

Making Room for Dreams

HUSBAND AND WIFE TEAM ADRIAN AND VICKY SPEND MOST OF THEIR TIME PUTTING SMILES ON THE FACES OF THEIR PERTH PATIENTS AS HEAD DENTAL SURGEONS AT ADVANCED DENTAL ARTISTRY AND THE DENTAL PRACTICE MOSMAN PARK. BUT AN ENCOUNTER IN THAILAND LED THEM TO BUILD THE 'ROOM FOR DREAMS', CHANGING THE LIVES OF FIVE YOUNG THAI BOYS FOREVER. HERE THEY SHARE THEIR STORY WITH PERTH WOMAN'S MONIQUE RICHARDS



THE BOYS STAYED IN THE PIG STY FROM SUNDAY NIGHT TO FRIDAY SO THAT THEY COULD GO TO SCHOOL



Five young boys are the reason we built "Baan Nai Fan" or "Room for Dreams". We became aware of the need to build the room, which provides shelter for the boys during the school week, through an organization called 'Give Something Back International' and the Rotary Club of Mae Chan.

The boys, whose ages ranged from 7 to 12, were staying in an abandoned pig sty behind their school. They stayed in the sty from Sunday night to Friday so that they could go to school. Their homes were in villages that were 3-4 hours walk away, and the roads were so bad, there was no alternative other than to travel to school by foot. Due to the long distances that they could not cover every day, they brought food from home for a week and spent the week at the pig sty. The big boys looked after the little ones.

What we built was a basic dormitory, so that they could have a roof over their heads, and a clean floor to sleep and play on. We managed to put in electricity and a fan, which is a real luxury for them. There is ample room for the 5 boys, but also room for many more

children who actually do not have the means to go to school because of the distance. The room has given many more kids the opportunity to have an education.

We built for two days, but once they found out we were dentists they wanted us to do dental work! They don't get dentists there very often, and most of the kids' teeth were very bad. It was the norm for us to take out about four teeth and give eight fillings to every child.

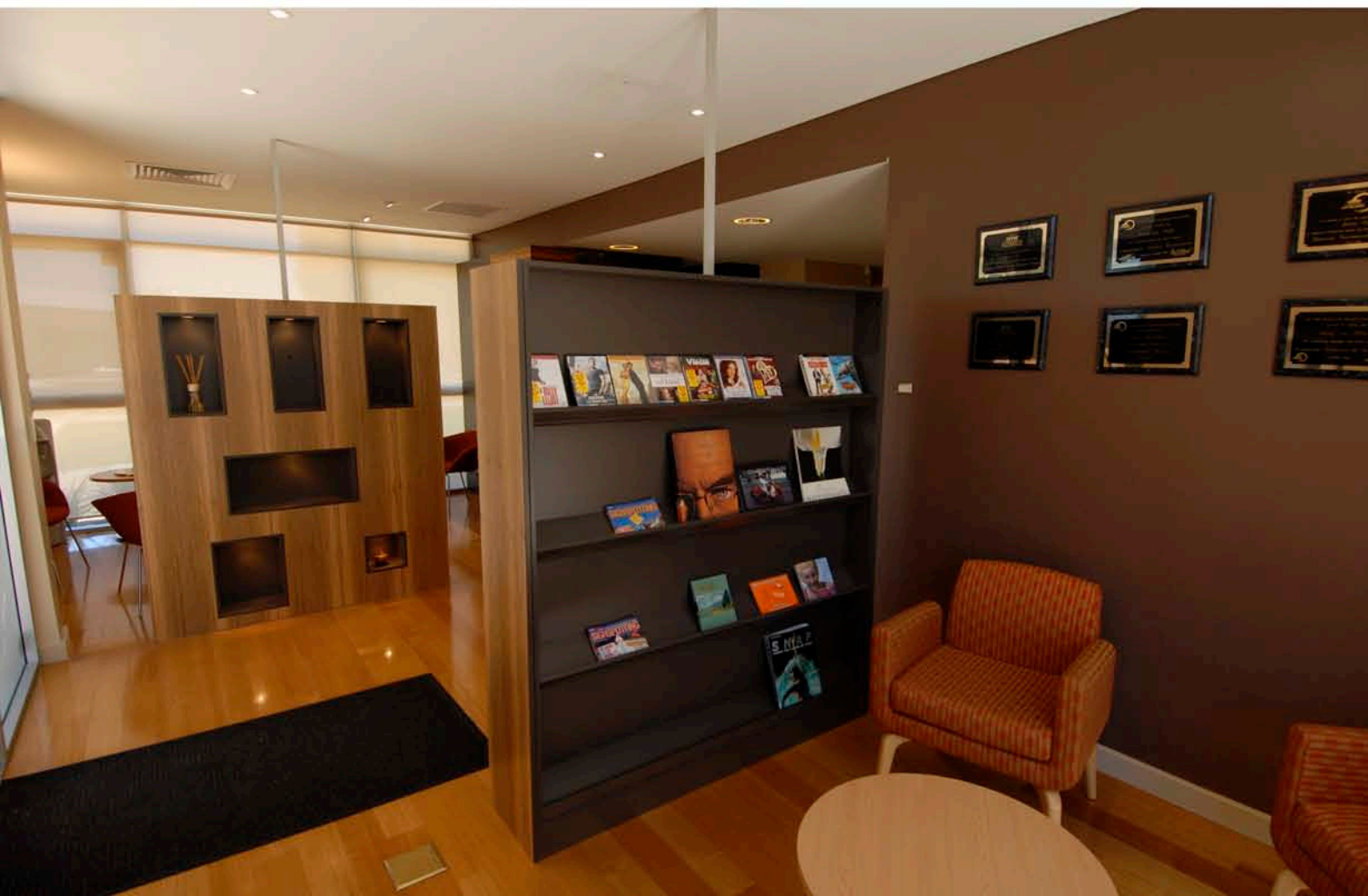
We called the dormitory "Room for Dreams" because not only does it provide a safe place for rest, but we want the children who use this room to have big dreams. Dreams for success, happiness, abundance, which now, with an education behind them, they can fulfill.

We, as a family, have dreamed of making a difference to others. Our projects with the children of Chiang Rai have helped us fulfill our dreams. We are blessed to have a job that not only allows us to change the lives of our patients, but enables us to do dream projects like these. We are returning to Chiang Rai to do more dental work next July.



WE CALLED THE DORMITORY 'ROOM FOR DREAMS' BECAUSE WE WANT THE CHILDREN WHO USE IT TO HAVE BIG DREAMS

Are you in a position to help those who are less fortunate? Visit the 'Give Something Back International website at www.gsbi.org



Hiding your smile?

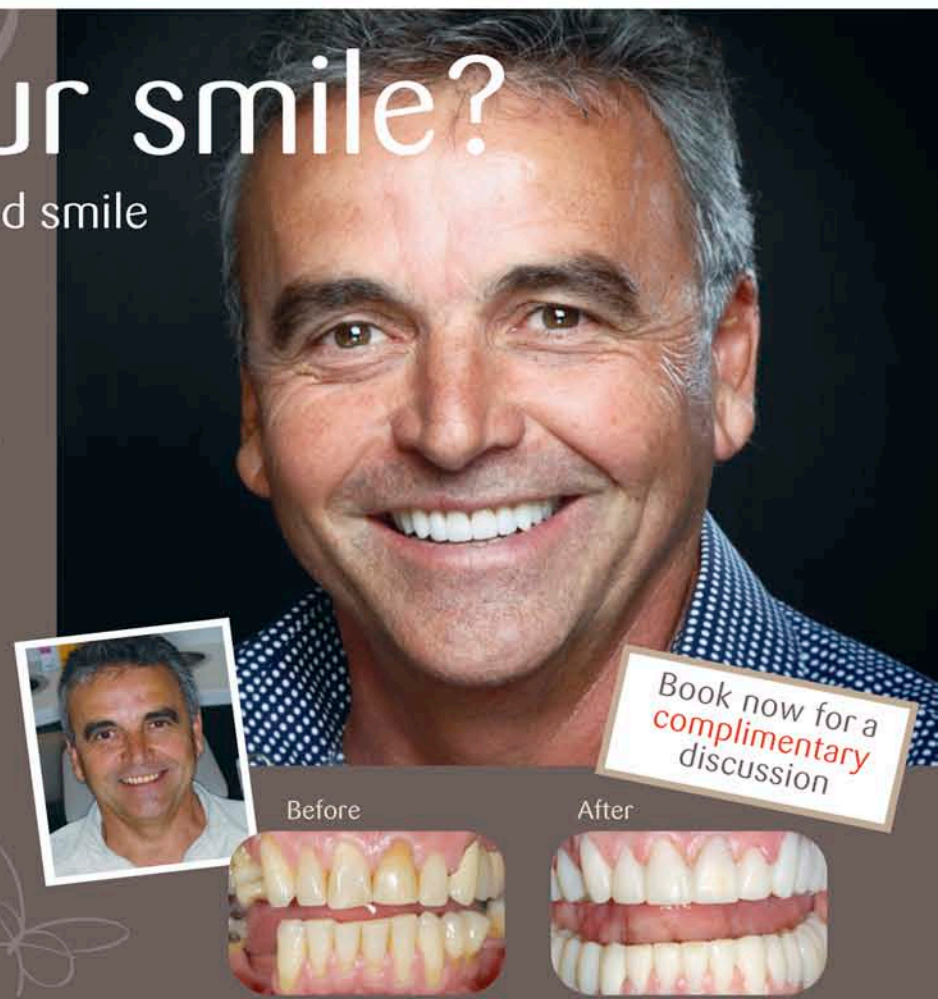
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