

Working in
partnership
with the
**people of the
Himalaya**

Annual Report
2016-17

Sustainable education, health and environmental projects

AUSTRALIAN
HIMALAYAN
FOUNDATION

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Accountability

Our mission:
To improve the quality
of life of the people
most in need in
remote areas 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 (AHF) was formed in 2003 and strives to ensure the long-term viability of sustainable health, education and conservation programs across the Himalaya.

We work in partnership with the people of the Himalaya to help the most disadvantaged meet their priority needs through integrated improvements in education, health and the environment.

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. They are in line with the UN Millennium Sustainable Development Goals.



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).



Chairman's Review

It's been 15 years since we started the Australian Himalayan Foundation, so I thought I'd reflect here not just on 2016-17 but also on the amazing trek so far for AHF.

When we - a group of climbing and trekking friends who spent many months, over decades, among the mountains and the people of the Himalaya - gathered at the Bundanoon Hotel in the Southern Highlands of NSW to finalise the formation of the AHF, we felt confident we could make a real practical difference by harnessing the goodwill and generosity of the many Australian fellow-visitors and trekkers by giving them an opportunity to give something back, too.

We've made a major difference, I'm proud to say, but of course it soon became apparent that the needs of the people and the extent of the poverty meant the need for a more substantial support base, which over time has helped develop and shape our fundraising and the vital programs. This has meant building the AHF family of supporters and donors with people who are passionate about specific areas of help, like girls' education, primary health care, or the environment. We have also specifically adapted our work to 'provide what is needed most to those most in need', including focussing our flagship Teacher Training Quality Education program on the lower Solukhumbu region, the subsistence-living area, far from the tourist trails.

Inspired by Sir Edmund Hillary and our personal experiences, today we continue to remain committed to our original commitment of helping those who need it most in a practical, cost-effective and long term way, and we're proud of how we have done this.

The 2015 earthquakes altered our circumstances significantly. On top of managing our existing programs, we had to quickly reinvent ourselves and respond to the greatest need - rebuilding schools. With a successful fundraising total of more than \$1 million, we played a lead role in coordinating the joint efforts of the AHF, the Himalayan Trust New Zealand and the UK Himalayan Trust so that together we could "build Nepal back better". It was a challenging period but we have come through this with a steady hand and in 2016-17 successfully rebuilt 42 classrooms across 14 schools in the lower Solukhumbu that were destroyed during the earthquakes.

As we look ahead to 2017-18, our focus is to broaden and secure more long-term financial support for our work, maintain our programs and keep making the difference we have made in the last 15 years. At the same time, we are reviewing our major programs like the Teacher Training and Quality Education to make sure it is as effective as possible and meeting the priority needs of the people.

We have always given importance to maintaining a balance between good governance and proper monitoring and evaluation, with very low overheads and costs, to keep this cost-effective, practical work going long into the future. It has been a privilege to work with you during the past year to do just that and I thank everyone again for their great and loyal support for the Foundation.

S R Balderstone

Simon Balderstone

Chairman

From the CEO

Our work has always been about helping people help themselves and over the past year we have been doing this by building local capacity and empowering the communities with whom we work. Our new gender initiatives for example, offer vocational training for women that leads to employment opportunities that empower them to support themselves, their families and their communities.

I would love to share an example. I first met Purnima when she was living in a small hut in a remote village in the lower Solukhumbu of Nepal. She was living with her teacher because her parents were extremely poor and no longer able to send her to school. But she had one of those precious things in life. She had a teacher who believed in her. So rather than drop out of school, she was able to stay with her teacher and continue school. When I met her she was about to complete the school year but then she would leave to work the land with her parents who were farmers in a distant village.

But her teacher was determined not to let that happen. I was told she was a very bright student who excelled in her studies and if she just had the opportunity she could make a different life for herself and her family. I asked Purnima what she wanted to do. She told me she wanted to finish school, sit her final exams and become a nurse to help her country.

That day, with support from people like you, we made a commitment to support Purnima's training to become a nurse as part of our vocational training program. However, by the time Purnima graduated school, Nepal had experienced one of the most devastating earthquakes in the history of the country. Purnima decided there was a more urgent need. Rather than be trained to become a nurse she asked to be trained in building and construction as an engineer. Quite something for a young woman in rural Nepal just out of school.

Within months Purnima was enrolled in a construction training course and when she graduated she was employed as a Field Supervisor with our partner NGO, REED Nepal. Purnima is now responsible for overseeing the construction of four schools in AHF's Rebuild Nepal Program, a program many of you have generously supported. She is now working tirelessly to rebuild her country and REED Nepal recently told me she is hardworking, extremely capable and an excellent employee.

This year we also supported nearly 1,000 children to attend school across the Himalaya, trained hundreds of teachers, provided vocational training for 35 women in Nepal and Bhutan, trained 42 Amchi (traditional medicine healers) and 35 local health workers in Ladakh in modern maternal health practices, rebuilt more than 40 classrooms across the Solukhumbu region of Nepal and were also successfully re-accredited with the official Australian Aid program (DFAT).

What a privilege to work with you during the past year to create this kind of change. By working in partnership with local governments, our local NGO partners and with you, our family of supporters, we are able to deliver sustainable programs with a long lasting impact.

Together we are moving mountains.
Thank you!

Carolyn Hamer-Smith
Chief Executive Officer



Carolyn and Purnima in Nepal





Program Review

Our focus this year has been on working to increase program effectiveness in our initiatives, and we've been upgrading our own internal systems as well as those of our partners along with their capacity for effective program delivery. One of our strengths is working with local communities through local NGOs. Our approach of implementing programs with local partners follows our 'Partnership Strategy' that recognises that local partners bring strength in local knowledge, capacities and relationships that maximise value for money. It is also more cost effective and efficient than establishing regional offices.

To this end, we have been stepping up efforts to build the capacity of our partners in program delivery, financial management, accountability and practice standards. This year, we provided training in project management and governance, inclusive education and monitoring & evaluation to our major partner REED Nepal, and an independent financial consultancy mentored and upgraded REED's financial systems. We supported RENEW, our local partner in Bhutan, to improve their financial management with a qualified accountant. We have also used the generous pro bono expertise of our supporters in these efforts and remain very thankful for their contribution in improving project management, good governance and technical oversight.

To increase program effectiveness, robust planning that actively engages stakeholders for program development has been a major focus this year. In Nepal, we carried out a planning workshop for our flagship Teacher Training & Quality Education (TTQE) program on December 1-2, 2016 with field staff and key stakeholders, followed by a survey of key teachers in May 2017 and an intensive community consultation process in April-May 2017 with teachers, parents, community leaders and school children. Findings from these stakeholders' consultations are being used to inform new developments in program design.



We have increasingly worked to address barriers to inclusion and participation throughout our education program. In our training workshops and community consultations, teachers, parents, community members and students are made aware of the importance of education for girls, reflected in our scholarships programs in both Nepal and Bhutan that prioritise girls. In addition, field program trainers and rural school teachers have received training on gender and social inclusion. Learnings from this training are being applied in our teacher- training workshops, highlighting gender stereotypes and discriminatory attitudes and how they can be transformed. In a region that can be very patriarchal, this is helping to empower and build the self- confidence of female teachers and female school committee members.

Child rights has been a strong focus of the TTQE program this year and we included workshops on child rights with in-school support and monitoring visits from REED and AHF. Child protection information was provided to local communities and the District Education Office, including processes for reporting abuse, and AHF Child Clubs were held where children were made aware of their rights and empowered to have a voice in the decision-making processes that impact them. AHF is at the same time working to develop a more disability inclusive approach to project implementation in line with DFAT priorities of "supporting children with a disability in education". As part of that, we conducted an inclusive education workshop for teacher trainers, school administrators, curriculum designers, policy makers and other stakeholders in Kathmandu.

My heartfelt gratitude for your support for our programs!

Tshering Lama O'Gorman
Head of Programs





Building Nepal Back Better

The Nepal earthquakes in 2015 damaged over 35,000 classrooms across the country, leaving more than a million children, including those in the remote mountain communities, lacking access to safe learning spaces. Of the 300-plus schools that AHF supports through the Teacher Training & Quality Education program, more than 200 were assessed as being in urgent need of rebuilding or repair.

In the immediate aftermath of the second earthquake, AHF built 19 temporary learning centres using durable materials to ensure that children were able to continue their education while we planned the rebuild of earthquake resilient schools. Soon after, AHF worked with REED Nepal to start rebuilding safe classrooms for children to study in. As of 30 June, 42 classrooms across 14 schools were built or retrofitted with a further 43 on track to be completed in 2017-18. These classrooms are a mix of new designs and retrofits, all incorporating seismic design principles.

With the pro-bono assistance of Australian engineering and architectural firms, Taylor Thomson Whitting (TTW), HASSELL and architect David Francis, AHF pioneered an innovative lightweight steel frame design for these schools that incorporates contemporary seismic design principles. This classroom design uses steel frames that are light enough to be carried on the back of porters into remote areas, yet strong enough to withstand future earthquakes as well as monsoonal storms.

In addition, the Australian architectural firm Davenport Campbell have developed architectural plans for a low-cost environmentally sustainable, earthquake resilient school using best practice seismic principles and specifically catering for the needs of students with disabilities.

Classrooms in 22 of the Solukhumbu schools are being built in partnership with the Himalayan Trust NZ and the Himalayan Trust UK through the Lower Solukhumbu Education Rebuild and Recovery (LSERR) project. This project is an ambitious, long term commitment to the people of this region that will see all three organisations working together and sharing knowledge and experience to build safer, stronger schools in Nepal.

AHF's implementing partner REED Nepal has prioritised local ownership of the rebuild project by working closely with the schools at each step of the process. School Management Committees, made up of community members, are responsible for managing the classroom rebuilds at the local level, supported by REED Nepal.

They have been provided with capacity building in areas such as project and financial management, enabling them to successfully manage the rebuilds. These committees have helped ensure that the community's interests are central throughout the process.

As part of the repair and reconstruction work, AHF has also focused on the upskilling of members of the communities in which these schools are based. AHF has funded masonry (69 people) and light gauge steel framing (19 people) skills training courses for 88 local people from the Lower Solukhumbu region. This training was conducted onsite by experienced trainers/engineers from the National Society for Earthquake Technology (NSET). Working with our local partner NGO REED, this training has helped to build a skilled labour force that will boost local capacity and the economy.

The total expenditure for 2016-17 on the project was \$528,387.





Teacher Training And Quality Education

Our Flagship Program

Without access to quality education, children in remote communities like the Everest region of Nepal remain deprived of the life skills and knowledge gained from education, and are more likely to remain trapped in the cycle of poverty. In response to this need, AHF's flagship Teacher Training and Quality Education (TTQE) program, operating in one of the poorest regions of rural Nepal, is helping to ensure that all children have access to primary education.

TTQE focuses on training teachers in the remote Solukhumbu district of Nepal with the goal to ensure that children have better opportunities in life through an inclusive, high quality education. The program builds the capacities of over 1700 teachers in 268 schools and enhances the quality of education for around 30,000 school children in Solukhumbu, with an expected far reaching impact on the broader community.

The program also provides educational support to marginalised and vulnerable children who for various reasons may not be attending school. This year, this educational support enabled 550 students including 346 girls and 25 children with a disability to attend school.

The following outcomes were achieved this year:

- 29,643 students benefitted from the program
- 1864 teachers benefitted with basic/refresher teachers' training or mentoring support
- 257 schools were supported with training, mentoring and/or educational materials
- 5085 parents and community members attended community orientation programs
- 1186 children benefitted from child club mobilisation and support

Accredited by the Government's National Centre for Education Development and implemented in coordination with the Department of Education, TTQE is recognised as one of the most comprehensive education programs in rural Nepal.

TTQE is implemented on the ground by our Nepalese NGO partner REED Nepal with the technical support from AHF in program design, management, monitoring and evaluation.



Story of Change

Born in a remote village in the Okhaldhunga district of Nepal, Binod has been working in the education sector for 28 years including 13 years as a teacher in remote schools. During the Maoist insurgency in Nepal, he worked for the government as an education resource person and saw firsthand the poor standard of education in many remote schools in the Solukhumbu District. At that point he decided he wanted to make a difference in that area and became the Head Teacher of Garma Secondary School in 2005. Familiar with AHF's TTQE program which focuses on child friendly education, Binod participated in our Head Teacher Management training, following which he brought in a lot of changes at the school in terms of promoting child rights, gender inclusion, and a focus on the self-respect and self-esteem of students and teachers.

"I believe the TTQE program and the training I received are key reasons I was awarded the National Education Award in 2014 from the Ministry of Education and the Best Head Teacher Award from REED in 2017."

Binod Singh Tamang, Head Teacher,
Shree Garma Secondary School, Nepal

Our Programs

EDUCATION & LIFELONG LEARNING

Working with women and girls

BHUTAN

In partnership with local NGO RENEW, AHF supports a flagship gender program in Bhutan, recognising that investing in the education of women and girls is fundamental to creating strong, stable families, communities and countries.

One aspect of the program provides girls from some of the remotest disadvantaged corners of Bhutan with access to an education by providing textbooks, school uniforms, school bags and lunch. The second focus is on skills development and income generation through vocational training for underprivileged women who endure economic hardship and have no social support in their communities. Women are trained in the creation of traditional textile production, enterprise development, economic management and financial literacy.

Together, these projects form an integrated community development program that ensures just as many girls are attending school as boys and that those girls can go on to receive technical skills to provide long-term livelihoods. This in turn is enabling these women and girls to become strong, independent members of their communities.

NEPAL

AHF is providing support to increase the capacity of young girls in Nepal to become trained workers, providing them with employable skills and the opportunity to be leaders and decision-makers within their communities. This training program aims to create long-term livelihood opportunities and economic independence for women living in these remote, rural communities.

This year, a 3-month vocational training program was provided to 14 women who were unable to continue attending school and were therefore some of the most vulnerable in their communities. The training provided skills in practical trades that will enable women to find work in their communities to help them support themselves and their families. The courses were chosen by the women involved with a realistic view of what employment they would be able to gain or businesses they could easily start within their villages. As a result of the training, 9 trainees went on to establish their own businesses that are now operating successfully.

HEALTH

Maternal Health

INDIA

Zaskar in Ladakh, India is one of the remotest areas in the Himalaya. Heavy snowfall from November to May completely cuts its inhabitants off from the rest of the world and from basic health services. In these difficult snowbound months, the traditional health practitioners (amchi) are the only health care providers available to the locals.

AHF partners with Servants of Society (SOS) and Ladakh Institute of Prevention (LIP) and supports amchi to enable them to serve the Zaskar community better. AHF funds annual workshops for amchi aimed at improving their traditional healthcare practices, as well as equipping them with modern health care techniques. This training focuses on maternal health and the female amchi are trained in monitoring prenatal visits, attending births in their own villages and educating new mothers in the community on safe childbirth practices.

This year, we trained 42 amchi in developing their skills and furthering their understanding of modern medical care; 3 female amchi were supported specifically to provide healthcare to mothers and young children. A medical camp was held by SOS in association with LIP and the Zaskar Amchi Association where 280 people including 20 mothers with babies were examined and treated. 30 auxiliary nurse midwives and five amchi were also trained in modern maternal health practices.

NEPAL

Difficult terrains, long distances to reach a well-equipped health centre, lack of education, poverty, untimely identification of high risk pregnancies contribute to a high infant mortality and maternal mortality in Nepal's mountain districts.

AHF works in response to this need to improve the capacity and resources in local health centres; and this year in Solukhumbu, we supported the Primary Health Care Centre of Sotang that services a catchment area of approximately 20,000 people to facilitate safe deliveries and improve the health and well-being of mothers and their newborn babies.

We also commissioned a needs assessment of local villages to determine the community's health status, identify key health needs of children and mothers, and review existing healthcare facilities, to inform AHF's future health project, Nurses for Nepal.



ENVIRONMENT

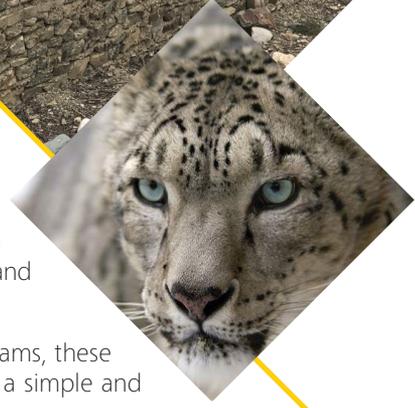
Conservation and sustainable livelihoods

INDIA

With as few as 4500 snow leopards left in the world, AHF works with the Snow Leopard Conservancy to protect these majestic beasts through partnerships with local communities to construct snow leopard-safe corrals across the Zaskar Valley of Ladakh in the Indian Himalaya. Traditionally the farmers build low-level, dry stone wall corrals for their livestock - a critical means of income for farmers in these remote areas. These corrals are however open and exposed to attacks from snow leopards at night at which time an entire herd can be wiped out.

Through the construction of a simple wire roofing for these corrals supported by wooden beams, these corrals are enclosed and in this way prevent snow leopards from accessing the livestock. It is a simple and effective means of preventing the deaths of snow leopards at the hands of farmers.

20 snow leopard-proof corrals have been built with another 10 scheduled for construction. These corrals have resulted in up to 95% reduction in livestock depredation by snow leopards this year.



ARTS & CULTURE

Preserving cultural heritage and creating livelihood opportunities

INDIA

In conjunction with the Australian Tibetan Society, AHF supports Gangjong Doeghar Tibetan Performing Arts in Kalimpong, India to help preserve Tibetan cultural dance and music, and provide opportunities for young people of the region to pursue a career in arts. The centre trains local girls and boys in music, dance and the Tibetan language and has been successful in keeping Tibetan dance and music traditions alive, with many of their artists gaining employment in local schools and in cultural organisations overseas.

Kelsang Choden started training in Tibetan dance and music at Gangjong Doeghar in 2009. Having performed at events across India, Nepal, Bhutan and Europe, Kelsang is an exceptional dancer and singer. Despite having a full-time job at a national bank, her free time and holidays are dedicated to her first love: the performing arts. For Kelsang, her passion goes beyond performing, as she gets immense satisfaction volunteering at the centre, teaching the nuances of music and dance to young artists like herself, encouraging them to nurture their talents in Tibetan music and dance, and motivating them to preserve the unique Tibetan traditions.



HIMALAYAN ART AWARDS

The Himalayan Art Award provides support for a select number of emerging artists in the Himalaya for a period of one year and in return, the artists donate one major and one minor artwork to the AHF. The works are auctioned in Australia at our major events and the funds raised are designated for future awards, creating a fully sustainable arts program.

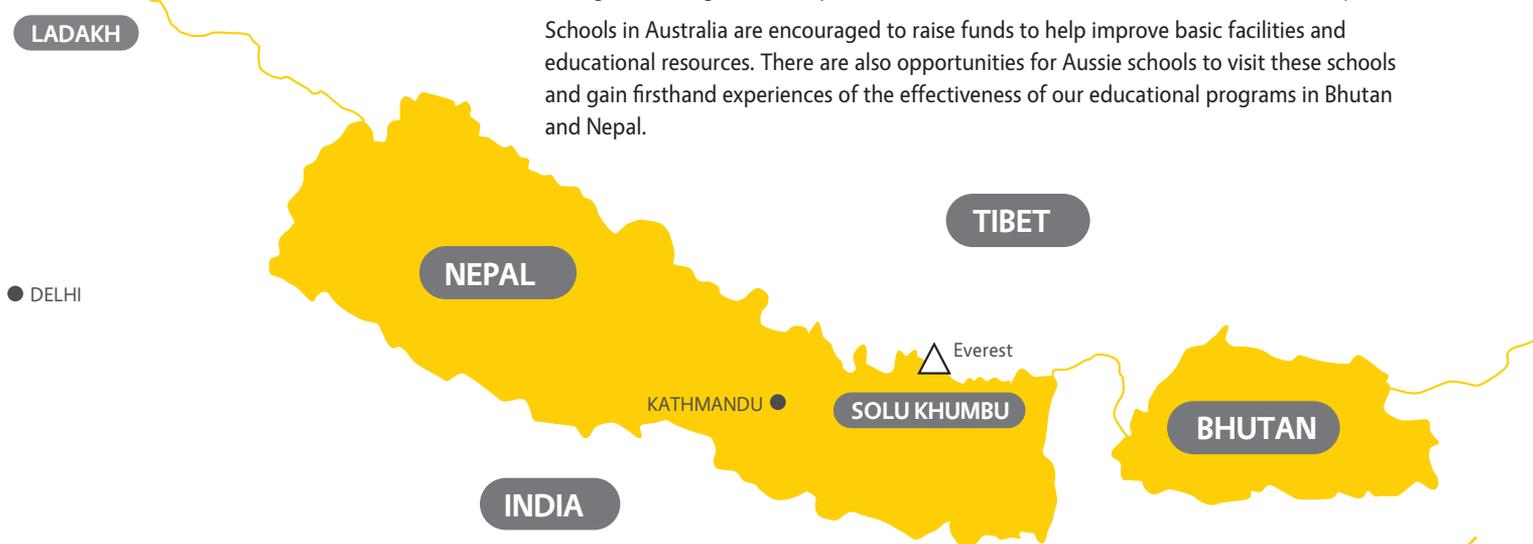
This project supports young artists across the region who would otherwise struggle to find the resources to express their talent, and has provided a launching pad for successful careers.

This project was originally established in memoriam of Australian artist Murray Zaroni.

SCHOOLS FOR THE HIMALAYA

Our Schools for the Himalaya project provides an opportunity of cultural exchange and fosters strong and lasting relationships between schools in Australia and those in the Himalaya.

Schools in Australia are encouraged to raise funds to help improve basic facilities and educational resources. There are also opportunities for Aussie schools to visit these schools and gain firsthand experiences of the effectiveness of our educational programs in Bhutan and Nepal.



Board of Directors & Staff

BOARD OF DIRECTORS



Simon Balderstone AM
(Chairman)

Founder and Director of consultancy company; Adviser to Olympic movement; Member of the 1984 First Australian Everest Expedition;

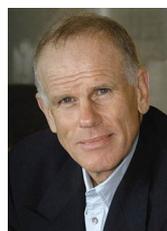
Award-winning journalist; Former Prime Ministerial adviser, SOCOG Board member and General Manager; Elected to the United Nations Global 500 Roll of Honour for Excellence in Environmental Achievement.



Janine Constantine

International development specialist with 20 years of experience in developing and managing aid projects in Asia and the Pacific

for the Australian Government, United Nations agencies and NGOs.



Peter Hillary

Mountaineer (twice Everest summiteer, South Pole overland via Shackleton Glacier, first high altitude traverse of Himalayan range); expedition

leader; public speaker; leader of philanthropic missions; author and photographer.



Cheryl Bart AO

On 24 May 2008, Cheryl and her 23-year-old daughter Nikki became the first mother-daughter team to summit Mount Everest. The scaling of Everest also saw them

complete the 'Seven Summits' challenge: climbing the highest mountains in each continent. In 2013 Cheryl became the first Australian woman to achieve the Explorers Grand Slam by reaching the North and South Poles.



Christine Gee AM

Royal Nepalese Honorary Consul General for NSW and ACT between 1987 & 2009; Co-founder of Australian Himalayan Expeditions (now

World Expeditions); Attache to Nepalese Olympic Team for Sydney 2000 Olympics.



Greg Mortimer OAM

Greg successfully climbed Everest in 1984 as a member of the first Australian Everest Expedition and the first to climb K2 and Mt. Vinson. He has led

over 80 expeditions to Antarctica and is the co founder of Aurora Expeditions. Greg is the Vice President of YHA and a Director of Mawson's Huts Foundation and he has received the Order of Australia Medal for his contribution to Australian mountaineering.



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.



Julia Booth

Julia has 15 years of experience in the development and management of projects in the private, government and NGO sectors, with a focus on livelihood

and education programs for women and children. She has a long history of cultural exchange with the Himalayan region, in particular with Bhutan.



Garry Weare

(Deputy Chairman)

Himalayan guide and operator with 40 years of experience in the Indian Himalaya; Former Director and now Himalayan

Consultant to World Expeditions; Hon Secretary (Australia) Himalayan Club; author and photographer including Lonely Planet's Trekking in the Nepal Himalaya (all five editions).



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 mountaineers, Andrew is the first Australian to climb all 14 of the world's 8,000 metre peaks. AHF is proud to have Andrew as its first Ambassador.



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 AHF.



Dylan Hall

AHF Youth Ambassador
Dylan's passion for the Himalaya was first ignited as a young boy travelling in the early 1990s. As the son of founding AHF Director

Lincoln Hall, he has always had a close association with the Himalaya and travelled to the Khumbu and Everest Base Camp in 2005.



Alice l'Anson

AHF Youth Ambassador
Alice visited Nepal for the first time when only 11 years old and felt a connection with the country and the people straight away. Her

passion for travel and international aid led her to complete a Bachelor of Arts in International Studies. Alice is the daughter of renowned Lonely Planet photographer Richard l'Anson.



Jackson Bursill

AHF Youth Ambassador
Jackson joined as a Youth Ambassador following his work establishing Neverest, a fundraising event for AHF in which over 150

people walked or ran the equivalent vertical height of Everest to raise funds for AHF. Jackson hopes to continue to work on events and programs that will raise the profile of AHF.

STATE REPRESENTATIVES

Victoria

George Hillary
Jeff Kilpatrick
Doug Grant
Mike Dillon
Angela Han
Jules McLean
John McGauran
Georgie Reed

Queensland

Heather McNeice
Krista Waddell
Karen Murray
Susie Pitts

ACT

Zac Zaharias

AHF STAFF

Carolyn Hamer-Smith

Chief Executive Officer

Tshering Lama O'Gorman

Head of Programs

Siobhan Reynolds

Communications & Fundraising Manager (part time – job share)

Upala Sunthankar

Communications & Fundraising Manager (part time – job share)

Kerryn Plummer

Officer Manager (part time)

Linda Jocelyn

Bookkeeper (part time)

ADVISERS

Jim Strang *Education Adviser*

After 12 years of successfully running the TTQE Program on the ground in Nepal in partnership with REED, Jim has stepped back from this role but continues his support to AHF as our Education Adviser. We are proud and grateful for all that he has done for AHF and the people of Nepal.

Virginia Dixon

Health Adviser

Dr Christopher Birch

Legal Adviser




Kathmandu®

Thank you

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

- Accor Hotels
- ACME Foundation
- Annie McNiven
- Ascent Private Wealth
- Australian Aid Program, Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade
- Bill Gross
- Bruce Estens
- Caroline Jones
- Chemist Outlet
- Corah Pty Ltd.
- Davenport Campbell
- David Francis
- David Nott
- Deborah & Patrick Lockie
- Edwin Trevor-Roberts
- Footprints Network (World Nomads)
- Gary McCaw
- H&K Johnston Family Foundation
- HASSELL
- Heather McNeice
- Ian McNair Charitable Foundation
- Jackson Bursill
- Jeanette & Peter Young Foundation
- Johanna English (June Canavan Foundation)
- John Kelting
- Kathmandu
- Krista Waddell
- Lateral Events Management
- Lowenden Foundation
- National Pharmacy
- Patrick Smith
- Pharmacy Alliance
- Reena Malik
- Roger Butler
- Ruth Fitzhardinge
- Soroptimist International
- Taylor Thomson Whitting (TTW)
- The Dick and Pip Smith Foundation
- The Himalayan Trust NZ
- The Himalayan Trust UK
- The Ian Watson Foundation
- The Sun Foundation
- The Sunrise Foundation
- Verve Creative
- World Expeditions

We would also like to thank the following individuals and groups who organised fundraising treks and challenges in support of the AHF: 2016 Bhutan Kathmandu Summit Club Trekkers, 2016 Nepal Kathmandu Summit Club Trekkers, 2016 Top Ten Summiters, Gary McCaw and the 2017 One Man One Million Everest Basecamp trekkers, 2017 Nepal Kathmandu Summit Club Trekkers, and 2017 Kathmandu Summit Club Indian Himalaya trekkers, as well as all of those who individually raised funds for the AHF while trekking or climbing in Nepal, Bhutan and the Indian Himalaya.

Our sincere thanks also go out 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.

Finally, we are incredibly grateful for the tireless service and commitment of the AHF Members and all our volunteers with special thanks to Lucy Osborn, Sue Fagoaga, Roger O'Meagher, Ruth Luthi and the Members of our Advisory Committees on Fundraising, Programs, and Finance & Governance.



Financial Information

STRATEGY

We continue to build up our Overseas Aid account in order to fully commit to our long-term programs.

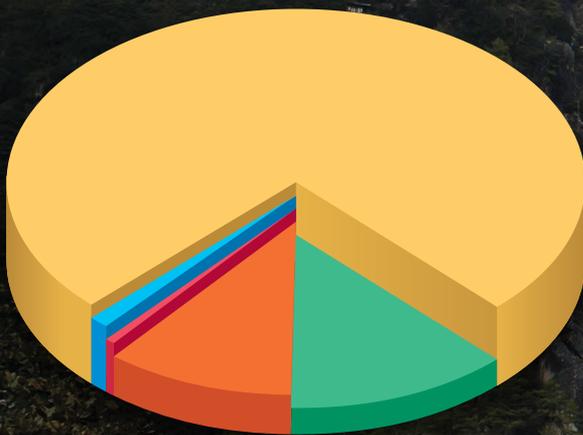
DIRECTORS' BENEFITS

The Chairman and all other Directors did not receive payment or benefit of any kind.

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 our commitment to high standards of program delivery, 20% of donations were spent on management and administration costs. This ensures the AHF maintains transparent and accountable processes and robust, professional standards consistent with industry practice.

How we raised our funds in 2016-17



■ Donations & Supporter Contributions	: \$897,155 (75.42%)
■ DFAT	: \$150,000 (12.61%)
■ Fundraising Gross	: \$125,530 (10.55%)
■ Interest	: \$6,283 (0.53%)
■ Community Education	: \$10,600 (0.89%)
Total	: \$1,189,568 (100%)

How we spent our funds in 2016-17



■ International Program Expenditure & Support Costs	: \$1,198,752 (74.51%)
■ Fundraising Costs (Govt & Public)*	: \$213,757 (13.28%)
■ Administration	: \$173,738 (10.80%)
■ Community Education**	: \$22,629 (1.41%)
Total	: \$1,608,876 (100%)

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

** 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 2017

INCOME STATEMENT	2017 \$	2016 \$
REVENUE		
<i>Donations & Gifts</i>		
- Monetary	889,675	1,057,793
- Non Monetary	-	-
Bequests & Legacies	-	5,000
<i>Grants</i>		
- DFAT	150,000	150,000
- Other Australian	-	-
- Other Overseas	-	-
Investment income	6,283	11,880
<i>Other Income</i>		
- Fundraising revenue	125,530	105,163
- Supporter contributions	7,480	10,255
- Community Education	10,600	8,685
Revenue for International Political & Religious Adherence Promotion Programs	-	-
Total Revenue	1,189,568	1,348,776
EXPENDITURE		
<i>International Programs</i>		
- Funds to Overseas Programs	1,058,582	814,335
- Program Support Costs	140,170	145,779
<i>Fundraising Costs</i>		
- Public	171,138	138,321
- Government & Multilateral	42,619	52,713
<i>Community Education</i>		
Accountability & Administration	173,738	140,280
Non-Monetary Expenditure	-	-
Total International Aid & Development Expenditure	1,608,876	1,314,258
Expenditure for International Political or Religious Adherence Promotion Programs	-	-
Total Expenditure	1,608,876	1,314,258
Surplus/(Deficit) Ordinary Activities	(419,308)	34,519

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.



Balance Sheet

AS AT 30 JUNE 2017

BALANCE SHEET	2017 \$	2016 \$
ASSETS		
<i>Current Assets</i>		
- Cash & Cash Equivalents	958,748	1,388,186
- Trade and Other Receivables	7,228	-
Total Current Assets	965,976	1,388,186
Non Current Assets – Property, Plant & Equipment	1,049	669
Total Non Current Assets	1,049	669
Total Assets	967,025	1,388,855
LIABILITIES		
<i>Current Liabilities</i>		
- Trade and Other Payables	14,739	19,537
Provision for Employee Entitlements	19,363	17,087
Total Current Liabilities	34,102	36,624
Total Liabilities	34,102	36,624
Net Assets	932,923	1,352,231
EQUITY		
Retained earnings	932,923	1,352,231
Members' Guarantee	-	-
Total Equity	932,923	1,352,231

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2017

	Retained Earnings \$	Total \$
Balance at 30 June 2015	1,317,712	1,317,712
Excess of revenue over expenses	34,519	34,519
Items of other comprehensive income	-	-
Balance at 30 June 2016	1,352,231	1,352,231
Excess of revenue over expenses	(419,308)	(419,308)
Items of other comprehensive income	-	-
Balance at 30 June 2017	932,923	932,923

*A copy of the full statutory financial report for 2016-17 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 2016-17.

A copy of the full statutory financial report for 2016-17 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 2017.

Independent Audit Report Scope and Opinion



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

COMPLAINTS POLICY

The Australian Himalayan Foundation is a member of the Australian Council for International Development (ACFID). We are a signatory to the ACFID Code of Conduct, and are committed to adhering to its high standards of corporate governance, public accountability and financial management. Information about how to make a complaint can be found at

<https://acfid.asn.au/content/complaints>

AHF has an open and transparent complaints policy that can be found on our website.

Complaints related to breaches of the code or any other matter can be directed to

Carolyn Hamer-Smith (CEO)

on 02 9438 1822

or email carolyn@ahf.org.au



The Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade 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.



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 organisation 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 and social media.

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	\$1000 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.



ACFID
MEMBER

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Aid 



 World Nomads

**AUSTRALIAN
HIMALAYAN
FOUNDATION**

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Brian Rapsey and Hamish Cairns