you will hear a lot more about from now on. Carrie joins us as our Western China Project Manager February 2014. We are excited to have her as our very first Captivating employee in this region of China. Carrie is an amazing lady who has herself come from a position of poverty, and has worked hard to become an educated and motivated woman passionate to make a difference to the world around her. Carrie previously worked with Shem

Woman’s Group (one of our Qinghai program partners) and is experienced in going into remote locations and seeking out the most desperate of needs. Excited about putting in place sustainable solutions, Carrie, like us, is eager to start setting women and children on the road to sustainable futures. Look out for more stories from this dynamic lady. Carrie – welcome to the Captivating team.



**PCH International**  
**Lighting Up a remote village** – SICHUAN PROVINCE. By the

time you read this update, 58 families in a remote Sichuan village will be testing out their new solar power panels supplied in a joint effort by PCH International, Shem Women’s Group and Captivating International. In this village children were unable to study after dark, were suffering ill effects of using candles and kerosene lamps, and remaining somewhat disconnected from the outside world through lack of reliable electricity supply. This is all about to end and these families should also start to have some other income possibilities due to saved costs and longer workable days thanks to the gift of light and electric. Our thanks to PCH for their partnership of our work and a desire to sustainably impact the lives of many children and families.



**1,500 BOOKS & A LIBRARY FOR A REMOTE ORPHANAGE AND SURROUNDING VILLAGE** – Byron Lee likes to run. Not only that, he has a heart for the poor and decided it would be good to link the two. This month he ran a Guangzhou based marathon with the aim of matching donor funds for every step he took. Donations he received from supporters, along with a generous donation received from the Macau Oilmans Golf Tournament and a donor from Australia (thanks Julian) were combined to make this project possible for 300 kids to get inspired about education.



**PIGS FOR POVERTY – QINGHAI** – As reported in our last update, 74 families were scheduled to get pigsties in order to provide a sustainable solution for small family based pig businesses. We are thrilled to report that this happened as per the plan, and a few weeks ago these same families received their 25kg breeding sow along with training on how to effectively run a profitable pig breeding business. We are still waiting on pictures of this program but are excited to hear that things are going well for this initiative – an initiative that will pass on the gift of a pig to another family in 2 years – helping another 74 families. Pictured above are the proud “owners” of pigs purchased for each individual family at Captivating’s Annual Charity Auction held in October.

# Seng Girls Dance into History in Qinghai

– an article by Pema Lhamo (one of our Seng Girls who is living with Julie, Andrew and Tyler)



We had a memorable and exciting dancing competition in DaWu, a big town in Qinghai during this summer holiday. It was a competition between six counties and we were the representatives of our school. Having got such a valuable opportunity to show our school's talents everybody in our school was very happy about it. Before going to DaWu, about 30 students of our school rehearsed in the square for some days, and the day before we went to DaWu, we were all busy packing our stuffs for the big competition!

The government was very supportive to our school that the functionaries drove us all the to DaWu in their own cars and when we finally arrived at night, they had already arranged hotels for us. It was quit late and we were all tired, so went to bed soon. Then during the following days, we got up early in the mornings and practice in a huge sports field where the competition was going to take place. By that time all other rivals had arrived as well, then we all practice each other's performance all day long for 3 days.

Finally the main day had come and there were a large amount of people coming to watch the games with great excitements. We were much more surprised that day before the show had begun when we saw uncle Philip and his family (directors of LOVEQTRA) along with many other foreigners came to watch us performing far away from Xining, a city in Qinghai. At the beginning of the show, we were to perform our "horse dance" and while we were giving our show, the audiences shouted and clapped their hands with great enjoyments. Later that day, after the show had finished, anxiously we waited to hear the result. We were thrilled to learn we came in second place and of course, we jumped for joy when we heard the good news, because we knew that was a very important event for our school and plus, it was our first time to compete against five counties at a time in such a big game.



**Captivating note:** The event Pema talks about in this article has proved to be an important progression for the SGVTS program. The school has now been officially recognized as the first GIRLS ONLY opera troupe approved to perform this special performance. We are so excited for them and this development which, we hope, will open many doors of support for their work and program in the future. Although they have always been in our minds, they are now, officially, famous. :-)



Lynn Velez Julie Ponthier



APPRECIATION



EXCITING



TOUCHED



## The 5th Annual Captivating Charity Auction – Shenzhen China.

What an amazing amazing night. Record funds raised (US\$210k) and amazing new doors of support opened for our work in Western China. Thank you again to the Auction Committee lead by Lynn Velez and Julie Ponthier, and to all corporate supporters, schools and attendees. Check out our BLOG updates and join the Captivating International Facebook page for photo's, updates, and video's.

## MEET OUR BOARD – dedicated, determined, down-right delightful

We've not really ever talked much about our Captivating Board, so it's time we changed that. And at Captivating we've been really blessed to have an incredible group of people sit behind everything we do. They have been through thick and thin with Captivating, and have together pioneered and directed our focus towards sustainable poverty solutions - less and less about welfare (unless everything else fails). These people have laughed and cried with us, and it's our real pleasure to introduce them to you.

To maintain a position of independence, Andrew Colquhoun is not a voting member of the Board.



**Dean Beveridge** (Chair) - based in Australia – Dean and pictured here with his wife, Chris, brings to our Board an amazing breadth of experience. As a lawyer he uses to operate his own practice; was previously CEO of an Australian NGO Charity (International Children's Care Australia – our Australian based partner), and he owns a graphic design school in Australia. Dean's passion is all about sustainable solutions and his often quoted slogan with his family is "Live simply so that others can simply live". We like that and really value Dean as our Chairman and friend.



**Judene and Scott Irvine** - long time residents of Shenzhen a few years ago, and now living in Dongguan - have collectively amazing experience in both corporate and NGO work. Scott has mostly been in the Operations/Product Development industry at senior management levels. Judene has been a long-time volunteer in the Shenzhen community being instrumental in establishing work supporting special needs infants in local orphanages. Judene and Scott oversee our work in Kisii, Kenya.



**Julie Colquhoun**, co-founder of Captivating with husband Andrew, worked 20yrs in the Finance industry and has many years of experience organizing women's functions and activities focused on getting people involved in the needs within their local communities and beyond. Her passion is bringing real (practical and spiritual) hope to single mothers and their disadvantaged children. Julie's work with Captivating is overseeing the financial and administrative responsibilities as well as playing a lead role in Nepal and the Seng Girls Home project (Western China).

## MEET OUR CHINA OFFICE TEAM:



**Tracy Chen**

Office Administration  
Manager



**Bonnie Horibata**

Marketing, Public  
Relations and Fund-  
raising Manager, Asia



**Vivian Yuan**

Communications &  
Events Coordinator



**Francine Zhang**

Child Sponsorship  
Coordinator &  
Administrative Assistant



**Chris Tan**

Accountant



**Maggie Chan**

Accounting &  
Auditing Consultant

Tracy is one of those multi-talented ladies capable of juggling 20 jobs at once and somehow still manage to understand frequent cryptic foreign instructions. She even laughs at his jokes at the right moments. Tracy has been with Captivating for 3 years now and runs the office as well as China project coordination. She is contracted to work at Captivating for the rest of her natural life.

Bonnie is the newest member of the team and will focus on taking Captivating to new and improved levels over the next few years. Bonnie is one of those super-well-connected people in the Shenzhen community which is so important to our continuing and expanding presence here in this community. Welcome Bonnie.

Vivian exists to make Andrew look good. She takes his endless array of words and presents them in a form that readers actually have half an interest in reading. Everything visually you see comes through Vivian who works her visual magic. In addition, Vivian is the glue that holds together all of Captivating's Shenzhen based charity fund-raisers. We would be lost without her.

Francine joined Captivating 2 years ago and is responsible for keeping our growing child sponsorship family updated and motivated to continue support for their sponsored child. This is a tough job with multiple translation processes needing to happen before the end result. Francine exercises incredible patience. In addition, she is Tracy's right-hand person ready to help with any administrative task under the sun.

Chris is responsible for ensuring Captivating complies with country laws and guidelines as well as ensuring we pass annual Accounting audits and inspections. Chris also provides Accounting support to our project partners helping them to improve their financial records and practices. Chris has been with the Captivating team for more than two years now.

Mag is a "retired" tax consultant who now volunteers 3 days a week to Captivating helping Chris and Julie with financial related matters. Maggie speaks several languages – Singaporean, Mandarin, English and American. Mag is one of those amazing women who is always there to help and assists helping us to make clear business and budget based decisions. Its great having Mag on the team who is always happy and always laughing loudly. We love that.

# PROJECT SPONSORSHIP – How about it?

This year more than ever will see Captivating considering support for multiple new project opportunities - projects ranging in budgets from US\$10k up to US\$100k. All projects will have the same theme – addressing poverty of families, coming alongside women in need and providing hope to children (mostly through access to education). Behind this will always be sustainability (unless it is simply not possible to build this into the solution). We will ALWAYS be on the lookout for financial partners – whether families with their own support networks of families and friends; or companies looking for Corporate Social Responsibility solutions. TOGETHER, ALL OF US CAN MAKE A LASTING DIFFERENCE. We'd love to hear from you.



**FINAL WORD** – Thank you everyone for an amazing year of growth and expansion. The best is yet to come. We hope you will continue to support our work and help us impact the lives of more children and families who are waiting for us to do our job. TOGETHER, we are creating something new and bringing hope where there is currently none.

Blessings and best wishes,

**Andrew & Julie Colquhoun**

**on behalf of our staff, project partners, and Board**



## About Captivating International

Captivating International is a registered charity of Hong Kong (No. 91/9723). In Australia, we operate in partnership with International Children's Care (Australia), a registered Australian charity (ABN 57146287274). In the US we operate in partnership with Friends of Hong Kong Charities Inc (FOHKC), a 501(c)(3) registered charity (ID No: 30-0136665).

We can provide tax deductible receipts if you donate from:

AUSTRALIA, HONG KONG & UNITED STATES

We can accept donations from: ANYWHERE

### Can you help us help others?

*“the habit of giving only enhances the desire to give”*

– Walt Whitman, poet, 1819-1892



## Looking for more info on Captivating?

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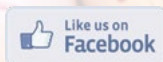
[www.captivating.org](http://www.captivating.org)

Be sure to check out our BLOG section which usually has a new MONTHLY story for each project.

### Facebook

Search CAPTIVATING INTERNATIONAL to find our page.

“LIKE” our page and add your comments.



### Twitter

Search CAPTIVATINGKIDS

WE NEED HELP!!! If you like to Tweet, can you tutor us?



### YouTube

Search CAPTIVATINGSTORIES

We upload video's from time to time.



## To donate

Make everyone's life easier, Donate on-line:

[www.captivating.org](http://www.captivating.org) (Select your country and follow the directions)

Email: [info@captivating.org](mailto:info@captivating.org) for any further instructions or questions.

CAPTIVATING INTERNATIONAL

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