



July 2023 Newsletter

Updates from Vietnam

500 lb. Bomb Removed in Quảng Bình Province

On June 26, 2023, PeaceTrees teams in Quảng Bình safely removed a 500 lb. bomb from Tây Village. The bomb, discovered by a construction company working on a nearby road, was identified as an MK84, and located just 15 meters away from a densely populated residential area in Quảng Ninh District.

The Quảng Bình Provincial Military Command requested assistance, and PeaceTrees Vietnam quickly responded by sending a team to remove the bomb. After the Explosive Ordnance Disposal (EOD) technicians carefully examined the bomb, they decided that it was safe to move, and removed it from the site to be destroyed.



PeaceTrees EOD technicians take measurements of the bomb found buried in Quảng Bình Province



A team of PeaceTrees EOD technicians using moving straps to safely remove the large bomb - Quảng Bình Province

Explosive Ordnance Education Event in Cam Nghĩa Commune

To ensure the safety of even more communities, PeaceTrees Vietnam expanded EORE activities to Hường Hóa, Đakrông, and Cam Lộ districts. In June, PeaceTrees teams organized a series of events in Cam Nghĩa commune, with the support of village heads and community members. The EORE event at Phương An 1 Village

community house brought together approximately 170 residents from Phương An 1 and Phương An 2.

Participants engaged in informative sessions about the dangers of EO and learned how to best avoid accidents. With support from Boeing Southeast Asia, PeaceTrees will continue expanding EORE and community outreach throughout Quảng Trị Province.



Cam Nghĩa community members participating in Explosive Ordnance Risk Education



Keychains with hotline numbers for reporting suspected ordnance being distributed in Cam Nghĩa for the Explosive Ordnance risk Education event

PeaceTrees Vietnam Boosts Integrated EORE in Quảng Bình Province



PeaceTrees Quảng Bình teams continue to promote integrated Explosive Ordnance Risk Education (EORE) activities throughout the province. PeaceTrees teams deliver EORE to landlords, farmers, and other community members they meet while working at clearance sites or while conducting EOD spot tasks. During these spot tasks, residents often report suspected EO directly to the EOD

technicians. Since the start of the project, PeaceTrees has completed **2,213** EORE visits and reached **3,145** people from **48** communes in **7** districts.

To ensure safety and prevent accidents related to Explosive Ordnance (EO), PeaceTrees has started specialized training sessions that help enroll key community leaders. These training sessions equip leaders with essential knowledge on EO safety and empower them to deliver and share information about EO to others in their community, fostering a safer environment for all.

PeaceTrees has successfully organized **7** training sessions at **7** operational communes for **218** trainees and hopes to grow this model so that more people will know what to do if they encounter a suspected bomb. This training model helps highlight PeaceTrees' commitment to community partnership.

A PeaceTrees EOD technician shows a community member EORE materials in Quảng Bình province

Educational materials about staying safe and reporting EO at an EORE event Quảng Bình province

Vietnam Competes in the FIFA Women's World Cup

Vietnam's Women's National Football Team, led by team captain Huỳnh Như, are making a historic debut at the FIFA Women's World Cup! Having qualified for the first time ever, the team faces tough competition in Group E including reigning champions USA, the Netherlands, and Portugal. Huỳnh Như's impressive 15-year career and European experience as the sole Vietnamese player abroad will be crucial in their journey towards football glory.



Visit Our Updated Staff Page



In collaboration with our Vietnam staff, the PeaceTrees website has been updated with the latest additions to both the U.S. and Vietnam staff. Across both administrative and explosive ordnance disposal (EOD) teams these additions strengthen our capacity to address the legacy of war in Vietnam. [Visit our website](#) to learn more about our U.S and Vietnam staff and our mine action teams.

What We're...

Reading: [War History Online's "5,000 War Dogs Served in Vietnam and Almost All of Them Were Left Behind"](#)

Rosemary Gile's informative guest article explores the vital role of war dogs in the Vietnam War. Trained as sentries, scouts, and trackers, these courageous canines helped lower the American death toll by approximately 10,000. The strong bonds between the dogs and their handlers were remarkable, and several heartwarming stories of their bravery and loyalty are highlighted. A must read for any fan of history and dogs!



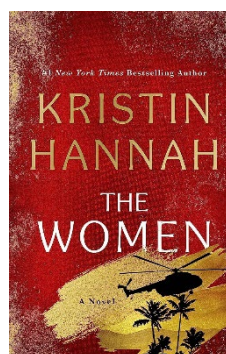
Eating: [Celebrate Little Saigon, August 5, 11am - 3pm](#) | Little Saigon, Seattle

The delicious dishes and desserts at Celebrate Little Saigon! Hosted by Friends of Little Saigon, this annual summer tradition features local Vietnamese cuisine, handcrafted goods and art by local creators, a backdrop of summer jams by DJ Phosho, and a pho eating contest. Today is the last day to pre-purchase a food plate for the event! Only limited quantities of same day purchases will be available. Snag your spot [here](#).



Looking forward to: "The Women" by Kristin Hannah

Kristin Hannah's upcoming historical novel "The Women". Hannah's past historical novels have taken us on journeys through important moments in world history, but with a unique focus on women's points of view. Her latest novel explores an aspect of the Vietnam War that most will find new: the women who volunteered as nurses, from the perspective of a volunteer nurse. Read an excerpt of "The Women" [here](#). "The Women" and its heroic characters will be in bookstores February 2024.



Donate a Used Vehicle to PeaceTrees

Make your tax-deductible gift to PeaceTrees by donating your unwanted vehicle! We partner with [CARS](#), a nonprofit organization that facilitates vehicle donations. All vehicles are eligible for donation, even if they are not running! CARS makes it easy and gives your unwanted vehicle a new purpose.

