

COMPANY ANNUAL REPORT SUMMARY

2017



## 2017 SNAPSHOT

4

Schools assisted in 2 Districts

1,400

People benefited

Building under construction

17

Children sponsored

3

New computer centres installed



Photo (bottom): Two orphans we are sponsoring through our Child Sponsorship Program. They are brothers and became orphans after the death of their mother from cancer in 2016; (next page) panorama of Upper Mustang taken by our CEO who visited a number of schools in the region in 2016. We have been working with children from Upper Mustang and have contributed to the building of their winter school in Pokhara.

# About us

The Logged On Foundation is a development agency dedicated to helping children and community groups in less privileged areas of the world.

Since 2011, Logged On has been working in Nepal with local people, businesses and community groups who share a vision for creating educational opportunities for children.

We have built lasting friendships and trusting relationships that have been founded on an ethos of partnership in community development.

Logged On has benefited over 4,000 individuals in Nepal by working with more than 13 communities through our scholarship, technology and education, earthquake assistance and volunteer teaching programs.

We are committed to the education of children and so our focus has been on supporting schools in their efforts to provide a quality education.

We support women's community groups through our "technology for education and training" program. Women have a key influence on decisions in the family that have a positive effect on the well-being and development of children. Therefore, not only are we committed to the empowerment of women, we also understand that by supporting them we can help create a positive future for their children.

Logged On's key objectives are:

- 1. To work with local communities to help them access the resources, information, skills and technologies they need to provide educational opportunities and educational infrastructure to their children.
- 2. Provide education and community empowerment programs that impact on the welfare of children and their families.

### Activities include:

- 1. Teacher training and providing educational aids and resources to schools.
- 2. Scholarships and sponsorships for children.
- 3. Training and community capacity building programs.
- 4. School construction and infrastructure programs.
- 5. Establishing computer centres and using technology to: empower teachers and students; help build communities; promote change; and foster the development of '21st century skills' for transformative and sustainable educational programs for children and their families.



## From the Board

This year we saw the development of new partnerships and the completion of no less than five new projects. The projects include the partial reconstruction of a school that was destroyed in the 2015 earthquake, a water storage solution for a school in a water scarce region, and three new computer centres. These diverse projects were developed with full community cooperation and are a testament to how our organisation can adapt to the needs of Nepali schools while meeting the expectations of our donors.

We developed a partnership with two new organisations and another Australian university has agreed to participate in the Pathways Program, our volunteer program for students and professionals to spend time in the areas where we are working in Nepal. Finally, we have been able to find sponsors for all of the children at the orphanage we are supporting in the Gorkha District.

For a small charity on a small budget, this is a great achievement. Over the years, we have shown our commitment to utilise all of our efforts and resources to ensure the maximum possible benefit for the communities we serve. This would not have been possible without the efforts of our Directors and volunteers in Australia and Nepal.

We are pleased to report that the Logged On Foundation's financial standing is positive and we will position the organisation for an even better future.



A heartfelt 'thank you' to everyone who has supported our work in 2017.

We are very grateful for your compassion, contribution and generosity.

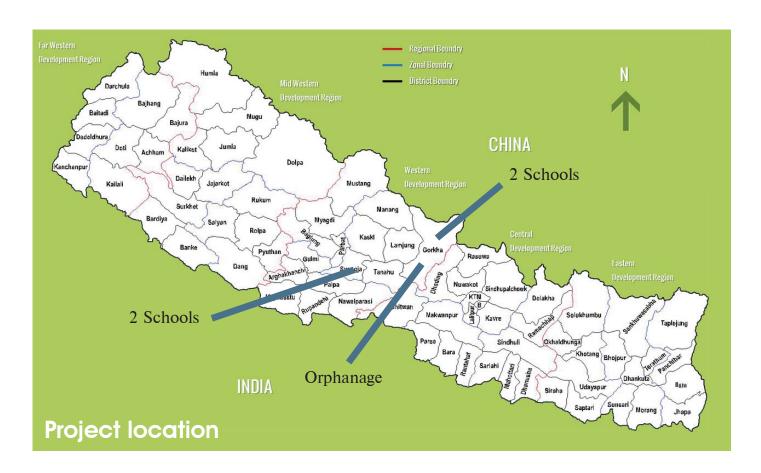
Dr Bruce Mackintosh Chairperson

Mark Pinoli Chief Executive Officer

Photo: children at the Shree Bhumeshwor School, the site of our first project in Nepal.

# Projects

We present the details of our new programs and existing projects where we have made a contribution in the 2016/17 financial year.



# Bal Mandir School & Orphanage

## LOCATION

Chhahare, Gorkha Bazar, Gorkha District

### INSTITUTION

Shree Bal Mandir Secondary School and Orphanage (330 students)

### Water storage & computer centre

With one registered charity for every 444 people in Australia, the task for small charities such as ours to find creative ways of supporting projects in Nepal can be a challenge.

In 2016, Jack Carmody and Russell Tomlin, both WorkSafe Victoria employees and Xtreme Adventures founders, met with our CEO to discuss the our involvement in a Leadership Journey and Trek Program for WorkSafe employees and associates to Mount Everest Base Camp. The discussions were focused on the possibility of including a community assistance project in the Program so participants could experience a deeper engagement with Nepal, its culture and people.

We were able to identify a project at the Shree Bal Mandir School and orphanage to help with water shortage issues. In addition, it was through Russ's and Jack's connections that we were able to secure a donation of 22 Lenovo laptop computers from WorkSafe Victoria. Along with our computers in stock, we were able to install a computer centre at Bal Mandir and in an additional two schools in the Syangja District (discussed later in this report).

Gorkha was the epicentre of the devastating earth-quake that struck Nepal in 2015. The earth-quake seriously damaged Bal Mandir, forcing most of the orphans to sleep in tents provided by UNICEF with children having classes in makeshift tin structures and tents. In addition, there was an increase in the number of orphaned children at the school and they were being forced to live in crammed and unfavourable conditions.

In response, we initiated a Child Sponsorship Program to help support the orphanage. As part of the Sponsorship Program, we have been identifying key education and health issues and initiating projects that create a better living and studying environment for the children.

The disaster disrupted water supplies to the area and the volume of water available during the dry summer months is also problem. The issue is not just with providing safe drinking water, but also the availability of water for personal hygiene. There was therefore an opportunity for members of the group to install a water capture and storage solution on the school grounds to help alleviate the water shortage problem.

The journey began in April and the group, including our CEO, completed the base camp trek over a 12-day period. The group then travelled to the Bal Mandir in the Gorkha District. With the funds raised by the team and the equipment donated from WorkSafe, the three-day project culminated in the installation of a 11,000 litre water storage system and a computer centre at the school which included:

- The installation of two 5,000L tanks, one 1,000L tank, a pump, guttering, pipes and plumbing with electrical work for the pump;
- Installation of a UPS battery backup power system for the computers;
- Installation of power points, electrical grounding and fuse protection to the centre;
- Setting up 10 Lenovo laptops with external keyboards and mice; and
- The purchase of an Epson LED projector for the school.

The WorkSafe group included an electrician and tradespeople who lent their expertise to install the computer centre and the tanks along with a water capture system.

Jack reported that:

by aligning ourselves with our charity partner, we have been presented with the wonderful







Photo (top): Installation of the 10,000 litre tanks at Bal Mandir. (opposite page top) Children and orphans from Bal Mandir during lunch break (bottom): LED projector being used to demonstrate laptops use skills to children in the new computer centre at Bal Mandir.





opportunity to make a difference to the Nepalese community, and more importantly its children, by providing them with more hygienic living conditions and greater prospects for learning. It was an opportunity too good to miss. We left the children in Gorkha in a better position than the one in which we found them. A great sense of achievement was felt by the group. We had done something special and created an experience that will stay with us always.

We are encouraged by the wonderful relationship struck between Xtreme Adventures, WorkSafe and our organisation. This is a good example of how business, government and charity can come together to contribute to meaningful outcomes and make a difference to the lives of children in need.

## Child sponsorship program

Now in its second year, our Program is supporting a growing number of orphaned children at the Bal Mandir Orphanage.

Earlier this year, the CEO reported to sponsors:

I was a little unsettled during my regular visits to the orphanage knowing that some of the children were without a sponsor. Being aware that they have suffered the loss of their parent(s) or abandonment, I felt that all of them should equally enjoy the support of a family who are genuinely interested in their welfare.

We are happy to report that in little over a year we have been able to find families in Australia and Canada to sponsor all of the orphans at Bal Mandir.

The aim of the Sponsorship Program is to work with the orphans and the orphanage to create lasting and meaningful changes by supporting the children through years of schooling and helping to create a healthy and happy community.

Child sponsorship is a rewarding and effective way for donors to help create positive futures for the children. We keep donors in contact with their sponsored child and provide regular progress reports. Not only is the program linking sponsors more closely to the orphan community their donations are helping, the orphans also understand and appreciate that there are families in other countries that are genuinely concerned with their welfare.

Now we are seeking to expand the program to other institutions. We have already identified another orphanage that is helping children who have been rescued from the streets. We have been impressed with the level of care and dedication given to rehabilitating and educating the children, and we think they need support.





Photo (bottom & opposite page): construction efforts for the rebuilding of the Chandra Kala School that was destroyed by the 2015 Nepal earthquake.

## Chandra Kala School rebuilding program

## LOCATION Takumajhalakuribot, Gorkha District

## INSTITUTION **Shree Chandra Kala Lower Secondary** School (300 students)

This year, we were able to commence a new initiative that was born from our disaster assistance work following the 2015 Nepal earthquake, the reconstruction of a school building at the Shree Chandra Kala School in the Gorkha District.

Much of the funding to commence the rebuilding was raised from the screening of our documentary Earth-Q. The documentary is a record of our effort to help seven schools after the earthquake, the impact the disaster has had on rural communities, and the struggles they now face to provide a quality education for their children. We are also grateful to La Trobe University's Nepalese Students Association for their very generous donation for the reconstruction efforts.

The school was completely destroyed in the disaster, and we were able provide immediate assistance to the school by providing a water storage and filtration system and school bags and stationery for 250 students.

In 2016, we were able to secure permission from the Gorkha District Education Office (DEO) to provide further assistance through the reconstruction of a four-room building at the lower level, with capacity to add an upper floor at a later date. The plans used for the reconstruction are for a governmentapproved, earthquake-resistant building. The DEO agreed to monitor the project to ensure that it follows government guidelines, and to audit the project on completion.

So far the building foundations, reinforcement, walls and windows have been completed with floor and concrete roof to be completed in late 2017 to early 2018.

## Computer centres

The second and third computer centres to be installed this year have been recommended to us by our partner the Nepal Rural Information Technology Development Society.

With the remaining 12 donated Lenovo laptops and four computers on hand, we were able to install



computer centres in two schools in the Syangja District. In the previous year, we installed a computer centre at one school and a women's cooperative centre in Syangja bringing the total to four computer centres in this District. We report on the schools and outcomes below.

## Andha Andhi Prakash Secondary School

**Location**: Bichari Chautara, Aathgharey, Andhikhola Rural Municipality, Ward No.3, Syangja District.

Students: 160 | Grades: 1 to 10 **Principal**: Shiva Prasad Sharma

**Teacher Profile**: 14 teachers and one computer

teacher for English medium.

Additional details: 30% of the children are from traditionally marginalised/indigenous castes and most of the children can't afford much in the way of stationery and school uniforms and normally don't have lunch during the day. They have four poor quality computers and some are not working properly and there is no internet.

**Project:** We installed three laptops with external keyboards and mice, three NUC desktop computers with monitors, and a UPS battery backup power system.

The computers were installed in June and digital literacy training for the teachers will be conducted in the next financial year.

## **Dahathum Secondary School**

**Location**: Bhirkot Municipality, Ward No.2, Dahathum,

Syangja District.

Students: 553 | Grades: 1 to 12

**Principal**: Bed Prasad Aryal

Teacher Profile: 30 teachers, one computer teacher for English medium and one computer teacher for Nepali medium.

Additional details: 60% of the children are from traditionally marginalised/indigenous castes, most of the children can't afford much in the way of stationery and school uniforms.

They have five computers but these are not working properly. They don't have internet but they are looking at Wimax or Lumbini Net as an option for the school.

**Project:** We installed 10 Lenovo laptops with external keyboards and mice and a UPS battery backup power system at this school. The computers were installed in June and digital literacy training for the teachers will be conducted in the next financial year.





## Pathways Program

There were no volunteers participating in this year's Pathways Program. Because of the 2015 earthquake, volunteer participation and tourism in Nepal in general took a substantial down-turn. Numbers are starting to rerurn to normal levels at the time of writing.

We have been busy preparing for the future with the signing of an agreement with La Trobe University to provide their students with opportunities for professional experience in Nepal.

The agreement, signed earlier this year by Professor Betty Leask, Acting Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic) at La Trobe University and Mark Pinoli, our CEO, started a five-year cooperation that focuses on placing pre-service teachers in schools in Nepal.

The Australian Government recognises the importance of supporting young Australians to develop their knowledge of our region and a greater regional focus in their academic and career aspirations. In 2017, the Government's New Colombo Plan has provided grants for more than more than 7,400 students to take up internships in countries throughout the Indo-Pacific region. Some of those grants support student placements in Nepal.

We are currently collaborating with three Australian universities and in discussion with other universities on the possibility of joining our Program. The Pathways Program, now in its sixth year, is helping to address some of the needs of local communities in Nepal while at the same time broadening the knowledge of participants on development, cultural and educa-



Photo (previous page & bottom): Installation of the new computers in the Syangja District. (top) The signing of the agreement by Professor Betty Leask, Acting Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic) at La Trobe University and Mark Pinoli, CEO of the Logaed On Foundation.

tion issues in our region.

We are keen to work with our new partner, La Trobe University, to assist participants to develop a broader range of teaching and learning approaches, and an appreciation of different cultural perspectives and local realities on education.



## Other successes

CHUNNUP WINTER SCHOOL: we have supported a group of children from the Upper Mustang area of Nepal. In 2015, we provided \$5,000 to help in the construction of a new school near Pokhara. We are happy to report that they have completed the building of the school. Our funding was modest with a Korean organisation donating a substantial amount to finish the building. Our contribution will be acknowledged on a plaque that will be placed on the building in 2018.

## Key people in 2017

We would like to thank our donors and sponsors, and the businesses who contributed to the projects. We would also like thank the following people who freely gave their time to help us fulfil our development objectives in Nepal and Australia.



**Sudip Aryal**Director on the Board of Directors & In-country Director



**Sital Muskey** Gorkha District Coordinator



**Anjan Tripathi**Community relations



**Chenna Vu** Web Developer



**Michelle Slattery** Strategic initiatives



**Gabriella Olszewski** Fundraising (WA)



**Matthew Jones**Policy and Financial Advisor



**Bev Langdon** Administrative Officer



Ves Raj Bastola
Education & Training
Local volunteer coordinator



**Dr Bruce Mackintosh**Chairperson
Board of Directors



**Michael Broomfield**Director
Board of Directors



**Monica Lamperd** Pathways Program



**Margie Lamperd** Child Sponsorship Program



**Daniel Lombardo**Digital initiatives



Mark Pinoli Chief Executive Officer & Company Secretary





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Photos (cover page): Top photo of our CEO with the Bal Mandir orphans and staff taken during an impact assessment visit to the Gorkha District. (bottom) Grade 7 class studying computer science at the Himalaya School in the Dhital VDC where we donated computers; (this page) The Xtreme Adventures Trek team with our CEO at Everest Base Camp in April 2017. After the trek, the team went on to help the Bal Mandir School by installing a water capture system and computer centre.

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