

# THAI LINK



## SUNCOAST THAI LINK 29 MAR - 10 APR

In March 2019 Suncoast will be continuing the initiative that we began in 2011 to travel to Thailand for our annual mission trip. We will continue our link with 'The Haven Project' working with locals to take the message of Christ to the people of Thailand.

Students from Years 11 - 12 are invited join this trip to continue our link with the community in villages of Mae Sot and Mae Chaem, near Chiang Mai.

Students will be involved in a range of activities linking with the schools, youth groups and other agencies and communities in Chiang Mai and surrounding areas. We have been asked to return to run English camps in Mae Sot so this will make up a significant part of our trip.

This trip will continue what is becoming a long term relationship which will occur every year giving each student at Suncoast the opportunity to be involved.

### BACKGROUND

Thai Link is a great opportunity to expand your world view and experience what it is to be serving God in Cross Cultural Mission in a Cross Cultural Context. Your faith will be expanded and your experience of God's Mission among His people will be greatly encouraged.

### Important Dates

- **Missions Expression Of Interest forms out – Friday 17 August**
- EOI Forms returned – Friday 31 August
- Thai-Link Parent info evening – Tuesday 18 September, 7pm College Lecture Theatre
- Thai-Link Applications due & non-refundable deposit – Friday 19 October
- Thai-Link Overnight Prep Camp – Thursday 28 February 2019, Taylor Centre
- Missions Trivia Night – Wednesday 13 March 2019, 7pm Suncoast Auditorium

### Next Steps

#### COST:

Approximately \$2400 includes flights, insurance, 2 team Cooldry™ polo tops, accommodation, travel in Thailand, most food.

#### SUPPORT:


Individual team members are encouraged to seek some support individually from their local church and to fundraise to assist them with their costs.

#### REQUIREMENTS:

2 copies of passport, shirt size and follow up of outstanding medical forms and payments.







*Exposing our students to life in a developing country like Thailand makes a huge impact, both on the students, and those they serve.*

**Garth Reid**  
Director of Student Development

## Some Interesting Facts

Thailand is situated in middle Asia and borders Myanmar, Laos, Cambodia & Malaysia. Thailand means 'land of the free' and is home to 70 million people.

The Chiang Mai region consists mainly of mountainous terrain and fertile valleys. It is hot and humid all year round. Seasonal rains called monsoons occur mainly between July and October.

The 2004 tsunami hurtled a wall of water 30 feet high over Thailand's coast, killing over 8,000 people. An estimated 1,500 Thai children lost their parents and more than 150,000 Thais working in the fishing or tourist industries lost their livelihoods.

Thailand is predominately Buddhist which shapes much of the way Thai people think, feel and act with 93% of the population being Buddhist. Thai people are accommodating and dislike confrontation. Chiang Mai is generally a modern city with all the benefits of western cities. Transport is basic but busy and the shopping varies from large centres to street markets and night bazaars.

## Feedback from past student

*I was really excited about the prospect of my first time overseas being on a mission trip. All the preparation helped build the excitement and before we knew it the time had arrived to go.*

*Being part of a team was really great, we all worked together using our different strengths and created many long lasting friendships.*

*Thailand is an amazing country, the culture of Thailand is so welcoming and the people are always smiling. I met many interesting people and heard their incredible stories along the way. It was such an eye opener coming from my own world to see how other people in the world live.*

*There were many challenging moments but it was wonderful to be part of a team that was helping these people. As much as it was a mission trip I feel they blessed me more than I blessed them. This trip enriched my life and increased my passion to continue in missions in the future. This experience has impacted my life and I am so grateful for the opportunity that I was given.*

**Sally Mattiske (2015)**

## Further Information:

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