

Cambodian mission

By David McCowen

GYMEA Baptist Church representatives blessed Cambodian children during a trip to South-East Asia last week.

Pastor Paul Summers was the co-leader of 19 people who took laptops and medical equipment to disadvantaged children.

A key item was a baby bottle used to help children born with cleft palates to feed properly.

"I had an email from a pediatrician working in Phnom Penh [asking] for one of these special bottles," Pastor Summers said.

"He had been contacted by an Australian midwife working in Cambodia, asking if he could get one from Australia as they're not available in Cambodia."

Sutherland Shire nurse Linda Chignell took three of the special bottles away on the trip.

"Although it took a few minutes for the two-week-old baby to get the hang of [it], he soon started to suck and had his first real proper feed," Ms Chignell said.

"As we watched him drink, Paul and I realized that God had been involved in each step of the process, from that first email through to finding the right contact in Sydney who provided us with the bottle which we were able to deliver personally."

Pastor Summers said the group also met expat Australian Colleen Briggs, who operates a school for Vietnamese children on the Tonle Sap River near the Cambodian capital,



First feed: GyMEA Baptist member and Sutherland Shire nurse Lynda Chignell took special bottles to Cambodia to help children with cleft palates.

Phnom Penh. "When we knew we were going to bring a second team back this year, we asked Colleen what she most needed. Her answer was a computer laboratory," Pastor Summers said.

"For Colleen, a computer room would help her convince parents of the children to allow them to stay at school."

A church contact helped the mission team buy 10 new laptops at a substantially reduced price.

"We delivered them this week," Pastor Summers said. "Colleen was very pleased."

Details: Cambodia2010.com.