



## Media Release

### **Young people should get on board to make a difference in the world! Australia Vietnam Friendship Society launches in Melbourne**

Melbourne, 12<sup>th</sup> August 2014

The Australia Vietnam Friendship Society (AVFS) announces its arrival in Melbourne with an official launch on 21st August, featuring the amazing Entrepreneur, Speaker, and Magician Vinh Giang .

The Australia Vietnam Society (as it was originally known) grew out of the opposition to the war in Vietnam during the 1960's and 70's. Reunification of Vietnam became a reality in 1975 and relations with Australia were normalised. Today the AVFS is a national not for profit organisation which seeks to foster good relations and develop friendship and understanding between the Vietnamese and Australian people, and to provide support to Vietnam in the areas of greatest need.

The Ambassador of Vietnam, H.E. Mr Luong Thanh Nghi, visited the AVFS offices in Melbourne last week to be briefed about current activities of the organisation, and to hear about the launch of AVFS in Melbourne: 'We welcome the work of the Australia Vietnam Friendship Society which will strengthen existing relationships with initiatives in the areas of trade, culture, health and education. I encourage young people to get on board with the AVFS to make a difference in the world!'

AVFS president Kim Sampson explains: 'Our aim is to get lots of young people involved. It is their chance to become part of a great independent initiative where they can help us develop visions and ideas to take the Australia Vietnam Friendship Society to the next level, and make a real difference in Vietnam.'

There are approximately 1.5m orphans and other vulnerable children living in Vietnam. One of the key objectives of the AVFS this year is to raise funds for the Thien Puc Charity Center in Bac Giang (near Hanoi) a fabulous initiative to support a dedicated team of volunteers, who look after orphaned children and disabled people both from within their community, and outlying areas.'

**What: Launch of the Australia Vietnam Friendship Society**  
**When: Thursday, 21<sup>st</sup> August 2014**  
**Where: Nation Wide**  
**Interviews: President of the Australia Vietnam Friendship Society,  
Kim Sampson**

**Contact the AVFS team** for an interview with AVFS President Kim Sampson

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**Event details:**

Join us for the magic Launch of

THE AUSTRALIA VIETNAM FRIENDSHIP SOCIETY

Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> August 2014

We aim to foster good relations and develop friendship and understanding between the Australian and Vietnamese people.

We will also raise funds for worthwhile causes in Vietnam.

It's your chance of becoming a part of a great independent initiative:

Help us develop visions and ideas to take the Australia Vietnam Friendship Society to the next level.

We feel very proud to have won the support of Speaker Entrepreneur and MAGICIAN: Vinh Giang

"I believe that the mere fact that we are alive is a miracle, all the serendipitous events that had to have happened in order for us to exist since the beginning of time is just phenomenal! For this reason I believe that we should do what we are passionate about and love in the short time that we are here. When I speak I draw knowledge and inspiration from entrepreneurship, my mentors, books and from my own experiences. Magic is my method of delivery and source of passion when on stage. I believe in "making the medicine taste good!"

Location:

Maritime Union of Australia, 46 Ireland St, West Melbourne (just a 5 minute walk from the North Melbourne station), at 6.30pm.