



lotus outreach australia
education-opportunity-action



**Preventing child labour and trafficking in Cambodia
by enabling education and helping change lives.**

ANNUAL REPORT 2018



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Lotus Outreach Australia Overview 2018

Lotus Outreach Australia is a Not-For-Profit organisation. Our mission is to ensure the education, health, and safety of the most marginalised and exploited women and children in Cambodia. Guided by the **UN's Millennium Development Goals** regarding extreme poverty, universal education, gender equality and empowerment of women, we advocate for the human rights of these women and children by providing educational access and opportunities.



What We Do

We work from the basis that prevention is better than cure. In partnership with respected Cambodian Government registered NGOs, we identify girls at risk of the worst forms of child labour and trafficking. Our intervention provides educational opportunities through our **Girls' Access to Education (GATE)** scholarships program.

Our Projects

GATE is a highly successful program, seeing girls from the very poorest families access and succeed at high school before going onto vocational training or to university, or finding meaningful employment. Our projects focus on sustainable change for families and communities through the education of their girls.

By supporting families in dire poverty to become self-sufficient, we create the possibility of an alternative future for these girls and change the potential opportunities for whole communities and future generations.

Our programs provide:

- Scholarships, uniforms, school supplies, bikes to transport to school as well as healthcare for up to 100 at-risk girls
- Nutritional support for families in dire poverty. This has been shown to lessen the pressure on families to put their girls into child labour in order to feed their families - which tragically often leads on to sex trafficking.
- Advocacy, in association with the **Cambodian Women's Crisis Centre (CWCC)**, to inform the community of the dangers and brutality of trafficking, the importance of human and child rights, and the immense value of girls' education to their families in terms of gaining employment and future economic opportunities



Our Outcomes

Lotus Outreach Australia continues to support approximately 100 girls in Cambodia, keeping them in school where they are not only receiving an education, but also remaining protected from the dangers of child labour and exploitation.

Lotus Outreach Australia works alongside our In-Country partner Cambodian Women's Crisis Centre (CWCC) who in turn work with Local Education Working Groups (teachers, principals and community leaders). Thanks to this kind of partnership, this allows us to keep both monitoring and having regular meetings with students and their families' which means that the girls attend school consistently and achieve the grades required to progress and graduate.

In 2018, the GATE program:

- Provided books, uniforms and stationary to all scholarship students
- Provided rice support to many of the poorest scholarship students
- Referred students for extra health care beyond the general health screening
- Supported fees for extra classes (private tuition) for all scholarship recipients
- Provided computer training for older students
- Provided new bicycles to new students and those needing replacements
- Provided maintenance kits and funds for maintenance for bicycles
- Facilitated workshops to review the GATE recipients perceptions of the program, their challenges and how they can be better supported
- Held group meetings for GATE scholarship girls to encourage and motivate them
- Saw several GATE girls graduate class 12 and move onto tertiary education, while others have enrolled in vocational training or secured good jobs.

Our Status

We are:

- A registered charity with Australian Charities and Not for Profits Commission (ACNC).
- Incorporated as a Registered Charity with NSW Department of Fair Trading 2004.
- A fundraising authority with NSW Office of Liquor, Gaming and Racing.
- An affiliate of eight Lotus Outreach organisations globally, originally founded by renowned teacher and film-maker Khyentse Norbu Rinpoche. Lotus Outreach Australia programs are managed under our own direction and funding,
- A successful, effective organisation with strong governance and proven programs.



We have:

- An ABN, plus charity tax concessions with the Australian Tax Office.
- Tax deductibility through our OAGD status recognized by the Department of Foreign Affairs and the Australian Tax office.



Letter From Our President

2018 – A Year in review

What motivates us at Lotus Outreach Australia, is the desire to prevent sex trafficking and to alleviate dire poverty. It is well established now that the ONE most effective way to do this is to get vulnerable girls from very poor backgrounds into school.

But not only that, we need to see the girls *successfully* educated.



This means that they graduate from high school and are guided into appropriate vocational training. For many years we can say that the GATE program funded by LOA has been a great success story, with a large majority of our scholarship recipients graduating and receiving further vocational training and finding meaningful employment. The impact on their families and communities is vast.

To continue to ensure this success we have had to make some changes to the way we support the GATE program. Last year we reported the discovery that teachers in many public schools had been demanding extra payments from students for tuition of the entire curriculum. We became aware of this only when the percentage of Year 12 GATE girls passing National Exams was falling relative to national averages. Historically girls supported by LOA have achieved a graduation rate significantly higher than the national average, because they were so highly motivated.

Unfortunately, despite negotiations carried out with principals of the schools and requests to the teachers to allow the GATE scholarship students to attend these extra classes free of charge, the practice continued unchanged. The payment the teachers demand is not insignificant (\$10 per subject per month) and is well beyond the reach of the GATE scholarship students. Sadly the pass rate for Year 12 GATE girls in 2018 was not as high as in previous years before this questionable practice of withholding curriculum started.

Further negotiations carried out by our partner NGO with the principals of the high schools have allowed us to find a compromise path that will ensure the scholarship girls receive appropriate and full tuition.

This means that LOA will pay an extra tuition fee (based on an amount of \$5 per subject per month) that will allow the girls to attend the classes that cover the entire curriculum that is tested in the National exams. This increases the cost of the GATE scholarship program to US\$500 per girl per year. Girls will still be provided with bikes, uniforms and books as well as support and guidance from our partner NGO. Additionally the poorest families will still receive rice supplies via our Cambodian office (LOCAM).



The LOA girls who failed to graduate last year, have nearly all either enrolled in further vocational training or found good jobs.

We will continue to ensure that the investment we make in these girls' educations is translated into the most appropriate form of training or employment so that they are in the best possible position to benefit their families and communities as well as providing inspiration to other girls from disadvantaged families.

Lotus Outreach Australia, as a very small NGO, punches far above its weight.

Run by a small group of dedicated volunteers it consistently reaches its commitments to its projects and helps to guide their outcomes. LOA has full DGR 1 status with the Australian government, ACNC accreditation and excellent governance. It is supported by 2 corporate sponsors and many individual sponsors and donors, who recognize the impact that small organisations like ours can have, aiding those who fall between the cracks of the support offered by large NGOs or government.

So I would like to end with a personal and heartfelt thank you to all those who support this grass roots charity, and have done so for many years (either with your donations or with your time and skills), one that achieves enormous change in the lives of young girls living in poverty, with relatively modest funding and a vast aspiration to contribute to better conditions for everyone.





Our programs

Girls Access to Education (GATE)

Lotus Outreach Australia provides scholarships to vulnerable at risk Cambodian girls, along with shoes, uniforms and school supplies. Without these items, children are not permitted to attend school. Funding for the GATE Program comes entirely from donations.

The program provides health checks for the girls, and with our Nutritional Support Program, the very poorest families receive 30 kilos of rice each month. Providing rice supports parents to be able to allow their daughters to stay at school instead of having them go out to work to supply family income. The girls then have the energy to attend school and study.

How the girls are chosen

Lotus Outreach Australia works alongside our In-Country partner Cambodian Women's Crisis Centre (CWCC) who in turn liaises with Local Education Working Groups to identify girls most at risk in our target communities and offer them scholarships to attend school. Both monitoring and regularly meeting with students and their families means that the girls are encouraged to attend school consistently and achieve their grades.

Working with the Community

We underpin this by helping to run Community Education Sessions on Human Rights issues: the value to families and communities of educating girls: and the consequences of trafficking, domestic violence, and child rights.

Real, positive outcomes

Less than 36% of girls in Cambodia are enrolled in high school. Of this group there is only a 44% attendance rate. Lotus Outreach Australia is committed to increasing this number. Lotus Outreach Australia programs, like Girls' Access to Education (GATE), provide scholarships in order to enable hundreds of at-risk girls to finish their schooling. Girls, whose parents are illiterate, are becoming the first high school graduates in their families. Mothers are coming forward to tell us how important schooling is for their daughters. Many of the girls are starting to see themselves in a new light - focusing on graduating, going on to further education and a good job, and in turn making sure that their siblings and future children will be educated and independent too.



Chansocheata was worried about her exams but LOA made sure she had a lot of choices after school. She has now moved to Siem Reap to learn front of house skills in a hospitality training program.



Lotus Pedals

Lotus Pedals provides heavy terrain bicycles to rural Cambodian girls that would not otherwise be able to traverse the considerable distance to the nearest school.

Lack of transport prevents many girls getting to school. Some girls walk up to 8kms to school in the early dawn, or after dark, with a real risk of being assaulted or even kidnapped. Providing girls with a bicycle and repair kit ensures girls in rural areas have the means to attend school. It also reduces travel time, so girls have more time to study.

Lotus Pedals is supported by Lotus Outreach Cambodia (LOCAM).

Srov lives 12 km's from her high school. Her mum worried that she could be attacked or kidnapped on the way to school, so she refused to let her go to school. Her school notified CWCC, who provided individual counselling to Srov, and worked with her parents to understand the situation. In the end, Srov was provided with a bike, which meant she could travel to and from school in the light, reducing the dangers associated with her long route home in a rural area. Srov can now attend school every day and her mother is no longer fearful for her daughter's wellbeing.



Nutrition Support



When children go to school hungry, they have trouble learning. Hunger is a real barrier to effective education. Hunger also causes girls to miss school altogether. Many of our girls report skipping school to help their parents work simply so they can afford rice to feed the family.

The nutritional support program provides the poorest girls with a monthly allocation of rice. Occasionally families are added to the rice support program as a last attempt to prevent drop-out. Often the provision of rice to a family is the only thing convincing parents to keep their girls in school – they fear losing that support if their daughter drops out of the GATE program.

The nutritional support program is supported by Lotus Outreach Cambodia (LOCAM).



Catalyst with our affiliate Lotus Outreach Cambodia

Creating Brighter Futures

Lotus Outreach Australia and Lotus Outreach International recognise the need to provide the girls in our GATE program with the best possible chance of further education and training once they have finished school. This is needed in order to secure good jobs, build meaningful lives and foster economic opportunity. Many of the girls in Lotus Outreach Australia's GATE program have graduated or are preparing to graduate high school. These girls don't have anything like the same advantages as those from affluent middle class families. Yet they will still be competing with those more advantaged students for a place at University or tertiary training in vocational colleges.

The **Catalyst Program** is implemented by our affiliate Lotus Outreach International to help Lotus high school graduates gain access to university or vocational training, and find accommodation. Catalyst also seeks out vocational opportunities that suit the girls' individual needs. Girls in Catalyst are encouraged to 'give back' by helping their communities during their holidays.

Most of our LOA graduates go on to do some sort of graduate training, with the help of financial support from LOA or LOI. Putheary, in the photo to the right, is one of our students who recently finished class 12. She is now supported through Catalyst to study hairdressing and beautician treatments at Happy Chandara, an NGO run training centre. At the same time as learning such skills, Putheary is also studying English, French and IT, along with business management skills so that she will one day be able to run her own salon. Lotus Outreach Australia is looking at ways to find extra funding to cover all our GATE girls for Catalyst so that our girls can find well paid jobs, and be in a position not only to be of help to their families, but perhaps also to help the other little girls in their communities needing assistance to stay at school.





Case studies

Sokleang

Sokleang, her mother, father and her four siblings live together in a house made from materials they have collected over the years. Despite the effort they have put into their home it is now under threat. The landlord wants to build on the land and has given them only a month to leave. They have to take their house with them, but so far have nowhere to go.

This is a common story for those living in one of the communities we support, as the expanding city forces the poorest families to move further afield.

For Sokleang, in class 10, she now has the serious worry of whether she will be able to continue school. A move to another location may mean new school admission fees, which her family just doesn't have. She is considering leaving school and joining a garment factory with her sister, who forged her birth certificate so she could start working underage.



LOA doesn't want this to happen – Sokleang is one of our brightest and most hard working students, and has so much motivation for succeeding at school. With consistent monitoring and contact, no matter where her family has to relocate to, she will continue to be supported by LOA.

Sokleang wants to be an English teacher when she finishes school. We want to ensure she gets there.





Pov Kim

Pov Kim is a GATE student in high school. She is the oldest of 8 siblings, all living with their mum. Her dad is a day labourer, taking work where available and is currently clearing grass from farming land, and lives a long distance away from the family.

Around 10 years ago, the family was living in a small hut on some land in a village. They were acting as the guard because the owner lived away in the city. They built their own house and lived rent-free. One morning, mum was out working on the land when her daughters decided to make kites from plastic bags. In the hope that they would fly well, they made incense offerings in the family's ancestor house (a little prayer house that most families have in front of their homes).



While they were flying the kites, the incense fell and their home burnt down – they lost everything. At this point they decided to move closer to the city to try to rebuild their lives, however urban life was difficult, work was hard to find and the family found themselves sinking further into poverty.

Now, because of the fire, mum has had a lot of trouble getting birth certificates and identification cards for her younger children, as she no longer has her own documentation. She is particularly worried about her little 5 year old, due to start school next year. The costs involved in travelling to the office and filing for documentation are significant enough that the family doesn't think they can do it.

Luckily for Pov Kim's family, CWCC will be able to support them through this process. This is one example of how a GATE students scholarship can help other children in that girl's family to receive an education. Pov Kim hopes to either join the police or become an engineer when she finishes school. Since she is always in the top 5 in her class, we have high hopes for her achieving her dream.





Fundraising and awareness activities for 2018

City2Surf 2018

Our major fundraising campaign this year was the City2Surf in August, in which Macquarie Group runners Marina and Hugo raised enough funds to help us meet our commitments to the GATE program. On top of this, the Macquarie Group Foundation generously doubled the total raised. A huge thank you to the Macquarie Group Foundation and thank you to the amazing efforts of Marina and Hugo! The Macquarie Group Foundation has been the major corporate supporter of LOA for several years.



SUNDAY, AUGUST 12, 2018

Macquarie Group
Foundation



March	ASX Thompson Reuters
The Thompson Reuters fundraising race day and accompanying ASX raffle was a great success.	
July	Meridan School
The girls of Kent House, Meridan School in Strathfield, Sydney, ran a fundraiser for LOA, raising enough money to keep one girl in school for the next six years!	
October	Good To Give
LOA received some generous donations through the workplace giving platform "good to give", from members of Westpac Bank.	
December	LOA Christmas Cards
LOA sold cards in the lead up to Christmas, worth the value of rice for a month, a bicycle, or a full year's scholarship.	





In country liaison officer report

Cambodia is changing and these changes are so rapid it's hard to keep up.

While it's only been 6 months since my last visit, there is now a train connecting the airport and central Phnom Penh. The "town" has sprawled so far out that parts of it are completely unrecognisable.

For many, this development is a good thing. It's a chance to own a home in the capital, with all the amenities of a city on your doorstep. For girls in the **GATE program** who come from very poor families in what used to be the rural outskirts of Phnom Penh however, it's a different situation.



Why?

Cast your mind back a decade or so. It's around 2008 and Lotus Outreach Australia has just started running the **GATE Phnom Penh program**. We recruited students from the poorest countryside areas out of the city. These were often families who had been displaced from their original homes due to road or water works.



Such forced relocations are a common story in Cambodia. These families were usually granted a small plot of land, just enough for a house, but not enough room to farm their own food.

Most found work in the surrounding rice paddies.

Now the rice paddies are quickly disappearing, as Phnom Penh's growing middle class is spreading out and building new homes. Squashed between the new houses, you can still see the makeshift home of the original community, who have managed to survive the new development. But how long can these families survive for?



As is the case all around the world, with the expansion of the middle class, everything becomes more expensive. School tuition fees have risen, and the cost of groceries and fish, which used to be grown and caught, now take up most of a family's meagre income. And many have lost their earning opportunities.



This year's monitoring visit, in June, was a difficult one for me as In-Country Liaison for LOA, as many of our girls are struggling with the challenges they and their families have been facing.

Teachers have started demanding more money for teaching the whole curriculum – and for girls coming from very poor families this is an impossible condition.

Hence girls are feeling the pressure to drop out of school and find work more and more, and I heard several stories of

siblings of GATE girls who had already given up on their education.

One girl told me her sister had falsified her birth certificate so she could get underage work in a garment factory.

When I hear stories like this, I am strongly reminded of why I volunteer with LOA. These girls are desperate to get an education, and most of the time, their scholarship really is the only thing enabling them to do so.

I had a very interesting meeting with the Principal of one of our schools while I was visiting. We discussed the situation in his community, which looks a lot wealthier than it did 10 years ago. I learnt from him that looks can be deceiving. He believes at least half of his school is living in challenging situations, and has identified many other students who would benefit from support.

This school Principal explained that we are the only NGO working with his school, as many have moved away from the area.

Conversations like this are vital for LOA to help us plan for the development of our programs.

As always it was wonderful to be able to catch up with the girls I have known for years, seeing how well they have progressed – at school, with their families, and in their own ambitions for a fulfilling career. Every visit I come away with a renewed appreciation for this group of motivated, dedicated young women. I look forward to my next visit!





Board and management committee

Jane Lyttleton

President



Jane Lyttleton is an author, teacher and practitioner of Traditional Chinese Medicine (TCM) specializing in gynaecology and infertility. She trained in genetics and biochemistry at the University of London, and studied TCM in Australia and China. She lectures at universities in Sydney and internationally. Jane has long been dedicated to the education and health of women and children. She helped establish Lotus Outreach Australia in 2004 after she and a group of Lotus Outreach members travelled to Thailand and Cambodia meeting local groups working to combat sex trafficking. She continues to visit Cambodia and Lotus Outreach projects regularly.

Anna Harper

Vice President and Lotus Outreach International Liaison



Anna Harper's consulting firm, Cultural Shapeshifters, works with Australian and international businesses and organisations, and with the United Nations. Anna specialises in developing global leaders for the future. She has two Masters degrees: M.Arts in Chaos, Complexity and Creativity, and M.Applied Science, and a Bachelor of Fine Arts, which influence her mission to contribute to making the world more equal, fair and sustainable – this plays into her great commitment to helping at-risk Cambodian girls and their families gain safe, fulfilled and independent lives. Anna was Treasurer for Lotus Outreach Australia from 2004-2012, and sits on the board of Lotus Outreach International.



Kelly Tracey

Fundraising Director and Child Protection Officer



Kelly completed a BA in Dramatic Arts at the Victorian College of the Arts, University of Melbourne, and more recently, a Masters of Teaching at the University of New England. She worked as an actor for the next 12 years in film, television and theatre. A founding member of Ranters Theatre Company, Kelly became Secretary of the Board, managed large-scale fundraising events, designed marketing material and toured as an actor with the company both nationally and internationally. Kelly has travelled extensively throughout Europe and Asia and has witnessed the disparity in many underprivileged communities. Her strong desire to put compassion into action, particularly where young children are at risk, is now being realised through her involvement in Lotus Outreach Australia.

Shona Black

Treasurer and Risk Assessment Officer



Shona trained as a journalist at Wellington Polytechnic and worked in newspapers there for four years. Shona then began her training in complementary therapies in 1987. She was practice manager of a large multi-disciplinary Holistic Medical Centre from 1987 to 1994. Shona began training in Traditional Chinese Medicine and has worked in that field since 1994. Having witnessed firsthand the devastating effect the lack of education has had on Asian girls being trafficked to Australia, Shona is a strong believer in education as the key to a better life for vulnerable young women.

Charlie Cristi

In-Country Liaison, Donor Management and Social Media Officer

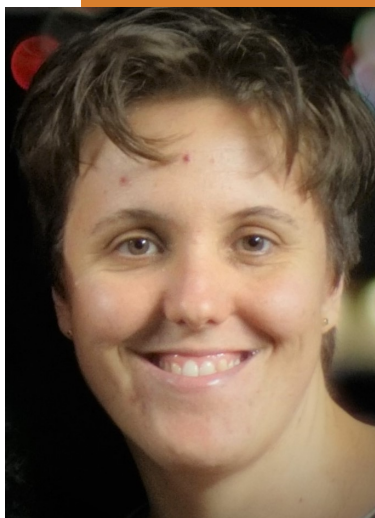


Charlie has lived in Phnom Penh for many years, after spending 2010 as an Australian Youth Ambassador for Development, an AusAID initiative, during which time she helped set up the English Language Program for Lotus Outreach Australia. She subsequently worked closely with LOA and LOCAM as a volunteer, while teaching in an International School. She has gotten to know many of the GATE girls and their families and has been an important mentor for them. Currently she is volunteering with the Ministry of Education in Bhutan, developing Inclusive Education policy and programs for children with disabilities. She visits Cambodia annually to meet with LOCAM, CWCC and the girls. Charlie also serves as a LOCAM Board Member.



Elaine Kelly

Secretary



Elaine was once a researcher and lecturer in Critical and Cultural studies at a number of universities in Sydney. She gained her PhD in 2010 from Macquarie University, Sydney. Elaine has written a book about ethics and climate change called *Dwelling in the Age of Climate Change: the Ethics of Adaptation* published in 2018 (Edinburgh University Press). She has also published in academic journals and on news sites. Her poetry can be found at *Cordite: Poetry Review*. Since leaving academia in 2016 she writes in her spare time while studying to become a psychologist.

Sue-Ann Muller

Social Media



Sue-Ann has worked in the community sector in Sydney developing and delivering recreation programs for families and children. Most recently she worked at the Australian National Maritime Museum and UNICEF Australia. Sue-Ann has a degree in Leisure Studies and has recently studied journalism. She spent a year living in Hyderabad, India and Moshi, Tanzania, which inspired her to use her communication and programming skills to help children in developing countries to survive and thrive.

Alistair Donnelley

Technical Consultant and Media Specialist



Alastair is a mechanical engineer, programmer, and award-winning film-maker. His background in both the arts and sciences expresses itself in a passion for deploying intelligent technology to help people communicate better, and to solve business and societal problems. Alastair contributes to Lotus Outreach Australia's photographic and video content, and helps manage its digital presence.



Phallin Berry

Youth Advocate



Phallin was adopted from Cambodia when she was a baby, and now lives in Brisbane where she is in high school. She advocates strongly for the rights of young girls to have an education and the rights of young people to stay with their family and to choose their future. She is supporting Lotus Outreach Australia's efforts to ensure that vulnerable girls in Cambodia have access to education and a chance to shape their future. Any free time she has she loves to spend with her kittens.

Dolma Gunther

Governance Officer



Dolma Gunther has worked as a lawyer for two small law firms in Sydney and is now working as a Senior Legal Editor for Thomson Reuters. She has a Law degree from Sydney University and an Arts degree in Anthropology from Melbourne University. Her main area of interest is human rights law and international law. She has lived in Europe for eight years and India for over a year. She recently made a short film and is working on a documentary featuring Tibetan refugees living in the Himalayas. She is passionate about human rights issues in global development and is especially interested in helping disadvantaged children in developing countries.

Jan Roberts

Vice President and Strategy Director



Jan Roberts is an Executive Coach to current and emerging business leaders and is the Director of her own coaching practice. Jan draws upon more than 20 years of executive leadership experience in professional services firms and corporates, combined with the evidence-based practices of coaching psychology. Jan was working on a Master of Science in Coaching Psychology at the University of Sydney in 2018 and holds a Bachelor of Arts from the University of Adelaide. Her work with Lotus Outreach Australia taps into Jan's passion for the education and empowerment of women, providing opportunities for some of the world's most marginalised and at risk young women to have access to education as a foundation for building positive and independent lives.



In Country Sub-committee

Raksmey Var

Country Representative, Cambodia



Raksmey volunteered as a teacher and mentor for a youth group providing social services to poor children, where she taught kids about children's rights. While also working as an English teacher at a private school, Raksmey decided she wanted to do more to help children. Raksmey completed her Bachelor of Business Administration degree in Accounting in 2004 at the National University of Management in Cambodia. In 2007, she received her Master's in Gender and Development Studies from the Asian Institute of Technology in Thailand. Raksmey's particular areas of focus include children's education, child and youth mobility and employment, livelihood development, child labor, human trafficking and sexual exploitation.

Pisey Chea

LOCAM Officer



Pisey is from Banteay Meanchey Province, northern Cambodia on the border with Thailand. She was selected into the GATE program when she was in 9th grade and has been supported by Lotus Outreach until the completion of her schooling and degree. In 2016 Pisey started working with CWCC as a community organizing staff member. This project allowed her to work with youth, villagers and local authorities. This experience built her passion for supporting and mentoring children, youth and women. Pisey joined Lotus Outreach Cambodia in March, 2017.



Contact Details

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Instagram: www.instagram.com/lotusoutreachaustralia/

Twitter: www.twitter.com/LotusAustralia

Linkedin: www.linkedin.com/company/lotus-outreach-australia/



Our Affiliates



Lotus Outreach International

Lotus Outreach Australia is proud to be an affiliate of **Lotus Outreach International**, based in California, USA. Lotus Outreach was originally founded by renowned lama and film-maker Norbu Khyentse whose award winning films include 'The Cup' and 'Travellers and Magicians'. He noted a need to give a voice to abused and exploited children in Asia, and helped set up Lotus Outreach as a secular Not for Profit. Today this highly regarded organisation has 8 affiliates worldwide - Australia, USA, Canada, UK, France, Germany, Hong Kong and Taiwan. Between us we enjoy a healthy and productive working rapport that bridges 14 time zones.



Cambodian Women's Crisis Centre (CWCC)

CWCC is a local NGO registered with the Royal Cambodian Government's Ministry of Interior. Its primary purpose is to provide assistance to women and children who are victims of domestic violence, sexual abuse and trafficking, working towards creating equality, peace and development. CWCC works hand in hand with Lotus Outreach International, Lotus Outreach Cambodia, and Lotus Outreach Australia on program needs and implementation, ensuring all projects are effective and culturally attuned.



Cambodian Organization for Children & Development (COCD)

COCD is a local NGO registered with the Royal Cambodian Government's Ministry of Interior. Its vision is for a society where all people are equal, all children are free from abuse, and are protected, cared for, and have their rights respected. COCD aims to improve the welfare of vulnerable children, their families and communities through the implementation of integrated development and empowerment projects. Lotus Outreach Australia has worked with COCD in the building of wells for safe drinking water and for use in growing crops – part of the pursuit of sustainable livelihoods.



Action on Poverty

AOP is an independent secular, non-profit, fully accredited Australian NGO incorporated in NSW. It is a leading agent for poverty alleviation through innovative and appropriate community based development, underpinned by AusAID policy requirements. AOP provides support to Australian Partners involved in sustainable international development programs.

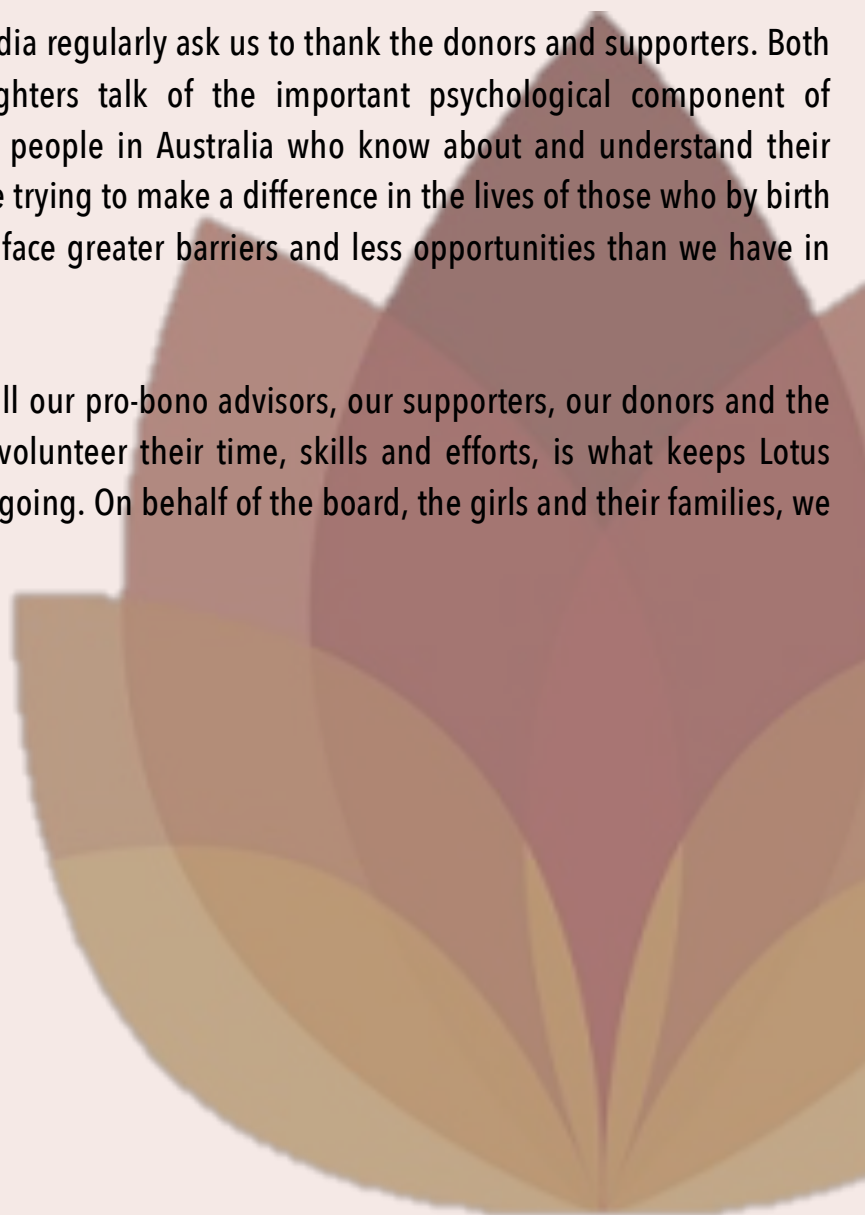


Thank you to our supporters

The pro-bono Board of Lotus Outreach Australia is one part of our organisation. Our Cambodian staff and Partners working with us form another vital part. The girls and the families we serve are naturally the focus of our organisation. And all those who donate to and support Lotus Outreach Australia sustain it. Together we are a small, nimble, highly effective Non Profit Organisation with successful outcomes.

The girls in Cambodia regularly ask us to thank the donors and supporters. Both mothers and daughters talk of the important psychological component of knowing there are people in Australia who know about and understand their plight, and who are trying to make a difference in the lives of those who by birth and circumstances face greater barriers and less opportunities than we have in our own country.

The generosity of all our pro-bono advisors, our supporters, our donors and the many others who volunteer their time, skills and efforts, is what keeps Lotus Outreach Australia going. On behalf of the board, the girls and their families, we thank you.





**lotus outreach
australia**

Lotus Outreach Australia Incorporated

ABN 13 358 876 011

Annual Financial Report

30 June 2018

Lotus Outreach Australia Incorporated
ABN 13 358 876 011

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Lotus Outreach Australia Incorporated
ABN 13 358 876 011

Statement of comprehensive income
For the year ended 30 June 2018

	2018	2017
	\$	\$
Donations and fundraising income	137,952	106,129
Membership fees	-	404
Interest income	794	295
Total revenues	<u>138,746</u>	<u>106,828</u>
Management fees	-	(1,800)
Fundraising costs	(23,122)	(12,216)
Consultants expenses	(982)	(584)
Bank charges	(3,260)	(2,793)
Other expenses	(2,915)	(3,290)
Total expenses	<u>(30,278)</u>	<u>(20,683)</u>
Net surplus before payments to beneficiaries	108,469	86,145
Funds provided to beneficiaries	-	(71,180)
Net surplus for the year	<u>108,469</u>	<u>14,965</u>

The Statement of Comprehensive Income is to be read in conjunction with the notes to the financial statements set out on page 5 to 7.

Lotus Outreach Australia Incorporated
ABN 13 358 876 011

Statement of changes in funds
For the year ended 30 June 2018

	Accumulated funds \$	Total funds \$
Opening balance 1 July 2016	133,350	133,350
Net surplus for the year	14,965	14,965
Closing balance 30 June 2017	148,315	148,315
Opening balance 1 July 2017	148,315	148,315
Net surplus for the year	108,469	108,469
Closing balance 30 June 2018	256,784	256,784

The Statement of Changes in Funds is to be read in conjunction with the notes to the financial statements set out on page 5 to 7.

Lotus Outreach Australia Incorporated
ABN 13 358 876 011

Statement of financial position
As at 30 June 2018

	Note	2018 \$	2017 \$
Assets			
Cash and cash equivalents	5(a)	256,784	88,721
Other assets	3	-	59,594
Total current assets		<u>256,784</u>	<u>148,315</u>
Total non-current assets		<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Total assets		<u>256,784</u>	<u>148,315</u>
Liabilities			
Trade and other creditors	4	-	-
Total current liabilities		<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Total non-current liabilities		<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Total liabilities		<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Net assets		<u>256,784</u>	<u>148,315</u>
Funds			
Accumulated funds		<u>256,784</u>	<u>148,315</u>
Total funds		<u>256,784</u>	<u>148,315</u>

The Statement of Financial Position is to be read in conjunction with the notes to the financial statements set out on page 5 to 7.

Lotus Outreach Australia Incorporated
ABN 13 358 876 011

Statement of cash flows
For the year ended 30 June 2018

	Note	2018 \$	2017 \$
Cash flows from operating activities			
Cash receipts from donations and fundraising		95,157	65,156
Cash payments to suppliers		(30,278)	(18,883)
Interest received		794	295
Net cash from operating activities	4(b)	<u>65,673</u>	<u>46,568</u>
Cash flows from investing activities			
Transfer to term deposits		<u>102,390</u>	<u>-</u>
Net cash from investing activities		<u>102,390</u>	<u>-</u>
Cash flows from financing activities			
Net cash from financing activities		<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Net increase in cash and cash equivalents		168,063	46,568
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of the year	4(a)	<u>88,721</u>	<u>42,153</u>
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year	4(a)	<u>256,784</u>	<u>88,721</u>

The Statement of Cash Flows is to be read in conjunction with the notes to the financial statements set out on page 5 to 7.

Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 30 June 2018

1. Basis of preparation

a) Non-reporting entity

Lotus Outreach Australia Incorporated (the “Association”) is an association incorporated in New South Wales, Australia, under the *Associations Incorporation Act 2009* and undertakes fundraising activities in New South Wales, Australia, under a licence issued by the New South Wales Department of Fair Trading under the *Charitable Fundraising (NSW) Act 1991*.

The principal activities of the Association are conducting fundraising campaigns, marketing and promotional activities and undertaking all manner of charitable work in order to raise funds for the purpose of supporting the education, health and safety of vulnerable women and children in Cambodia. The Association is a member of the Lotus Outreach International network and partners with the Cambodian Women’s Crisis Centre (“CWCC”) and Cambodian Organization for Children and Development (“COCD”) for local implementation of programs.

In the opinion of the Associations’ Committee Members, the Association is not publicly accountable nor a reporting entity. The financial report of the Association has been drawn up as a special purpose financial report for the use by the Committee and to fulfil the Association’s financial reporting obligations under the Constitution.

b) Basis of accounting

The special purpose financial report has been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the recognition and measurement aspects of all applicable Australian Accounting Standards (“AASBs”) adopted by the Australian Accounting Standards Board (“AASB”) and other authoritative pronouncements of the AASB.

The financial report does not include the disclosure requirements of the following pronouncements having a material effect:

AASB 101	Presentation of Financial Statements
AASB 1048	Interpretation and Application of Standards
AASB 1054	Australian Additional Disclosures

c) Basis of measurement

The financial report is prepared on the historical cost basis.

d) Functional and presentation currency

The financial report is presented in Australian dollars which is also the Association’s functional currency.

e) Use of estimates and judgements

The preparation of financial statements requires management to make judgements, estimates and assumptions that affect the application of policies and the reported amounts of assets, liabilities, income and expenses. Actual results may differ from these estimates.

Estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised and in any future periods affected.

There are no judgements made by management in the application of AASB’s that have significant effect on the financial report or estimates with a significant risk of material adjustment in the next year.

Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 30 June 2018

2. Significant accounting policies

a) Financial instruments

A financial instrument is recognised if the entity becomes a party to the contractual provisions of the instrument. Financial assets are derecognised if the Association's contractual rights to the cash flows from the financial assets expire or if the Association transfers the financial asset to another party without retaining control or substantially all risks and rewards of the asset. Financial liabilities are derecognised if the Association's obligations specified in the contract expire or are discharged or cancelled.

Non-derivative financial instruments comprise investments in equity, trade and other receivables, cash and cash equivalents, loans and borrowings, and trade and other payables. Non-derivative financial instruments are recognised initially at fair value. Subsequent to initial recognition, non-derivative financial instruments are measured as described below.

Other non-derivative financial instruments are measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method, less any impairment losses.

b) Finance income and expenses

Finance income comprises interest income on bank accounts. Interest income is recognised as it accrues in profit or loss, using the effective interest method.

Finance expenses comprise interest expense on borrowings. All borrowing costs are recognised in profit or loss using the effective interest method.

c) Revenue recognition

Revenue is recognised to the extent that it is probable that the economic benefits will flow to the entity and the revenue can be reliably measured. Control of a right to receive the donation is attained, usually evidenced by receipt of cash, or in the case of donations received through the Australia Foundation for Peoples of Asia and the Pacific ("AFAP") account when those funds are credited. The AFAP account is not considered "cash or cash equivalent" and accordingly donations received and payments made from that account are not included in the statement of cash flows.

d) Income tax

The Association has been registered under the provisions of the *Charitable Fundraising (NSW) Act 1991* and under Subdivision 50-B of the *Income Tax Assessment Act 1997*, it is an income tax exempt charitable entity.

3. Other assets

	2018 \$	2017 \$
Funds in APAF account	-	59,594
	-	59,594

Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 30 June 2018

	2018	2017
	\$	\$
4. Notes to the statement of cash flows		
(a) Cash and cash equivalents		
St George Bank Freedom Business	-	183
St George Bank Cheque Account	-	3,258
St George Bank Relief Fund 1	1,549	2,761
St George Bank Relief Fund 2	152,845	82,519
Bank of South Australia Term Deposit	102,390	-
	<u>256,784</u>	<u>88,721</u>
(b) Reconciliation of cash flows from operating activities		
Surplus for the year	108,469	14,965
Change in assets and liabilities	42,796	31,603
Net cash from operating activities	<u>65,673</u>	<u>46,568</u>

5. Commitments and contingencies

The Association does not have any commitments or contingent liabilities not otherwise disclosed in this report.

6. Subsequent events

There has not arisen in the interval between the end of the financial year and the date of this report any item, transaction or event of a material and unusual nature likely, in the opinion of the Associations' Committee Members, to affect significantly the operations of the Association, the results of those operations, or the state of affairs of the Association, in future financial years.

Lotus Outreach Australia Incorporated
ABN 13 358 876 011

Association's committee members' declaration

In the opinion of the Association's Committee Members of Lotus Outreach Australia Incorporated (the "Association"):

- (a) the Association is not publicly accountable nor a reporting entity;
- (b) the financial statements and notes, set out on pages 1 to 7, are drawn up, in accordance with the basis of preparation and significant accounting policies described in Notes 1 and 2, so as to present fairly the financial position of the Association as at 30 June 2018 and its performance, as represented by the results of its operations and its cash flows, for the financial year ended on that date; and
- (c) there are reasonable grounds to believe that the Association will be able to pay its debts as and when they become due and payable.

Signed in accordance with a resolution of the Associations' Committee Members:

President

Sydney, January 2018