



ANNUAL REPORT

LOTUS OUTREACH AUSTRALIA

2021

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In 2021, 99% of our girls stayed engaged with their schooling despite frequent school closures.

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President's Report

Welcome to the Lotus Outreach Australia (LOA) 2021 Annual Report - we thank you for your interest in our small but highly effective grassroots charity.

Those of you who follow our progress each year will recall that we undertook thorough investigations and consultations in 2019 with all the stakeholders (our Cambodian partner CWCC, the teachers and principals and students at the schools we recruit to, and our Lotus Outreach representatives in PP) and then oversaw an overhaul to some aspects of the GATE PP (Girls Access to Education Phnom Penh) programme to ensure that all our scholarship students were continuing to get the best education opportunities and the most appropriate support possible.



Jane Lyttleton

When the pandemic hit in 2020, schools in Cambodia were closed and the emphasis of our programmes had to change to providing internet access to our scholarship students at their homes and providing support and monitoring of online education.

Unfortunately 2021 was not quite the recovery year we were all hoping for, and schools in Cambodia were once again closed for most of the year. CWCC and their team again did an amazing job of making sure all the GATE PP scholarship students continued with their online studies and were able to attend National exams (although these were delayed until end of Dec).

During this last year, our Lotus Outreach office in Cambodia and in-country partners have continued to research and monitor the changing needs of families living in poverty around the outskirts of Phnom Penh. As a result of recent findings, LOA have expanded recruitment of girls from poor and vulnerable communities to different areas around Phnom Penh, offering scholarships to girls in secondary schools in these areas.

2021 saw the start of a new 3 year MOU with CWCC based on these changing demographics and relationships established with schools in new areas. Dang Kor and Sen Sok is now our main recruitment districts for girls to join the GATE PP programme.

CWCC and their local area working groups (consisting of teachers and village and community leaders) continue to actively seek out families living in extreme poverty and offer scholarships to girls based on their lack of access to education or risk of dropping out of school before graduation.



The MOU also provides for CWCC to cover

- moral and practical support to the scholarship recipients and other assistance such as arranging extra classes outside of school if necessary
- nutritional support to those families of scholarship recipients who are living in abject poverty and therefore most vulnerable to exploitation
- implementation of advocacy programs to encourage the education of girls and educate the public on the dangers and brutality of trafficking.

Vaccinations (with Sinovac) in Phnom Penh are reported to have reached close to 100% coverage for all those above the age of 6 (by Dec 2021) and schools and businesses are reopening.

In Australia, the possibility of holding fund raising events was severely hampered this year due to lockdown restrictions in large parts of the country. However our programmes in Cambodia have been able to continue with the incredible support and the loyalty of our monthly sponsors and other regular donors without whom the GATE girls would not be able to complete their education. We are beyond grateful for their continuing support, even in the face of challenges suffered by many people locally in many parts of Australia.

As so many world leaders recognise now, we need well educated, free thinking, confident women to show leadership in order for real change to happen in the way the world addresses in poverty.

We feel confident that in some small but significant way LOA is contributing to that possibility.

To end this report, I would like to thank members of the Board, who donate their time and energy freely and generously. And once again, to all our supporters whom we hope have some idea of what an amazing impact their donations have on the lives of those we provide for.

We look forward to many more years of contributing to the welfare of highly vulnerable young women who deserve to have meaningful work that allows them to support their communities and show families with young girls that there are alternatives to slave labour and trafficking.



J Lyttleton
President



An overview of LOA

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. LOTUS OUTREACH AUSTRALIA - ANNUAL REPORT 2020 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 around 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



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



Cambodia Liaison Report

Along with the rest of the world, 2021 did not bring the relief we had hoped for, however it did give us the opportunity to build on the lessons learnt the previous year. Despite being unable to visit Cambodia, 2021 saw Lotus Outreach Australia being more connected digitally with our programs in Cambodia than ever before – a development we will be able to keep up in the future and make the most of. The digital connection with our girls will open up many opportunities for improving educational outcomes, and we look forward to working closely with Lotus Outreach Cambodia and Cambodian Women's Crisis Centre to develop this.



Charlie Cristi -
Cambodia liaison officer

On the ground in Cambodia the reality has been very similar to the rest of the world. Ongoing uncertainty and change has meant yet another very disrupted school year, however the Cambodian government was quick to put measures in place to keep students as safe as possible, including a relatively fast vaccine roll out (many of our girls were fully vaccinated before I was!) and great in-school hygiene procedures.

Our improved digital connections with LOCAM has also enabled us to approve extra supports for our girls, such as additional internet funding, and even emergency surgery for a student who unfortunately was in a bad road accident.

I remain hopeful that I will be able to visit Cambodia in person in 2022, it has been too long!



Charlie Cristi



LOA Board



Jane Lyttleton - President

Jane Lyttleton is an author, teacher and practitioner of Traditional Chinese Medicine (TCM). 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, and sits on the Board of NICM at Western Sydney University where she is an Adjunct Fellow. 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 traveled to Thailand and Cambodia meeting local groups working to combat sex trafficking.



Hanna Hegan Ngatai - Vice President

Hanna is of the Ngati Porou tribe in Aotearoa New Zealand. Trained in theatre and the arts, she has worked professionally in the film and television industry before starting her own media agency. Hanna is an experienced strategist and creative thinker, working with international clients to help realise their brand mission. She is passionate about supporting women and started a Female Founders network to help women succeed in business.

She now splits her time between Asia and New Zealand.

In joining LOA, Hanna is focused on protecting young and vulnerable women and helping them not only to thrive but to realise their own innate power and potential.



Madeleine Lawler - Secretary

Madeleine works for the Shire Council in Winton, Queensland. She has had broad ranging career where she has worked for all three sectors, private, non-profit and government. She has a passion for young people, education, mental health and effective public service delivery. She wrote her PhD on social enterprise organisations working with disengaged young people. With her background in management consulting and project management, she has a diverse and flexible skill set to bring to LOA. She has also worked as a lecturer in Victoria in the disciplines of community development, youth work and criminal justice.



LOA Board



Heidi Wu - Treasurer

Heidi is an experienced analyst in Finance, with a history of working in a fast-paced investment bank as well as commercial banks, especially in the Treasure Team.

She also has a strong IT background with many years of experience as a software developer. She holds a master's degree in Law and a bachelor's degree in Computing Science, which brings LOA a variety of expertise. Currently, she works in the public sector in New Zealand. She cares about women's and children's rights and believes that girls' education is the first priority for many countries.



Aniko Papp - Governance Officer

Aniko graduated from UTS with a degree in law and has been practising as a solicitor for over 30 years, being admitted to the NSW Supreme Court and High Court in 1988. She joins LOA after being the deputy Managing Lawyer of NAAFLS, which is an NGO providing legal services to Indigenous clients in NT remote communities, predominately in the field of women's rights, family violence, victims of crime, family law, child protection. Prior to that, Aniko was in private practise in NSW and has experience in almost every aspect of the law.

Aniko has a wide variety on boards supporting women both in Australia and overseas. Aniko is passionate about empowering girls and women through support and education. Aniko was a fundraiser, treasurer and social media person for the Lismore Greens for over 5 years.



Maria Berry - Donor Manager

Maria is a doctor of Chinese medicine and has completed Asian studies in London and China.

While living and working in Asia she and her husband adopted a young girl from a Khmer orphanage. Back home in Australia she and her family are very aware of the privilege that free education, healthcare and other supports offers our children.

Maria wants to offer some of her good fortune to her adopted child's Khmer peers.

She is inspired by what LOA offers its scholarship girls and is moved by the donors who give so generously and graciously.



LOA Board



Charlie Cristi - Cambodia Liaison & Child Protection Officer

Charlie lived in Phnom Penh for many years, after going to Cambodia in 2010 as a volunteer through AUSAID. During this time she helped set up the English Language Program for LOA. She subsequently worked closely with LOA and LO Cambodia as a volunteer, at the same time as working as a teacher of Art and Design at one of the International Schools. She then spent 3 years working with the Ministry of Education in Bhutan, building an inclusive education system, before moving to Wellington, NZ, where she currently works across a number of schools supporting students with additional needs.

Charlie also sits on the board of LOCAM, and her children's school board.



Anna Harper - Lotus Outreach International Liaison

Anna Harper leads her consulting firm, Cultural Shapeshifters, working with Australian and International Businesses and Organisations, and with the UN. She specialises in developing global leaders for the future. She has a B.Fine Arts, M.Arts in Chaos, Complexity and Creativity, and M.Applied Science. Her mission is to contribute to making the world more equal, fairer and sustainable. She is committed to helping at-risk Cambodian girls gain safe, fulfilled and independent lives. Anna was Treasurer for Lotus Outreach Australia from 2004- 2012, and President from 2012 to 2014. She sits on the board of Lotus Outreach International.



LOA Affiliates



Lotus Outreach Cambodia (LOCAM)

LOCAM is registered with the Royal Cambodian Government's Ministry of Interior. LOCAM supports LOA's work by acting as an intermediary between Australia and our implementing partner, CWCC, ensuring immediate monitoring and action year round. LOCAM provides regular reporting and feedback to help LOA maintain effective and appropriate programs.



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 LOI, LOCAM and LOA on program needs and implementation, ensuring all projects are effective and culturally attuned.

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Helping Women Help Themselves



lotus outreach
INTERNATIONAL

Lotus Outreach International (LOI)

LOA is proud to be an affiliate of LOI, based in California, USA. Lotus Outreach was originally founded by renowned lama and film-maker Norbu Khyentse. He noted a need to give a voice to abused and exploited children in Asia. Today this highly regarded organisation has 8 affiliates worldwide - Australia, USA, Canada, UK, France, Germany, Hong Kong and Taiwan.



Contact Details

Australian Business Number: 133 588 760 11

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ON THE WEB:

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Instagram:

www.instagram.com/lotusoutreachaustralia/





lotus outreach australia
education-opportunity-action

Lotus Outreach Australia Incorporated
ABN 13 358 876 011

Annual Financial Report
30 June 2021

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
2021**

	2021	2020
	\$	\$
Donations and fundraising income	86,167	140,110
Interest income	<u>11</u>	<u>80</u>
Total revenues	<u>86,179</u>	<u>140,190</u>
Fundraising costs		-
(7,664) Consultants expenses		(947)
(921)		
Bank charges	(1,927)	(1,289)
Insurance	(2,798)	(2,692)
Other expenses		<u>(144)</u>
<u>(169)</u>		
Total expenses		<u>(5,815)</u>
<u>(12,736)</u>		
Net surplus before payments to beneficiaries	80,364	127,454
Funds provided to beneficiaries	(66,875)	(35,488)
Net surplus / (deficiency) for the year	13,489	91,966

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 2021

	Accumulated funds \$	Total funds \$
Opening balance 1 July 2019	250,346	250,346
Net deficiency for the year	<u>91,966</u>	<u>91,644</u>
Closing balance 30 June 2020	<u>342,312</u>	<u>341,990</u>
Opening balance 1 July 2020	342,312	342,312
Net deficiency for the year	<u>13,489</u>	<u>13,489</u>
Closing balance 30 June 2021	<u>355,801</u>	<u>355,801</u>

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 2021

	Note	2021 \$	2020 \$
Assets			
Cash and cash equivalents	3(a)	229,109	100,109
Total current assets		229,109	100,109
Total non-current assets 242,203		126,692	
Total assets		355, 801	342,312
Liabilities			
Total current liabilities		<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Total non-current liabilities		<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Total liabilities		<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Net assets		355, 801	342,312
Funds			
Accumulated funds		<u>355, 801</u>	<u>342,312</u>
Total funds		355, 801	342,312

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 2021

	Note	2021 \$	2020 \$
Cash flows from operating activities			
Cash receipts from donations and fundraising		86,167	140,110
Cash payments to beneficiaries		(66,875)	(35,488)
Cash payments to suppliers		(5,815)	(12,736)
Interest received		11	80
Net cash from operating activities	3(b)	<u>13,489</u>	<u>91,966</u>
Cash flows from investing activities			
Transfer to term deposits		(129,000)	102,655
Net cash from investing activities		<u>(129,000)</u>	<u>102,655</u>
Cash flows from financing activities			
Net cash from financing activities		<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Net increase in cash and cash equivalents		13,489	91,966
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of the year	3(a)	<u>355,801</u>	<u>250,346</u>
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year	3(a)	<u>355,801</u>	<u>342,312</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 2020

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 2021

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.

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.

Lotus Outreach Australia Incorporated
ABN 13 358 876 011

Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 30 June 2021

	2021	2020
	\$	\$
3. Notes to the statement of cash flows		
(a) Cash and cash equivalents		
St George Bank Relief Fund 1	106,630	114,728
St George Bank Relief Fund 2	15,062	127,476
Westpac Community Solutions On	5,000	
Bank of South Australia Term Deposit	229,109	100,109
	<u>355,801</u>	<u>342,312</u>
(b) Reconciliation of cash flows from operating activities		
Surplus / (deficiency) for the year	13,489	91,966
Change in assets and liabilities	-	-
Net cash from operating activities	<u>13,489</u>	<u>91,966</u>

4. Commitments and contingencies

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

5. 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 2019 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

,