



Working in partnership with the people of the Himalaya

**Annual Report
2014/15**

Sustainable education, health and environmental projects

**AUSTRALIAN
HIMALAYAN
FOUNDATION**

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The Australian Himalayan Foundation aims to improve the quality of life for people in need in the remote communities of the Himalaya.



Who we are

Over the years, thousands of Australians have visited the Himalaya. For many it is an opportunity to trek beneath the world's highest peaks and to appreciate some of the world's most hospitable cultures.

Yet the Himalaya is not just a vast adventure playground. For the local communities life is anything but easy – with access to basic health and education services often out of reach. In response to these needs, the Australian Himalayan Foundation was formed in 2003 and strives to ensure the long-term viability of sustainable health, education and conservation programs across the Himalaya.

These cost-effective projects are combined with practical on-the-ground outcomes in the poorest, most under-resourced areas of the Himalaya across Nepal, Bhutan and Northern India.

These programs help to reduce poverty and address human rights like gender equality, child rights and the rights of marginalised groups in rural regions throughout the Himalaya.

The AHF is a registered Australian NGO with no political or religious affiliations. We are members of the Australian Council for International Development and have accreditation status with the Australian Government Overseas Aid Program (DFAT).





When I wrote last year that “we have much to look forward to – new partnerships, more and more loyal and new supporters, and new opportunities to help the people of the Himalaya”, little did we know what a year of major challenge and difference 2014-2015 would be for us.

Of course, it was the enormous challenges faced by the people of the Himalaya, with the disastrous earthquakes in April and May 2015, which largely generated ours, as our assistance for them had to be swift and – as it always has been – effective and sustainable.

The earthquakes radically expanded and altered our operations. When the April 25 earthquake hit, we had to immediately become a disaster relief agency, supplying vital emergency help and supplies.

With virtually every school in our education heartland, the Lower Solukhumbu, destroyed or damaged we set up many Temporary Learning Centres and also began organising a major earthquake-resistant, sustainable, schools rebuilding program.

All of this of course required an enormous and rapid operational and fundraising effort and through the commitment and generosity of literally thousands of loyal and new partners, supporters and donors, large and small, we raised a fantastic \$915,000 in our Earthquake Appeal, to June 30, 2015.

I want to thank so much the AHF team: the Board, staff, the many volunteers and pro bono helpers – organising fundraising drives and events – who worked so tirelessly, and particularly The Sunrise Foundation, Dick & Pip Smith Foundation, Dr G and Ruth Fitzhardinge, Ian Watson, Bill Grose, Joe Bonington, Jackson Bursill and the ‘Neverest’ team, Andrew Lock and Geoff Bartram, Jennifer Waugh, Peter Lemon, Joan Naughton, the Ian McNair Charitable Foundation, Craig Macindoe and David Ross for their sterling efforts.

Of course, this all had to be on top of our fundraising for our on-going programs and overall we raised \$1.95 million in 2014-15.

2014-15 was also notable for:

- The visit of Her Majesty, Gyalum Sangay Choden Wangchuck, Queen Mother of Bhutan, to Australia to raise awareness and support for our girls’ education projects in Bhutan, of which she is Patron through our partner RENEW. We thank Her Majesty so much for her fantastic spirit and dedication.

- The appointment of new AHF Youth Ambassadors, Jackson Bursill and George Hillary.
- The appointment of Tshering Lama O’Gorman, as Program Director, taking over this role from Garry Weare. Thank you Garry for your stellar efforts over many years in building up our wonderful set of practical, cost-effective programs.

Though 2014-15 was very different for us, we stuck firmly to our ethos of ‘providing what is needed most to those who need it most’, in a practical, efficient way, and I can promise all our supporters we will continue to do that, as the damage and deaths from the earthquakes has made our long-time direct assistance to children, families and schools in hundreds of Himalayan communities more vital than ever.

Simon Balderstone

Simon Balderstone
Chairman





This past year will be etched firmly in the hearts and minds of everyone who has a love for the Himalaya and for AHF it proved to be one of our biggest years yet.

In October, we were thrilled to welcome Her Majesty, Gyalyum Sangay Choden Wangchuck to Australia as Patron of our work in Bhutan. She is a fearless advocate for the development of women and girls across the region and it was a delight to have her in Australia. Along with numerous fundraising events and activities, Her Majesty met with high-level government representatives in Canberra including the Minister for Women and the Secretary of the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade. Her Majesty's visit was a fantastic opportunity for the AHF and we are grateful for the support of many during this time.

On the 25th of April this year, the first of two major earthquakes hit Nepal and caused widespread devastation across the country. These events put our team here and our partners in Nepal to the test and both groups worked tirelessly to get vital supplies out to those most in need.

Despite these heartbreaking events, I am proud to share with you AHF's achievements during this time which would never have been possible without the support of our wonderful in-country partners and you – our valuable donors, supporters and volunteers. We are particularly proud of our partners in Nepal who managed to continue to deliver our flagship education program in the face of enormous challenges.

This year we:

- Raised over in \$1.95 million in funds
- Brought Her Majesty Queen Mother of Bhutan to Australia as Patron of RENEW to raise funds for and lift the profile of our work with women and girls
- Provided critical supplies including food, clean water, emergency shelter and medical supplies to those areas most affected by the April and May earthquakes
- Established emergency medical camps in the Everest region in response to the second earthquake
- Constructed temporary learning centres to get kids back to school
- Organised a post-trauma art therapy camp for students of the Everest region with over 330 teachers and students attending
- Provided 1600 teachers with psycho-social counselling and training who were then equipped to go out into the field and provide this counselling to others
- Started scoping the long-term rebuilding needs of the many schools we support across the Everest region

- Rolled out our Teacher-Training and Quality Education program to the last remaining districts of Kerung and Necha. This program now operates in every single district and reaches every single school in the lower Solu Khumbu region. This is part of a twelve-year vision aimed squarely at improving the quality of the education in the region and children's access to it
- Provided medical training for traditional health practitioners in some of remotest communities of Ladakh
- Launched a new textile-based vocational training program for women and girls in Bhutan, focussed on employment opportunities post-school
- Increased our annual support for the conservation and preservation of snow leopards.

Although it is more than 60 years since Sir Edmund Hillary first began working to help the people of Nepal, these results show that the Australian public still shares his vision to improve the lives of the people of the Himalaya. This year we have seen, in a very powerful way, Sir Ed's spirit live on in your remarkable response to the tragic earthquakes in Nepal and through your support for our various other programs and for this we are immensely grateful.

C. Hamer-Smith

**Carolyn Hamer-Smith
General Manager**



**The only load a
child should carry
is a school bag.**



Following the earthquakes in Nepal in April and May 2015, we have assisted in the rebuilding of the education sector in Solukhumbu and other select areas. Integral to our ‘build back better’ model is capacity building of the local people – training on disaster preparedness to schools and training of local people in skilled construction works.

To normalize the education sector, it was necessary to continue our long running flagship program, Teacher Training & Quality Education (TTQE). So with new components such as psycho-social training and disaster preparedness, our TTQE program resumed fully as soon as it was safe to do so.

Elsewhere in the Himalaya, I am pleased to report that our projects are running smoothly. As a result of the visit by Her Majesty Queen Mother of Bhutan we raised funds to launch a vocational training project for women from disadvantaged backgrounds with our in-country partner RENEW. As part of our focus on capacity building, this program has been designed to provide weaving and tailoring skills that will hopefully lead to employment opportunities for girls coming from our scholarship program. We also received additional funds for this program from the Australian High Commission in India.

In Ladakh, we conducted training and medical camps for amchis (traditional health practitioners) in Sani, Ichar and Padum through our in-country partners, Servants of Society. This innovative program is aimed at improving the quality of traditional health care practices by integrating amchi and modern medical practices. The program also supports female amchis to provide maternal and infant health care services. Traditionally, the amchis were always male, so this initiative serves a dual purpose of giving

opportunities for women to learn traditional medicine practice combined with modern medical care and help people in remote communities.

This year, we supported our in-country partner, the Snow Leopard Conservancy’s (SLC) work in Zanskar to mitigate human-wildlife conflicts. The beautiful and iconic mountain cat, the snow leopard, is unfortunately a threat to livestock. SLC found that improving the design of the sheep corrals protected the livestock and curbed the retaliatory killing of the cats and we are supporting this venture in Zanskar.

When the tragic earthquakes in Nepal occurred this year, I had been working for AHF for just under six months. A disaster of this scale was a huge learning curve for me, although I have over 14 years of work experience with local communities and NGOs in the Himalaya. We learned to cope with shocking human tragedies and push on with the disaster response and rebuilding efforts. Equally, I have found it to be a reaffirmation in the strength of human compassion shown by our supporters who reached out immediately and generously. My heartfelt thanks to everyone for supporting the people of the Himalaya.

Tshering Lama O’Gorman
Program Director





Rebuilding after the Nepal Earthquakes



When the 7.8 magnitude earthquake hit Nepal on 25 April 2015, it caused nearly 9,000 deaths, and destroyed hundreds of thousands of lives, livelihoods, homes and infrastructure. Over 35,000 classrooms were majorly or totally damaged, leaving more than a million children lacking access to a safe, permanent place to learn.

(Nepal Earthquake Cluster Briefs June and July 2015)

The Australian Himalayan Foundation was amongst the first NGOs on the ground to provide immediate relief assistance to affected people. Thanks to our in-country program partners at REED (Rural Education & Environmental Development), we had people on the ground ready, willing and able to help provide food and other essential supplies out to the areas of Kathmandu and beyond that were worst affected.

When the second earthquake hit in May 2015, enormous damage was suffered in hundreds of remote Himalayan communities in the extremely poor and under-resourced region of the lower Solukhumbu (Everest). This region is where our long-term flagship Teacher Training & Quality Education program is focussed, and where we have begun planning and implementing a major schools repair and rebuilding program.

Following a disaster management assessment conducted by AHF Ambassador Andrew Lock and Geoff Bartram (disaster management professionals) in late May, we built 19 Temporary Learning Centres using locally sourced, durable materials, to ensure children will continue their education while their permanent schools are repaired or rebuilt.

Soon after, we also organised a Post-Trauma Art Therapy Camp and more than 330 students and teachers from across the region participated. Recipients of the AHF Art Award facilitated this 5-day workshop using art therapy to provide post-earthquake counselling.

We provided psycho-social counselling and training to 1600 teachers to help children and families suffering from the trauma of the earthquakes.

We have now been working in Nepal for more than a decade and we will continue to be there well into the future. As a result of these devastating events, programs like our School Scholarship Program are needed more than ever, with an increased number of parents requesting scholarship support and schools in desperate need of resources and supplies. It is imperative that the children of Nepal return to school as soon as possible, giving them respite from the devastation they have faced and allowing their parents time to rebuild their lives.



Teacher Training & Quality Education – Our Flagship Program



The Australian Himalayan Foundation recognises that a quality education empowers children to achieve their full potential and can change the life outcomes of a child forever.

Nepal faces large disparities in literacy rates, with urban areas recording literacy rates of approximately 73%, but only reaching 43% on average in rural areas. In addition, teachers in rural Nepal receive little or no training and regularly resort to basic rote learning methods. As a result, attendance rates by teachers and students alike are poor, and schools are very inadequately resourced. These conditions mean that in rural Nepal today, many children do not attend primary school regularly and less than half of the children enrolled in primary school go on to complete secondary school.

In 2005, the Australian Himalayan Foundation first started working with local Nepalese NGO, REED (Rural Education & Environmental Development) to develop a program to improve the quality of education in the Everest district. The Teacher Training & Quality Education program (TTQE) aims to reduce poverty and provide livelihood opportunities through a number of objectives focussed on ensuring that disadvantaged communities in remote, rural areas receive a quality education.

The key objectives of the program are to:

- Increase primary school enrolment rates in rural Nepal
- Reduce dropout rates of children from low socioeconomic backgrounds
- Improve overall attendance rates
- Increase the enrolment rates of the most vulnerable – including girls, disabled children and dalit (untouchable caste)

2014-15 marked an enormous milestone for the AHF with the roll out our TTQE

program to the last remaining districts of Kerung and Necha.

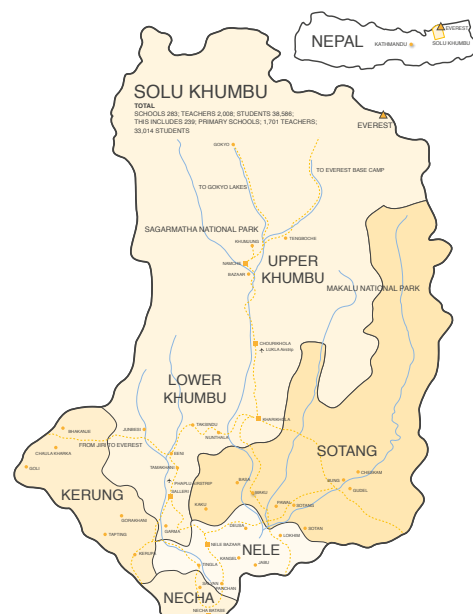
This now means the TTQE program operates in every single district and reaches every single school in the lower Solukhumbu region. This achievement is part of a twelve year vision the AHF had for the region – one aimed squarely at improving the quality of the education in the region and children's access to it.

We also work with the wider community – including local community groups and parents and teachers associations – to promote the value of education, with year round teacher training workshops as well as Child Clubs to help children appreciate the rights and role in the education process.

The program also includes support for Key Teacher workshops designed to fast track the most able teachers so that they can eventually train other teachers – creating a truly sustainable program. The AHF has to date trained over 50 local teachers in the region, who have now become teacher trainers themselves.

The TTQE Team

On the ground our program is implemented by our dedicated project partners REED, a Nepalese NGO based in Kathmandu and our Education Consultant, Jim Strang who was instrumental in establishing the original teacher-training program run by Sir Edmund Hillary. A further dimension to the program is the valued contribution of a team of volunteer teachers from Australia and New Zealand who work with REED in the field.



Our Programs

LADAKH

NEPAL

School Scholarships & Educational Resources

As part of our TTQE program, we provide school scholarships for children in the greatest need of educational support. Additional expenses such as school uniforms, lunches and text books make school out of reach for many of these families.

Scholarship recipients are provided with textbooks, school supplies and stationery, school lunches, school uniforms, shoes and a school bag. As part of an ongoing review of the program, each school is required to submit a progress report on behalf of each beneficiary every six months and AHF is committed to supporting scholarship recipients through until the completion of their primary school education.

Children who were previously falling between the cracks and out of school are now attending school regularly and in many cases it is the scholarship-supported children that are achieving the highest academic results.

In this last year the scholarship program supported 500 students of which:

- 350 were girls from disadvantaged families experiencing extreme poverty and 150 were boys
- 251 of these were Janajati (vulnerable indigenous population)
- 172 were dalit children (socially disadvantaged group)
- 50 had a disability

Educational resources are also an important component of our Quality Education program and critical to its long-term success. For many of the schools in this remote region, books are a rare luxury and stationery often unheard of. The AHF is supporting these schools with a regular supply of the necessary basics including pens, paper, writing books and textbooks.

● DELHI

Health

In memory of AHF Founder and Director Lincoln Hall, we run a project in the lower Solukhumbu that supports maternal health care and service delivery for pregnant women, mothers and newborn babies. The project covers both antenatal and post natal care and involves funding and training of two dedicated maternal health care nurses for the region.

BHUTAN

Education for girls

The AHF is working in some of the remotest corners of rural Bhutan, where children often walk up to 3 hours a day just to reach the nearest community primary school. These children are from isolated communities that experience extreme poverty and girls in particular are often affected. AHF supports girls' education in these communities through a school scholarship program that enables these girls to attend school. The scholarships provide school meals, uniforms, textbooks and the building of girls' boarding facilities. The funding of these resources ensures that just as many girls attend school as boys.

Her Majesty, Ashi Sangay Choden Wangchuck, the Queen Mother of Bhutan, is the Patron and Founder of RENEW, an organisation dedicated to the empowerment of women and girls in Bhutan. AHF partners with RENEW to support girls education in Bhutan, recognising that investing in the education of women and girls is fundamental to creating strong, stable families, communities and countries. Our program in Bhutan is supporting ten years of education for 200 girls across the remotest regions of

NEPAL

KATHMANDU ●

INDIA

Bhutan, where the challenges of receiving an education are greatest. We are now in the process of scoping an expansion of our work in Bhutan, ensuring a whole of community approach that brings greater sustainability to the overall project.

INDIA

Working with women and children

Zaskar is one of the most remote regions in the entire Himalaya. Located in the region of Ladakh, in the Indian Himalaya, heavy snows in winter cut it off from the outside world for over six months of the year. During this time medical facilities are non-existent and villagers rely heavily on the amchi – traditional medical healers – for primary health care. Sadly, the region has unacceptable rates of infant mortality, often as high as one in two children.

Our aim is to decrease these tragic rates of infant mortality and assist with improving maternal healthcare in the region – both of which are part of the UN Sustainable Development Goals.

We do this by funding annual workshops for the amchi, aimed at improving their traditional health care practices, as well as enhancing them with modern health care techniques. These workshops are well attended by the amchi in the region, who in some cases trek up to one week to participate and over the last seven years, the AHF is proud to have



● LHASA

TIBET

△ Everest

SOLU KHUMBU

BHUTAN

gained the confidence and co-operation of the amchi, which is essential for long-term success of this project.

Many amchi, with the assistance of the AHF, have gone on to undertake further training in the government hospital in the capital Leh, as well as monitoring prenatal visits, births in their own villages, educating new mothers and passing on their knowledge to other community members.

Supporting Tibetan culture

In association with the Australian Tibetan Society we support the 'Gangjong Doeghar' Tibetan performing arts in Kalimpong, North India, which preserves and promotes traditional Tibetan cultural dance and music. With our support they are able to provide training to many young people of the Himalaya in keeping alive Tibetan cultural dance and music traditions of all the regions of Tibet.



Snow Leopard Conservation

In 1974, Snow Leopards were internationally declared an endangered species and today there may be as few as 3500 leopards left in the world. Humans are largely responsible for their decline – poachers hunt them for their pelts, body parts are used for traditional medicines and the leopards often come into conflict with local farmers. The AHF is working closely with the Snow Leopard Conservancy to protect the endangered snow leopard through partnerships with local communities in Ladakh.

We support community-based protection of these big cats through grass-roots conservation initiatives, environmental education, training of herders in wildlife monitoring and research – blending traditional knowledge and modern science. Through this partnership, we provide basic training in improved animal husbandry and other livelihood skills to eliminate the threat of poaching and unnecessary killing of snow leopards.

Special Projects

Himalayan Art Awards

Although the Himalaya boasts a rich cultural heritage, there are few opportunities for creative expression for many talented artists in the Himalaya. The Himalayan Art Award provides financial support for a select number of emerging artists for the period of one year and in return, the artists commit to donating one major and one minor artwork to the AHF. The works are then sold in Australia at our major events, and the funds are designated for future awards, creating a fully sustainable arts program.

Schools for the Himalaya

Our Schools for the Himalaya program was established by Lincoln and Barbara Hall and is aligned to our Teacher Training and Quality Education program. Schools in Australia are encouraged to raise funds for a 'cluster' of schools to help improve basic facilities and educational resources. There are also opportunities for Australian schools to visit these schools and gain firsthand experience of the extent and effectiveness of our educational program.



Board of Directors and Staff

Board of Directors

Simon Balderstone AM (*Chairman*)

Director of consultancy company; adviser to Olympic movement; member of the 1984 First Australian Everest Expedition; journalist and author. Former Prime Ministerial adviser, SOCOG Board member and General Manager.

Cheryl Bart AO

On 24 May 2008, Cheryl and her 23-year-old daughter Nikki became the first mother-daughter team to reach the summit of Mount Everest. The scaling of Everest also saw them complete the 'Seven Summits' challenge: climbing the highest mountain on each continent. Cheryl is a Director of the Australian Broadcasting Corporation, Spark Infrastructure and ESTA Utilities.

Julia Booth

Julia's area of expertise is in the development and management of projects in the Private, Government and NGO sectors. For the last 15 years she has concentrated on development projects with a focus on livelihood and education programs for women and children. She has a long history of cultural exchange with the Himalayan region and with the nation of Bhutan in particular. Julia was appointed to the Board in March 2014.

Janine Constantine

International Development specialist with 20 years' experience developing and managing aid projects for the Australian Government, United Nations agencies and NGOs.

Christine Gee AM

Nepalese Honorary Consul General (1987–2009); co-founder of Australian Himalayan Expeditions (now World Expeditions); Attache to Sydney 2000 Nepal Olympic team, member of Chief Executive Women.

Barbara Hall

Barbara is a long-time secondary school teacher. As a teacher at the International Australian School in Singapore she began, with husband Lincoln Hall, the AHF 'Schools for the Himalaya' program and has visited the region regularly, determining first-hand the needs of schools.

Peter Hillary

Adventurer (twice Everest summiteer, South Pole overland via Shackleton Glacier, first high-altitude traverse of entire Himalayan range); expedition leader, public speaker, leader of philanthropic missions; author and photographer.

Greg Mortimer OAM

Greg is one of the world's foremost mountaineers. His many achievements in mountaineering include being a member of the first Australian ascent of the north face of Mount Everest in 1984; the first ever ascent of the south face of Annapurna 2; the first Australian ascent of Vinson Massif, the highest mountain in Antarctica; the first Australian ascent of K2; and an ascent of Mt Manaslu. Greg was appointed to the Board in March 2014.

Garry Weare (*Deputy Chairman*)

Veteran trek guide with over 35 years' experience in the Himalaya; Honorary Secretary (Australia) for the Himalayan Club; former Director and now consultant to World Expeditions; author and photographer.



Ambassadors

Michael Dillon *AM*

AHF Ambassador

Adventurer and one of the world's leading mountain cinematographers and documentary filmmakers with 40 films to his credit; member and Director of Photography on the First Australian Everest Expedition 1984; AFI award winner. After many years of service as a Director, Mike now continues his support as an excellent Ambassador for AHF.

Andrew Lock *OAM*

AHF Ambassador

Acclaimed as Australia's most accomplished high-altitude mountaineer, Andrew recently became the first Australian to climb all 14 of the world's 8,000 metre peaks. The Foundation is proud to have Andrew as its first Ambassador.

Dylan Hall

AHF Youth Ambassador

Dylan's passion for the Himalaya was first ignited as a young boy travelling in the early 1990's. As the son of founding AHF Director Lincoln Hall, he has always had a close association with the Himalaya.

Alice l'Anson

AHF Youth Ambassador

Alice's passion for travel and international aid led her to complete a Bachelor of Arts in International Studies and recently completed an internship with the AHF. Alice is the daughter of renowned Lonely Planet photographer, Richard l'Anson.

George Hillary

AHF Youth Ambassador

George has always had strong connections with Nepal, through his father, Peter Hillary, and late grandfather, Sir Edmund Hillary. He has been fortunate enough to travel through the area on several occasions, during which time he has been able to foster a more personal connection with the Nepalese communities, as well as the projects and goals of the AHF.

Jackson Bursill

AHF Youth Ambassador

Jackson joined as a Youth Ambassador following his work establishing Neverest, a fundraising event for the AHF in which over 150 people walked or ran the equivalent vertical height of Mount Everest to raise funds for the AHF's Nepal Earthquake Appeal following the devastating Earthquakes on April 25th and May 12th. Jackson is also a member of the Australian Cross Country Ski team.

AHF Staff

Carolyn Hamer-Smith

General Manager

Tshering Lama O'Gorman

Program Director

Siobhan Reynolds

Fundraising and Marketing Manager (part time)

Jim Strang

TTQE Program Co-ordinator (Nepal)

Our Donors, Sponsors & Supporters



With heartfelt thanks to our major donors, sponsors and loyal supporters that make this work possible:

- Accor Hotels
- ACME Foundation
- Australian Aid Program, Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade
- Australian High Commission (India)
- BHP Billiton (Matching Gifts Program)
- Footprints Network (WorldNomads.com)
- Forrest Family Foundation
- Friends of Nepal – WA
- Hunter Hall International
- Ian McNair Charitable Foundation
- Jaycar Electronics
- Jeanette & Peter Young Foundation
- Kathmandu
- Lateral Events Management
- National Geographic Channel
- Nepalese Australian Association
- Robert Oatley Wines
- Sherpa Insurance
- SMEC Foundation
- Stewart's Way
- Summer Salt
- The Dick and Pip Smith Foundation
- The Himalayan Trust NZ
- The Himalayan Trust UK
- The Sunrise Foundation
- Virgin Australia
- Westpac Matched Giving Program
- Wild Women on Top
- World Expeditions

Our special thanks go out to all of our supporters, partners and the wider community who donated so generously to our Nepal Earthquake Appeal to support the recovery and rebuild of our schools.

We would like to thank in particular:

- Annie McNiven
- AXA Assistance
- Bill Grose
- Bruce and Sascha Estens
- The Banff Mountain Film Festival
- Capital Partners Private Wealth
- Doc Ross Foundation
- Diane Johnstone
- Dr G Fitzhardinge
- GoGet
- Ian Watson Foundation
- Ian Pollard
- Intelligent Risks Pty Ltd
- Jennifer Waugh
- Jennifer Wray
- Joan Naughton
- Kamener Foundation
- Mark and Lucy Osborn
- Paul and Annette Johnson
- Peter Lemon
- Peter Mulcahy
- Rabobank
- Ruth Fitzhardinge
- The Sun Foundation
- Tony Shields

We would also like to thank the following individuals and groups who organised fundraising treks and challenges in support of the AHF:

2014 Upper Mustang Trekkers, 2014 Everest Base Camp Trekkers, 2014 Bhutan Trekkers Heather McNeice, Krista Waddell and friends, 2015 Kathmandu Nepal Summit Club Trekkers, the 2014 Blackmores Sydney Running Festival Sherpa Team, the 2015 'Neverest' Team and the 2015 Joes Base Camp Team.

Finally, our sincere thanks to our Annual Supporters and our regular individual donors who are the backbone of AHF and the work we do – we are immensely grateful for their ongoing support.

Financial Information

Strategy

We continue to build up our Overseas Aid account in order to fully commit to our long-term programs – in particular our financial commitment to complete the 15-year cycle of our TTQE program.

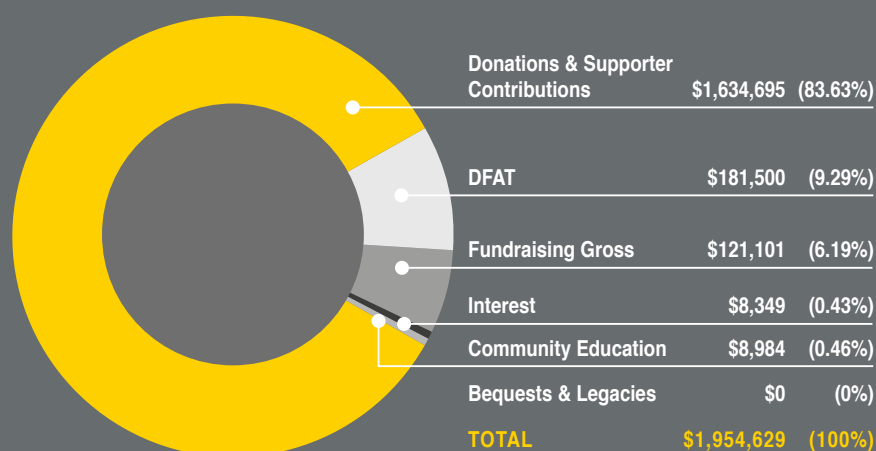
Donations

Donations go into our Overseas Aid Account for program payments and associated program costs. The funds are held in a bank account with all interest credited for future program payments. In line with AusAID requirements as well as our commitment to high standards of program delivery, 20% of donations were spent on management and administration costs. This reflects best practice that ensures the AHF maintains robust, professional standards consistent with industry practice.

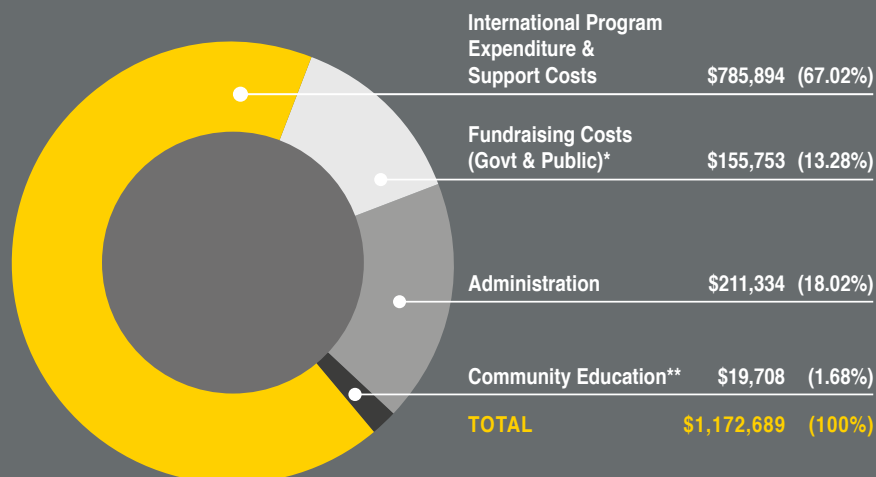
Directors' Benefits

Director Garry Weare was the Program Manager until December 2014. Garry was paid for one and a half days work a week. The rest of his considerable workload was on a voluntary basis. The Chairman and all other Directors did not receive payment or benefit of any kind.

How we raised our funds in 2014-15



How we spent our funds in 2014-15



* Fundraising costs include all costs associated with events plus expenses integral to applications for government funding.

** Community Education expenses include regular AHF Supporter evenings, which are not organised as fundraising events, but as an opportunity for our Supporters and friends to gain an update on the AHF. Community Education costs also include a percentage of expenditure from general fundraising events that are assigned to promoting our development programs.



Income Statement

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2015	2015 \$	2014 \$
REVENUE		
Donations and Gifts		
– Monetary	1,618,425	537,342
– Non Monetary	-	-
Bequests and Legacies	-	-
Grants		
– DFAT	181,500	150,000
– Other Australian	-	-
– Other Overseas	-	-
Investment Income	8,349	10,319
Other Income		
– Fundraising Revenue	121,101	124,088
– Supporter Contributions	16,270	17,375
– Community Education	8,984	12,057
Revenue for International Political or Religious Adherence Promotion Programs	-	-
TOTAL REVENUE	1,954,629	851,181
EXPENDITURE		
International Programs		
– Funds to Overseas Programs	676,298	425,335
– Program Support Costs	109,596	76,858
Fundraising Costs		
– Public	130,617	124,332
– Government and Multilateral	25,136	29,799
Community Education	19,708	28,321
Accountability and Administration	211,334	90,663
Non Monetary Expenditure	-	-
Total International Aid and Development Expenditure	1,172,689	775,308
Expenditure for International Political or Religious Adherence Promotion Programs	-	-
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	1,172,689	775,308
SURPLUS/(DEFICIT) ORDINARY ACTIVITIES	781,940	75,873

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

Balance Sheet

AS AT 30 JUNE 2015	2015 \$	2014 \$
ASSETS		
Current Assets		
– Cash and Cash Equivalents	1,343,657	540,023
– Trade and Other Receivables	1,366	747
Total Current Assets	1,345,023	540,770
Non Current Assets		
– Property, Plant and Equipment	457	914
Total Non Current Assets	457	914
TOTAL ASSETS	1,345,479	541,684
LIABILITIES		
Current Liabilities		
– Trade and Other Payables	14,979	5,912
Provision for Employee Entitlements	12,789	-
Total Current Liabilities	27,768	5,912
TOTAL LIABILITIES	27,768	5,912
NET ASSETS	1,317,712	535,772
EQUITY		
Retained Earnings	1,317,712	535,772
Member's Guarantee	-	-
TOTAL EQUITY	1,317,712	535,772

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2015	Retained Earnings \$	Total \$
BALANCE AT 30 JUNE 2013	459,888	459,888
Excess of Revenue Over Expenses	75,884	75,884
Items of Other Comprehensive Income	-	-
BALANCE AT 30 JUNE 2014	535,772	535,772
Excess of Revenue Over Expenses	781,940	781,940
Items of Other Comprehensive Income	-	-
BALANCE AT 30 JUNE 2015	1,317,712	1,317,712



A copy of the full statutory financial report for 2014-15 is available on request from our office. Our summary financial report complies with the standards set out by the ACFID Code of Conduct. Please refer to www.acfid.asn.au for further information.

Australian Himalayan Foundation Ltd's reserves are comprised entirely of retained earnings held for unrestricted purposes. There were no adjustments, transfers or asset revaluations made in 2014-15.

A copy of the full statutory financial report for 2014-15 is available on request from our office.

Table of Cash Movements for Designated Purposes

No single appeal or any other form of fundraising for a designated purpose generated 10% or more of the Australian Himalayan Foundation Ltd's international aid and development revenue for the financial year ended 30 June 2015.

Independent Audit Report Scope and Opinion

We have audited the summarised financial report of the Australian Himalayan Foundation Ltd for the year ended 30 June 2015 comprising the income statement, statement of changes in equity, balance sheet, statement of cash flows and the declaration of cash movements for designated purposes.

In our opinion, the information reported is consistent with the ACFID Code of Conduct reporting requirements and with the annual statutory financial report dated 9 October 2015 from which it was derived and upon which we expressed an unqualified audit opinion. For a better understanding of the scope of our audit, this report should be read in conjunction with our audit report on the annual statutory financial report.

**Scott Lucas, Partner,
B.Comm FCA Dip FP
Lambourne Partners
www.lambourne.com.au
Newcastle**

4 November 2015

The Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT) is the Australian Government agency responsible for managing Australia's overseas aid program.

DFAT's accreditation process provides both the federal government and the Australian public with confidence that where the Australian Government provides grants to Australian NGOs to implement aid and development programs, it is funding professional, well-managed, community based organisations capable of delivering good development outcomes.

As an officially accredited aid agency, the Australian Himalayan Foundation is required to demonstrate that all relevant financial and program policies and procedures are in place and adhered to when providing funds to our in-country partners. These included acquittals, audits (in Australia and overseas) and monitoring and evaluation reports. In addition the AHF is obliged to develop stringent risk assessment guidelines and policies, and provide evidence of co-operation agreements with relevant statutory authorities in the countries where programs are implemented.

Complaints Policy

The Australian Himalayan Foundation is a member of the Australian Council for International Development (ACFID) and a Signatory to the ACFID Code of Conduct, which is a voluntary, self-regulatory code of good practice. Information about how to make a complaint can be found at www.acfid.asn.au

The AHF has a process in place for handling any complaints. Please direct your complaint to Carolyn Hamer-Smith (General Manager) on **02 9438 1822** or email: carolyn@ahf.org.au

How can you help?

You can help to make a difference in the Himalaya in the following ways:

Join as a Supporter

Our Supporters are crucial to our development – we are a community-based organization and rely on a pool of talented supporters to provide expertise, inspiration and assistance. We hold regular events and keep Supporters informed through our Yakety Yak newsletter and updates to our website.

Supporter Categories

All Supporter Fees are tax deductible:

Individual	\$50 per annum
Family	\$75 per annum
Bronze	\$250 per annum
Silver	\$500 per annum
Gold	\$1,000 per annum

Make a Donation

All donations to the AHF are greatly appreciated, and can be made online or by post. Donations of \$2 or more are tax deductible.

Make a Bequest

Create a living legacy to assist future generations in the Himalaya by remembering the AHF in your will.

Trek for the AHF

Trekking in the Himalaya provides an ideal opportunity to raise funds for the AHF. Contact the AHF office for further information.



Sponsor Partner



Principal Media Sponsor

**AUSTRALIAN
HIMALAYAN
FOUNDATION**

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