

# THE LIANGSHAN LEPROSY PROJECT

Xichang City, Sichuan, China



## THE XIDE EMBROIDERY COOPERATIVE

**Gebu Ajia** lives in the leprosy village of Xide. Like many of her fellow villagers, she suffered from leprosy as a young girl and has been left with severe disabilities.

Despite the deformity and nerve damage to her hands, she is an able seamstress.

Gebu Ajia belongs to the minority Yi people who have a tradition of bright, colourful and intricate embroidery. As well as being attractive, the embroidery contains important symbols of Yi myths and legends. The ladies of Xide have set up an embroidery co-operative with 3 distinct aims.

- To provide employment and economic growth for the village.
- To keep alive the traditions and symbolism of the Yi embroidery.
- To pass down their skills to the younger generation

St. Stephen's Chapel supports the Leprosy Project in a number of ways. We provide financial help for specific medical cases. We make regular visits to the leprosy villages and enjoy good relationships with the community and the school. Friendship with the PALS is at the heart of our commitment. In May 2007, we helped the school children paint a giant mural of Yi myths on their school wall. It certainly brightens up the village!



For further information, please contact :

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or visit the Chapel website at [www.ststephen.org.hk](http://www.ststephen.org.hk)

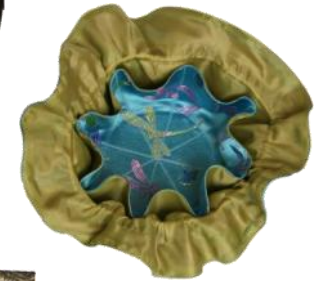
St. Stephen's Chapel, Stanley



## EMBROIDERY PRODUCTS



Backpack



Jewellery pouch



Tissue pouch



Shoulder bag



Small money bag



Handbag



Phone holder