



**I**t is a long time since we sent out a newsletter, so here is a little update on what has been happening over the last year. Also as the saying goes “a picture paints a thousand words”, so we have included a few as well.

First of all, we are back in New Zealand at present and in our house in Auckland where we are preparing for several charity concerts.

In 2008 we travelled again to the Philippines via Bangkok and spent time in Sorsogon as well as Manila. It was our intention to see the children’s work started and the first house built, however this was not possible. A chance conversation with a Filipino friend implanted the idea to arrange charity concerts throughout New Zealand. We met with Philippine Diva, Kuh Ledesma, in Manila to

plan what will be four meetings with her in N.Z. - 100% of the profits going to construct the first children’s house.

Our time in the Philippines was again spent organising the Oasis Foundation, which is now well established with all the red tape completed for government recognition. We were also able to finally pay the balance of money owing to the brother of Nilda for his portion of land, which means that everything is now freehold.

We were able to help Nila, a mother of 8 who had tumours behind her right eye which were rapidly taking her sight and if left unattended could have been fatal. Thanks to the generosity of friends in N.Z and Australia she was able to have an operation and is now fully recovered.

**‘**The “Love Affair With Kuh Ledesma and Daughter, Isabella” series of concerts have been a far bigger undertaking than we first envisaged **’**



John and Nilda with Kuh Ledesma

We have been given the use of temporary accommodation as an orphanage/children's home when we return to Sorsogon after the concerts, possibly in early July. This will also mean that those wanting to come can stay with us and be part of not only our work, but the wider work in a community which is in desperate need of help. We have been told by the local Social Welfare that there are many abandoned children, as well as many street kid's, plus those who we believe will be our main focus from the out lying and remote areas. It is heart wrenching to visit some of the poor areas and to experience the helplessness of poverty.

The ***"Love Affair With Kuh Ledesma and Daughter, Isabella"*** series of concerts have been a far bigger undertaking than we first envisaged and we are so grateful to Jess and Nilda Gregorio and others for all their help and support. We are also so thankful to all of you who have prayed and supported us and the Oasis Christian Children's home. For those who would like to attend one or more of the concerts, they are on in Christchurch, Wellington, Hamilton and Auckland from the 17 to 25 April. Further details are on our website [www.oasisorphanage.com](http://www.oasisorphanage.com)

### **Prayer Points:**

- For the on going work in the Philippines.
- For wisdom, protection and direction for us.
- For the concerts to be a success and the smooth running of them.
- Above all, for the Lord to be glorified in all we do and say.

God Bless you in super abundance.  
John and Nilda



Presenting a local pastor with disciplishp material donated by the author, Don Newitt from N.Z.



Nilda before and after her operation



Nilda and mother on her 89th birthda



Sorsogon children from the poorest area.