

Dreams come true

Dr Vicky Ho and her husband helped build a room for some abandoned kids in Thailand



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A few years ago, an old friend was visiting and I asked him, 'What are you up to?' He said, 'I've just built an orphanage.' I was intrigued, so he put me in contact with a small, one-man charity run by a retired Rotarian from Sarasota, Florida. Roscoe Turner visits under-privileged regions in Thailand and raises funds to complete projects to improve the lives of children. My husband [Dr Adrian Kat of Advanced Dental Artistry in Perth] and I soon became involved with a small school on the outskirts of Chiang Rai that had five children living in an abandoned pig sty. They lived there from Monday to Friday so they could attend the school. Their ages ranged from seven to 14, and the 14-year-old would look after the little ones. So we went to Thailand and built

a nice room for them. We built on the premises of the school, which is behind gates, so they are safe. We called it Room For Dreams, because, not only is it a room where they will grow and dream and sleep, but where, in the hope that by going to school and getting an education, they can actually fulfil their dreams.

"There's now enough room for 20 kids. We visit every year and they have expanded the room and added a kitchen and a bathroom onto the side of the building. Doing one small thing makes a huge difference. If everyone did a tiny little bit, the cumulative effect can be dramatic. But first you have to do that tiny little bit. ■

To help, contact Roscoe Turner on Roscoe_thai_projects@comcast.net. £

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