

# GOOD WORK

Why Denise The Wine Shop wholeheartedly supports these two charities.



## PISTORIO FOUNDATION

Zero overhead costs; every cent goes to funding projects. That's the pride and guarantee of the Pistorio Foundation, founded by Pasquale Pistorio — the Italian businessman who helmed ST Microelectronics and made it the multi-billion-dollar semi-conductor giant it is today.

The Geneva-based, non-profit foundation, set up by Mr Pistorio when he retired in 2005, is dedicated to improving the lives of poor children in developing countries, with a focus on education and health. Its vision: To provide long-term scholarships to 10,000 children a year by 2015.

To date, it has sponsored nearly 900 children in Burkina Faso in Africa, Tibet, Thailand and Cambodia, and has carried out seven major infrastructure projects such as building schools, dormitories, a kindergarten and homes for refugees. The foundation operates through a network of volunteers and in collaboration with selected local NGOs and communities.

In Thailand's north, the foundation works with severely disadvantaged hill tribes. Currently, it reaches 10 Akha tribe villages, where it supports the education and welfare of 555 children. For 2009, it is also working with the Hmong hill tribe.

As president, Mr Pistorio runs the foundation with the help of his three children — Elena and Carmelo manage the Singapore chapter, and Vittorio works from Milan. They are part of a core group, including friends, who donate their time and expenses.

Funds come from fundraisers in Singapore (see pg 48) and abroad, from private contributions and from interest on the initial sum the Pistorios endowed on the foundation. The family and key volunteers travel a number of times a year to check on the progress of the foundation's projects and to liaise with local authorities and partners.

Website: [www.pistoriofoundation.org](http://www.pistoriofoundation.org)



## TABITHA FOUNDATION SINGAPORE

Never built a house abroad? Volunteer with Tabitha and you could part of a team doing just that in Cambodia — the focus of the Tabitha Foundation, founded in 1994 by Canadian-born Janne Ritskes, who is now a Cambodian citizen.

To date, the foundation has worked with over 500,000 people in the country's poorest communities. Its philosophy of self-help is designed to promote self-sufficiency and dignity among the poor through savings, counselling and goal-setting programmes, thus helping families break out of poverty.

The Singapore chapter helps raise significant funds for Tabitha Cambodia through the sale of Tabitha cottage industry goods, thus enabling more and more Cambodians to be employed as weavers, silversmiths and seamstresses. As the board and members are all volunteers, all proceeds are sent directly to Cambodia.

The local chapter also raises funds for building houses and digging water wells, arranges voluntary house-building teams, and organises and garners sponsorship for programmes and projects to support Tabitha Cambodia.

Interested in volunteering? E-mail [info@tabithasingapore.com](mailto:info@tabithasingapore.com)

Website: [www.tabithasingapore.com](http://www.tabithasingapore.com)