





Planning for CWC 2019 is well underway - dates and route are now confirmed!

## **CWC Rides Again!**

Dear Friends,

The past three CWC rides took place in Thailand's North and at the beginning of the year. After last year's ride it was decided to change the timing as well as the route for a number of reasons. Keeping the rides attractive is crucial for the growth of CWC and since riding routes in the North are limited, there was a risk of too many repetitive rides. We have a fair number of interested potential participants from Europe and starting our rides early in the year means that our European friends are just coming out of winter with little chance to train up. Coming from 10 degrees minus with just a few Zwift hours on a trainer or spin bike and then start a 800 km ride at 32 degree plus is not everybody's idea of fun! Hence CWC 2019 will be held in Thailand's South and in October. The route will be from a start point near Hua Hin to Phuket. To many this is one of Thailand's most beautiful routes covering beautiful coastlines of two oceans and lush national parks. The dates will be from October 12 to October 20. The complete itinerary and all tour details will be published in the January newsletter.

Together with our dates and route we also changed the beneficiary for the CWC 2019 ride. For the past three rides we had a wonderful and mutually beneficial relationship with Effective Aid International and especially their project in North Thailand, the Baan Fah Sighy Children Home. Aside from the fund raising before and during the ride our objective is to create awareness for the causes of our chosen charities and through that to establish ongoing support. With more than 100 riders, family members and friends that visited Baan Fah Sighy and met the wonderful people behind Baan Fah Sighy and EAI and with their cause communicated to thousands of people through our newsletters and Facebook page, I trust we have been able to raise the awareness and I hope that through that there will be ongoing support. CWC wishes to express their sincere gratitude to the founders of EAI, Ian and Judy Aitkinson, the current chairman Chris McConnell and the mum and dad of Baan Fah Sighy, Phil Hohnen and his lovely wife Wanida. Your kindness is beyond words; you have changed the lives of many wonderful children to a life filled with hope and happiness. God Bless you and your work!

For the 2019 ride we will embrace a completely new concept by not supporting just one charity, but three charities united by their common goal to help and change the lives of the less fortunate for the better. There are a number of reasons for this consideration:

- One of the biggest challenges all small charities face is sustainability and ongoing cash flow especially in times of economic uncertainties. The funds raised through our rides present a very welcome cash relief, but our ultimate goal is establish an ongoing support scenario for our chosen charities through regular donations. By raising awareness of the causes and their needs, we hope that you would consider setting up a regular donation to any of our chosen beneficiaries. It is often surprising, how much can be achieved with very little.
- While the benefitting charities for the 2019 ride are different from one another in some ways, there is a lot that unites them. While one of them is working to stem human trafficking, another aims to remove young people from the horrors and dangers of prostitution and another removes the barriers that children from impoverish families face to have good education. All these sad life circumstances are often linked in a horrible chain. We felt that all three charities are complementing each other so much and are all so deserving that we decided to support all three. We will talk about the charities later on.
- Another reason for our decision is the fact that because of the wide reach of the three charities, we will be able to cycle a variety of routes in the next years and still end the ride in a facility that is run by one of the chosen charities. For 2020 we already have plans to end the ride at the Tamar Center in Pattaya after a loop from Bangkok through Isan.
- Selecting a charity is not simple; there are so many considerations. We wanted a credible charity with low admin and marketing costs and needs that will see relief with the limited funds we can raise. A charity where we can make a tangible impact. We are keenly aware of the credit in trust and confidence we are asking of you, when we ask you to raise funds from your family and friends for the charity we have selected. And we feel very confident that with the CWC 2019 charities, we have found the right partners and we are excited to work with them.

On the next page is a short introduction of the three charities with more details of the charities and the people behind them to follow in the next editions of the newsletter. We will start the donation drive in January 2019.

For now, God Bless and safe cycling .... always,















"Service to others is the rent you pay for your room here on earth."

Mohammed Ali

## **Introducing:**

## The CWC 2019 Charities

For the 2019 ride from Hua Hin to Phuket (October 12 to 20), the cycling group **Cyclists with Compassion** (<a href="https://www.cyclistswithcompassion.com">www.cyclistswithcompassion.com</a>) will partner with three different charity organisations, which are united in their mission to help under-privileged children and young people. The charities are:

For Freedom International (<a href="https://forfreedominternational.com">https://forfreedominternational.com</a>) aims to see the marginalized, vulnerable, and exploited set free from the injustice of oppression by combating human trafficking and sexual exploitation. FFI has begun their work in the province of Phuket, where they work to change conditions that allow exploitation to exist. FFI believes in a holistic approach so that their projects can give women and children the opportunity to be free from oppression before and after it occurs through prevention, intervention, and restoration programs. In partnership with the Royal Thai Police, the Thai Internet Crimes Against Children, the FBI, and the U.S. Homeland Security, FFI also runs the Child Advocacy Center Phuket, a safe and child-friendly place for young victims of trafficking and sexual exploitation.

Founded in 1999 as a ministry of Project L.I.F.E. Foundation in Thailand and based in Pattaya, **Tamar Center** (<a href="https://www.tamarcenter.org">https://www.tamarcenter.org</a>) is a part of Youth With A Mission Thailand (YWAM). There mission is helping those trapped and working in the sex industry to find a new life, education and new jobs by reaching out, building relationships, offering shelter and housing, offering vocational training, counseling and providing Bible teaching. Tamar Center also runs a dedicated program for the children of sex workers

(https://www.globalgiving.org/projects/helping-children-from-ex-sex-workers-in-thailand/).

Since 2002 it has been the the mission of the Asia Center Foundation

(<a href="http://www.asiacenterfoundation.org">http://www.asiacenterfoundation.org</a>) in Phuket, Thailand to help disadvantaged children and children-at-risk by providing care, training and education. Creating both educational and sports programs, ACF helps children to focus on their education and overall development. Despite the difficult and impoverished situations of the students, ACF aims to give them hope to believe in themselves for a brighter future.

In order to streamline the donations raised by the participants of the ride, the donations will be collected through the donation portal of FFI and distributed between the three charities.



Cyclists With Compassion wishes You And Your Loved Ones:

A Very Merry Christmas

And All The Very Best Wishes For

A Blessed And Happy

New Year 2019!