



The Kokoda Track Foundation

2012 Annual Report



The Kokoda Track Foundation



OUR VISION AND MISSION

The Kokoda Track Foundation is an Australian philanthropic organisation which aims to repay the selfless help given to Australia during WWII by the 'Fuzzy Wuzzy Angels' of Papua New Guinea by helping to improve the lives and futures of their descendants. It does that by assisting with their education and healthcare, by trying to protect their environment, by helping to foster the growth of an eco-friendly trekking and tourism industry from which they can benefit, by working to keep the story of Kokoda alive, and by seeking to identify and foster the next generation of PNG leaders.

OUR WORK IN PNG

Over the years we have supported more than 1,400 students on Fuzzy Wuzzy Angel Scholarships, enabling them to access an otherwise unattainable education; we have provided 40 elementary, primary and high schools with educational resources, curriculum materials, teacher resources, and stationery; we have built multiple classrooms along the Kokoda Track; delivered 80 classrooms worth of school furniture and 100 hospital beds; supported 25 teachers and 10 community health workers to operate the schools and aid posts along the Track; trained over 60 elementary and primary teachers and 14 community health workers for the region; delivered 4,500 solar lights to every adult along the Track; and continued our life-changing work in community development, agriculture and microbusiness in over 40 communities in the region.

CONTACT DETAILS

Office: Level 2, 189 Kent Street Sydney NSW Australia 2000
Post: PO Box 1674 North Sydney NSW Australia 2059
Phone: +61 2 9252 2992
Email: info@kokodatrackfoundation.org
Web: www.kokodatrackfoundation.org

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Chairman's Report

The Foundation commemorated the 70th Anniversary of the Kokoda Campaign with the launch of one of our most ambitious projects: the creation of Kokoda College, a state-of-the-art teacher-training facility to be built near Kokoda.

It highlighted another year of transition and steady growth for the Foundation, which saw us award our 1000th Fuzzy Wuzzy Angel scholarship and graduate 60 elementary and primary school teachers from our teacher-training program, while increasing our team, both in Australia and PNG, to enable us to deliver our increasing portfolio of programs.

Our growth – in both programs and administrative capacity – was consistent with our holistic approach to our work in helping to improve the education, health and livelihoods of the communities living in the Kokoda catchment area and more broadly in PNG.

We are particularly proud of the impact of our Fuzzy Wuzzy Angels Scholarship scheme, which has been a major contributor to the achievement of gender balance in the students attending schools along the Track.

The Fred Archer Leadership Scholarship Program is rapidly establishing itself as a keenly-sought and widely-respected national structure for identifying and fostering the next generation of PNG leaders.

The establishment of Kokoda College will enable us to make a quantum leap in our efforts to address the serious national shortage of elementary and primary teachers and community health workers. It will also provide a platform from which we can implement our longer-term strategies of providing vocational and skills training and a coordinated volunteer program supporting these programs.

We have raised the funds for the initial building stage of the College and we await formal approval on the title of the land donated by the villagers of Kou Kou, near Kokoda Plateau to commerce building the campus.

The fundraising and planning for Kokoda College and the increased levels of sophistication in the programs that the Foundation now delivers have led to a marginal increase in

administrative overheads compared to previous years but we are confident that this proportion will be reduced as the funds we have raised for the College are expended.

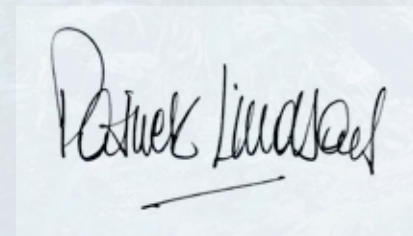
We have substantially extended our funding base and our partnerships during the year, while maintaining our core supporters, many of whom have been with us since the Foundation's journey began ten years ago.

We plan to further expand our administrative capacity in PNG so that we can build on our partnerships with government and corporations there and so that we can more efficiently and cost-effectively deliver our programs on the ground.

My sincere thanks to our Executive Director, Dr Gen Nelson, for her outstanding leadership and vision; to our dedicated staff in Australia and PNG for their tireless efforts; and to our board for its wisdom and guidance.

Our special thanks to all our supporters: you are our lifeblood. Please be assured that your contributions are genuinely changing lives for the better.

We look ahead to 2013 and beyond with excitement and confidence that our programs will continue to improve the lives of the people of our nearest neighbour.



Patrick Lindsay
Chairman



Executive Director's Report

2012 was a significant year for the Kokoda Track Foundation. We commemorated the 70th anniversary of the Kokoda Campaign and we also celebrated 10 years of working in Papua New Guinea and supporting the communities along and around the Kokoda Track. It was a time to reflect on the achievements and learnings that have taken place over the past decade as well as an opportunity to look to the future and lay plans for the next decade of the Foundation's activities in PNG.

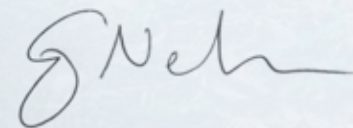
The past year has seen an ongoing and sustained period of growth for the Foundation and we have expanded both our administrative base in Australia as well as our team in PNG. We have continued to invest in children's education and in improving the educational capacities of communities along the Kokoda Track and in the catchment region. In 2012, we awarded our 1,000th Fuzzy Wuzzy Angel scholarship – an initiative that has been enabling children from across the Kokoda Track region to get an education that they otherwise would not have had the opportunity to get. This year also saw us reach the important milestone of training over 60 elementary and primary teachers for the region – many of whom we have posted into the rural schools along the remote Kokoda Track – opening their doors for the very first time. For the first time ever, girls are now attending school in the same ratio as boys; and all children living along the Track now have access to an elementary school that is properly resourced and operated by a paid and qualified teacher.

In our other programs, we continued to improve the health outcomes and general livelihoods of communities across the catchment area by investing in training community health workers, opening and resourcing aid posts, distributing sustainable solar lighting across the entire Track, and fostering skills development, literacy and microbusiness initiatives across the region. As you will read about in this report, we are implementing our long-term strategy to train more community health workers – the cornerstone of the PNG rural health system – nurses, and midwives for our rural communities so that every village in our region has access to quality and affordable primary healthcare. This year we distributed 4,500 solar lights so that every adult living along the Track now has a sustainable source of lighting - literally Lighting Up The Track. This groundbreaking and yet relatively simple technology has had direct implications for our community's education and health outcomes as well as the safety of women and opportunities for social enterprise.

2012 saw significant progress towards our 70th Anniversary flagship project – the creation and construction of the Kokoda College. In partnership with The Trust Company and many other generous donors, we are on track for the construction of the Kokoda College in Kou Kou village in the second half of 2013 and the for the first intake of students in 2014. The Kokoda College will be a state-of-the-art facility offering training for elementary and primary teaching and community health work. The College will have the capacity to graduate enough teachers and health workers for the entire Kokoda catchment region within its first three years of operation – making a significant contribution to the urgent need for these professionals across the Central and Oro Provinces in PNG. Via this groundbreaking initiative our dedicated education and health experts, staff and volunteers are developing new, innovative, curricular for the College's Schools of Education and Health, thereby enabling learning programs and training opportunities of the highest quality and innovation which will be offered via the College.

More than ever before we appreciate the ongoing commitment of our donors, corporate partners, and volunteers. We continue to rely entirely on the generosity of the Australian and PNG business and philanthropic communities and the general public and we are so very appreciative of your ongoing support and assistance. Your contributions are changing lives.

It is with a hopeful outlook that I look to the year ahead with renewed passion and enthusiasm for what we can achieve. By continuing to harness the goodwill of the Australian and PNG communities and the desire of many corporate partners and philanthropists to adopt strategic outlooks and approaches to delivering aid and assistance to our nearest neighbor, there is much to be achieved. Partnerships are powerful and together we can seek real and lasting change and improved outcomes for our friends along the Kokoda Track and in PNG. *They were there for us during our darkest hour... now it's our turn to lend a hand.*



Dr Genevieve Nelson
Executive Director



Our Work in PNG

EDUCATION

Fostering Quality Education for Children

Every child in PNG should have the opportunity to get an affordable and quality education. We believe in creating educational opportunities for all children and since our inception have supported over 1,400 scholarships for children to go to school. In our region, enrollment rates have doubled and girls and boys are now attending school in the same ratio.

Investing in High-Quality Teachers

We know that high quality and committed teachers are vital to improving the educational outcomes of children in PNG. We have developed a state-of-the-art teacher training program and have trained over 60 elementary and primary teachers for the Kokoda Track region. We also fund 25 of these teachers on our salary program and support them through mentoring.

Building Educational Capacity in Communities

Our educational programs are committed to building the capacity of teachers, schools, and communities and work to ensure that schools are properly resourced. This year we have expanded our School Resource and Infrastructure program and have built and resourced vital new classrooms and supported teachers to operate them in the remote Track villages.

Looking to the Future: Kokoda College

There is still a large shortage of elementary and primary teachers across PNG resulting in hundreds of thousands of children missing out on an education. The Kokoda College will be a state-of-the-art teaching facility that will train and support the best quality teachers for the Kokoda catchment region - before widening its scope and producing teachers for the nation.

HEALTH

Investing in Community Health Workers

Community Health Workers are the cornerstone of the PNG rural health system. The Foundation has supported the training of community health workers for the past 5 years. Once the CHWs graduate, they are posted to their home village to operate the aid post or health centre. KTF supported the postings of 8 CHWs and provided ongoing mentoring.

Promoting Healthy Communities

Healthy communities are vital for a healthy society. We believe that every community should have access to primary healthcare that is affordable & within reasonable walking distance. Our investment in community health workers, aid posts, health centres and the Kokoda hospital promotes healthy communities in our region and our Brighten a Smile program is helping villages for the long-term.

Improving Child and Maternal Health

PNG continues to have some of the poorest indicators of child and maternal health of anywhere in the world. Through our investment in community health workers, midwifery mentoring and support, and regular outreach and awareness patrols, women and infants in our region now have free and reliable access, and are seeking access, to quality healthcare.

New Health Landscape: Kokoda College

Despite our efforts to train and post community health workers in our region there is still a severe shortage of these professionals and limited training facilities available nation-wide. Via our Kokoda College initiative, we will offer state-of-the-art training for our remote communities and will graduate significant health workers for the Oro & Central Provinces.

LIVES & LIVELIHOODS

Investing in Agriculture and Food Security

Oro Province in PNG is regularly affected by natural disasters especially flooding and cyclones. Via our food security and agriculture projects we have operated seed multiplication nurseries and distributed improved crops throughout the Province to help communities through disaster periods. We also conducted training with community members on new planting techniques.

Lighting up the Track

Only 7% of Papua New Guineans are connected to the electricity grid and many rural households burn campfires or kerosene for light. The Foundation has distributed 4,500 solar lights to villages along and around the Kokoda Track - children can do their homework after dark, parents can work on small businesses, women are safer and respiratory and health problems are reduced.

Responding to and Preparing for Disasters

Over the past decade the Foundation has responded to six natural disasters in the Oro Province. Working in partnership with the Red Cross PNG, we distributed emergency food, water, medical supplies and shelter to communities in need. Food gardens are often submerged for months at a time and this support is vital. We are now working to help villages prepare for these periods.

Empowering Women and Communities

Via our Pawa Givim Meri program, we are working to empower women's groups along and around the Track. By running small business training, literacy classes, and cooking classes women's groups have established successful businesses along the Track. Via our microlending program, women are now selling and repairing solar lights to earn an additional income.



FOSTERING QUALITY EDUCATION FOR CHILDREN

FUZZY WUZZY ANGEL SCHOLARSHIPS

Since its inception, the Kokoda Track Foundation has supported over 1,400 student scholarships in PNG, releasing families from the enormous financial burden of paying school fees and giving more children access to vital educational opportunities. School fees and project fees continue to be expensive in PNG and our scholarships enable more children to access an education across our region. In 2012, we supported 350 students on Fuzzy Wuzzy Angel scholarships. Our scholarships are based on academic merit and effort, gender equality, and family need. As a result, school enrollments along the Kokoda Track have all significantly increased, more than tripling in some areas, and girls are now attending school in the same ratio as boys.

SCHOOL RESOURCE PROGRAM

Over the past decade, the Foundation has supported schools with the educational resources, curriculum and teacher materials, furniture, and stationery that they need to operate. In 2012, this program supplied thousands of textbooks and library books, stationery items, teacher resources, and furniture to 40 elementary, primary and high schools across the Kokoda Track catchment region which enabled them to remain open and provide quality education to their students. For some schools, the support they received from the Kokoda Track Foundation was the only support they received throughout the year. Schools are able to function as a result of this program and provide high-quality education to children in remote areas.



INVESTING IN HIGH QUALITY TEACHERS

TEACHER TRAINING PROGRAM

Over the years, the Kokoda Track Foundation has invested in the training of elementary and primary teachers across the Kokoda Track region. Due to the extreme shortage of teachers, there are currently around half a million children in PNG who are not attending school. The shortage in our region led us to support bonded-teacher scholarships where teachers must return to their home villages after they graduate to work in the local school. Over the years we have trained more than 60 elementary and primary teachers for the Kokoda region. These teachers are now operating many of the remote schools along the Track and providing a high-quality education to students who, many, for the first time ever are now accessing an education.

TEACHER SALARY INCENTIVES PROGRAM

In addition to our teacher training program, the Foundation also supports the posts of 25 elementary teachers in the remote village schools along and around the Kokoda Track. Via our Teacher Salary Incentives Program we support the salaries of these teachers so that they can dedicate their services to running the village schools rather than having work in their gardens to survive. We also provide them with ongoing training, mentoring, support and opportunities to upgrade their knowledge and qualifications. Without the Foundation's support of these teachers, many of the remote schools along the Track would simply close.



BUILDING EDUCATIONAL CAPACITY IN COMMUNITIES

SCHOOL BUILDINGS PROGRAM

In 2012, the Kokoda Track Foundation scaled up its School Buildings Program and responded to the pressing buildig and infrastructure needs of many of the remote communities along the Track. The Foundation constructed the Alola Elementary School, Naduri Elementary School, Efogi 2 Elementary School and completed one classroom of the Buna Elementary School. This physical support means that our teachers in these remote communities now have permanent classrooms that don't require maintenance or re-building after every wet season. We are continuing to work with villages on a case-by-case scenario.

TEACHER VOLUNTEER PROGRAM

The Foundaton continued to run its Teacher Volunteer Program in 2012 and supported Australian teachers to travel to the remote Kokoda Track communities and assist the Foundation's local teachers. The volunteers provide mentoring support and guidance and run professional development workshops in a range of areas that are tailored to our teachers' needs. Our volunteers add enormous value to the Foundation's elementary teacher training courses and enhance the knowledge and skills of our teacher graduates.



LOOKING TO THE FUTURE: KOKODA COLLEGE & LEADERSHIP

KOKODA COLLEGE: SCHOOL OF EDUCATION

After a decade of working in PNG, the Foundation is now embarking on its biggest project to date: the creation and construction of the Kokoda College. It is currently estimated that PNG is 12,500 teachers short of where it needs to be in order to provide universal primary education. Our region continues to struggle with a severe shortage of teachers and there are not enough training facilities in PNG to train the number required. The Kokoda College will open its doors in 2014 and provide a state-of-the-art learning program for elementary and primary teachers. The College has the capacity to train enough teachers to satisfy the need of the entire Kokoda Track catchment area within its first three years of operations.

ARCHER LEADERS

In 2012, the Foundation continued to run its Archer Leadership Scholarships for the second year in a row. These scholarships aim to find and foster the next generation of PNG Leaders and we accept applications from tertiary students across PNG. Generously funded by The Trust Company, as trustee of the Fred P. Archer trust, the scholarships support six students on a yearlong, internsive, experiential leadership program. Activities include: support of tuition and boarding fees; educational resource grant; mentoring; community development placement; leadership course; exchange program to Australia; and work experience placements. We are now fostering the Archer alumni and supporting all graduates of the scholarships to continue their leadership journeys.



OUR IMPACT IN EDUCATION

Awarded and supported over 1,400 Fuzzy Wuzzy Angel Scholarships over the past five years, giving children the opportunity to access an education they otherwise would not have

Supplied learning materials, teacher resources, textbooks and library books, furniture, and stationery to 40 elementary, primary and high schools across the Central and Oro Provinces

Trained over 60 elementary and primary teachers for the Kokoda Track catchment area and supported them with regular professional development, mentoring and upskilling opportunities

Developed and tested a state-of-the-art Elementary Teacher Training program in conjunction with the PNG Department of Education which will be ran out of the Kokoda College from 2014

Supported 25 elementary teacher postings in the remote Kokoda Track schools via salary support, mentoring and professional development

Built elementary classrooms in Alola, Naduri, Buna and Efogi 2 villages providing the first permanent classrooms in these remote communities

Our combined education programs in the remote Kokoda Track villages have resulted in a significant increase in school enrollment numbers, gender equality, and attendance and motivation records

Awarded 6 Archer Leadership Scholarships to tertiary students from across PNG and facilitated a yearlong leadership development program that fostered their leadership journeys

Awarded and supported 4 Bisset Medalists at university - our top graduating students from our Fuzzy Wuzzy Angel Scholarship program

Maintenance support for elementary and primary schools throughout the Kokoda Track region

Supported a team of Australian teacher volunteers to undertake placement in Kokoda Track schools



INVESTING IN COMMUNITY HEALTH WORKERS

COMMUNITY HEALTH WORKER TRAINING

Many aid posts and health centres across PNG are currently closed and millions across the nation have no access to basic healthcare. There is also a severe shortage of these professional in our Kokoda catchment region. As a result, for the past 5 years we have supported a number of Kokoda Track residents to train as Community Health Workers. CHWs are the cornerstone of the PNG health system and should be operating out of every village in remote areas like the Kokoda Track. In 2012, we supported the training of a further six CHWs for our region. Trainees undertake a 2.5 year diploma at a School of Nursing and our support includes a mandatory 6 month midwifery component.



COMMUNITY HEALTH WORKER SALARIES

The Foundation supports 8 Community Health Workers to operate the remote aid posts and health centres in the Kokoda Track catchment area. These CHWs run the aid posts at Sogeri, Naoro 1/Manari, Efogi, Naduri/Kagi, Abuari, and Buna. They also run regular patrols including immunisation, health promotion, and pre-natal and neo-natal healthcare patrols for new mothers and their infants. The Foundation provides ongoing supervision and mentoring for its CHWs and ensures that they are well supported to provide the primary healthcare services in their remote locations. As a result, thousands of people across the catchment area now have access to basic healthcare for the first time ever.

PROMOTING HEALTHY COMMUNITIES

AID POST AND HOSPITAL INFRASTRUCTURE & SUPPLIES PROGRAM

Aid posts, health centres and hospitals across our region often go without vital drugs and medical resources that they require to provide basic healthcare to local communities. This year, we continued to support the Kokoda Memorial Hospital and a number of aid posts and health centres throughout our region by delivering vital drugs and medical resources directly to the CHWs and nursing staff in charge. These supplies are sometimes the only resources the aid posts have to operate on. We also work with a number of health facilities in our region and assist them with basic maintenance, repairs, and extensions they need to provide adequate healthcare.



BRIGHTEN A SMILE

2012 saw the beginning of our new "Brighten a Smile" initiative. Our research identified that tooth decay prevalence in our region was at a frightening level - 63% of children aged 6-7 years and 95% of adults reported substantial decay and related health problems. In 2012 the Foundation began its Brighten a Smile initiative and developed a training manual for CHWs and teachers to use in the remote schools along the Track. Then in February 2013 we distributed 6,000 toothbrushes and toothpastes to over 30 villages in the catchment region and we now run daily toothbrushing classes in all of our elementary schools across the region. Children brushing their teeth just once a week will reduce caries by up to 70%.



IMPROVING CHILD & MATERNAL HEALTH

COMMUNITY HEALTH WORKER SUPPORT

Via our Community Health Worker training and salary programs we are ensuring that every village along the Kokoda Track has access to free, quality healthcare. Our CHWs undergo regular training and upskilling and receive ongoing mentoring and support. Our CHWs conduct monthly immunisation patrols to all of their catchment communities as well as maternal health outreach services that ensure expecting and new mothers are provided with access to vital pre-natal and neo-natal healthcare. Via these regular outreach patrols, our CHWs also conduct health education and awareness and encourage expecting mother's to come to the local aid posts in the lead up to and for their delivery. Our eight CHWs provide this support to a catchment area of over 20,000 people.

HEALTH WORKERS VOLUNTEER PROGRAM

As with our education programs, we also support volunteer health professionals to travel to PNG and provide mentoring support for our community health workers. These volunteers make regular trips throughout the year and provide vital training and support in midwifery and maternal health including infant health and wellbeing, breast feeding, nutrition, and wound and infection management. This training and mentoring provides vital moral support and guidance for our CHWs who are manning the remote aid posts along and around the Track.



NEW HEALTH LANDSCAPE: KOKODA COLLEGE

KOKODA COLLEGE: SCHOOL OF HEALTH

Over the past 5 years, the Kokoda Track Foundation has invested significantly in the training of urgently needed Community Health Workers for the Kokoda Track catchment region. Despite these efforts, however, we have struggled to gain the training positions for the number of health workers that are required to meet the needs of our catchment area. The existing training Colleges are full and there simply are not enough spaces available.

In 2014, the Foundation's Kokoda College will open and will train 30 new community health workers every year for the Kokoda catchment region. Our learning program will produce CHWs of the highest quality for the region and the College will train enough CHWs for the immediate catchment region within its first 4 years of operations and can then open its doors and accept applicants from elsewhere in the country. CHWs are urgently needed to operate the remote aid posts across the nation providing basic healthcare to millions of people in need.



OUR IMPACT IN HEALTH

Supported six Community Health Worker training positions at Schools of Nursing throughout PNG on KTF's bonded scholarships

Funded the postings and salaries of eight Community Health Workers to operate aid posts and health centres in the remote Kokoda Track catchment villages providing basic healthcare to many for the very first time

Provided mentoring, support, and ongoing professional development for our Community Health Workers operating the aid posts at Sogeri, Naoro 1, Manari, Efogi 1, Kagi, Naduri, Abuari and Buna

Ran regular immunisation and maternal and infant health outreach patrols to all villages in the aid post catchment areas

Delivered urgently needed drugs and medical supplies to the Kokoda Memorial Hospital and aid posts and health centres across our region

Significantly improved the quality of primary healthcare and accessibility of services along and around the Kokoda Track

Reopened a number of closed aid posts and conducted maintenance work on aid posts in need across our region

Embarked on the Kokoda College initiative and began the development of the high quality Community Health Worker learning program to be run out of the College from 2014

Supported Australian health volunteers to travel to PNG to provide mentoring, guidance and training for our community health workers and health promotion activities in communities



INVESTING IN AGRICULTURE AND FOOD SECURITY

VILLAGE AGRICULTURE AND FOOD SECURITY PROJECT

Many communities in the Oro Province are faced with food security issues after regular natural disasters. Whole communities often go without food after periods of severe flooding and cyclones. The Foundation supports over 30 seed multiplication nurseries throughout the Province and imports improved strains of agriculture to help communities restart their food gardens. Taro, sweet potato, cassava and other fruits and vegetables are grown in our nurseries and distributed to hundreds of villagers in need throughout the Province.

We also run ongoing training with community members across the Province in new planting techniques so that their crops are more likely to withstand periods of flooding. As a result, thousands of villagers across the Province now have regular access to the crops they need to restart their food gardens and to grow crops that will survive the harsh climate. Many of our nurseries have been transitioned into microbusinesses and are distributing their seeds for free but selling their fruits at the market to earn an income to sustain the project.



LIGHTING UP THE TRACK

SOLAR LIGHTING ALONG THE KOKODA TRACK

It is currently estimated that only 7% of Papua New Guineans are connected to the electricity grid. Villagers often have no choice but to burn expensive and unsafe kerosene lamps or camp fires for a source of light.

This year, the Foundation embarked on its exciting Lighting Up The Track initiative and distributed 4,500 solar lights to every adult living along and in the catchment area of the Kokoda Track. The individual solar muscle lights were hand-delivered to more than 35 villages throughout the catchment region providing a sustainable and vital source of light to the remote areas.

The solar lights have already resulted in enormous benefits for the Kokoda Track region including: reduced respiratory and related health issues; children able to do their homework after dark; parents able to work on small businesses at night; and improved physical safety of women.

The Foundation also introduced its new microlending scheme which provides loans of solar lights to women's groups throughout the region who sell them at a profit and repay their loans to the Foundation.



RESPONDING TO AND PREPARING FOR DISASTERS

EMERGENCY FLOOD RELIEF

For the sixth year in a row, the Foundation responded to severe flooding in the Oro Province in December 2012/January 2013. Thousands of villagers were again affected by heavy rains and severe wind, resulting in hundreds of communities having their food gardens completely submerged by water.

The Foundation again partnered with the Red Cross PNG and arranged for an emergency distribution of food, water, shelter, and medical supplies to over 800 households in the affected region. In our direct catchment area, the villages of Buna, Gona, Sanananda, Eiwo and Kumusi were supported during the flooding as well as many other communities further along the coast in Oro Province.

The Foundation works with communities during the emergency period and supports them with the food and water supplies that they need to survive. After the emergency period ceases, we then work with this communities via our Food Security projects to help them re-establish their food gardens and to prepre them for future disaster periods.



EMPOWERING WOMEN AND COMMUNITIES

PAWA GIVIM MERI

This year, the Foundation continued to run and expand its Pawa Givim Meri program. We are now supporting women's groups in eleven communities along and around the Kokoda Track to earn a regular income via microbusiness and microlending initiatives. Via the microbusiness projects we run small business workshops, cooking classes, and literacy training with the women's groups in each community and assist them to establish catering businesses from which they can earn an income from the trekking industry.

This year we also piloted our innovative microlending program where we loaned boxes of solar lights to the women's groups along the Track who then sold the lights to villagers and visitors and made a profit. 100% of the loans were repaid to the Foundation by the women's groups and we are now working with the women on the next distribution of lights.

Women living along the Kokoda Track now have a regular and reliable income stream from their small business operations. They are using their income to support their children's school fees, community activities and to purchase staple items such as soap, oil, and other cooking materials. This is the first time that women along the Track now have a regular source of income.





OUR IMPACT IN LIVES AND LIVELIHOODS

Supported and operated our seed multiplication nurseries and over 30 satellite nurseries across Oro Province

Distributed tens of thousands of seedlings and tubers of improved strains of crops to flood-prone villages across Oro

Responded to emergency flooding across Oro Province and delivered emergency food and water rations to over 800 households

Distributed 4,500 solar lights to every adult living along and around the Kokoda Track

Supported eleven women's groups with microbusiness and microlending initiatives via Pawa Givim Meri

Supported men and women in trades and agriculture projects via our skills training and sustainable livelihoods support

Installed six new eco-toilets in primary schools along the Track via our Krappers for Kokoda project



THE KOKODA SPIRIT AT WORK...

"The parents, school and the Board of Management in Efogi would like to sincerely thank the Kokoda Track Foundation for your mission along the Kokoda Track... many of those benefiting from the scholarships are either orphans or from poor homes. These children are greatly thankful." **Maxford Barnabas, head teacher, Efogi Primary School**

"I want to thank you and the people of Australia for the generous donations to help fund the Kokoda Track Foundation which is able to help students like me to go to school... Both of my parents have died and there is no one to support me in terms of fees all the way. So it is my sincere desire to do well in school so that I can be on scholarship until I finish all my schooling... KTF scholarships is the only way" **Richard Philip, Mont Diamond Secondary School**

"I write to thank you and acknowledge your organization KTF for your wonderful contribution to the health service delivery in this part of the Hiri district especially on and around the famous Kokoda Track. The district is indeed short of man power especially CHWs to serve in some of the very remote communities, which have never had health workers for a long time... thank you to KTF for training and posting CHWs to these remote communities." **Community Health Coordinator, Hiri district, Central Provincial Health Department**

"Thank you to the KTF for re-opening the Buna Aid Post. I am providing vital services to Buna 1 and Buna 2 villages as well as another 10 additional catchment villages in our region. Patients are travelling from far away to seek medical treatment in this village aid post that has never been available to them before now. Myself and my fellow KTF health workers are treating between 50 and 70 patients per day and we do everything we can to keep patients in the village. Some we have to send to Popondetta General Hospital for further treatment. Your support and the support of Australians is saving lives in this village." **Rodney Hart Wakei, KTF Community Health Worker, Buna Village**

"It is not often that students, especially from a country like PNG, get a chance to actually get such a scholarship. It actually gives us a great exposure. Taking us out from our comfort zone, students from PNG graduating from the university to have that kind of experience. They actually go out into the workforce. And the scholarship it really helps us with the field visits and the day placements here with the mentoring...thank you to KTF for giving me a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity that has changed my life." **Jack Kulumbe, KTF Archer Scholar**

"On the behalf of the Edevu school and parents we would like to thank you KTF for the great assistance you are delivering to our students and school. Thank you for your friendly effort to secure funds and sponsors for our school. Your School Resource Program is supplying vital educational materials that we need to keep our doors open and your Fuzzy Wuzzy Angel Scholarships enable children to go to school who otherwise can't afford it." **Timothy Ruhi, head teacher, Edevu Primary School**

"KTF has built our new school in Alola and supports our two teachers to run the school. KTF also delivers school materials to the school and lets us select the materials we need most. Thank you KTF from our community and the children at Alola Elementary School for bringing education into our village up here in the remote villages on the Kokoda Track." **Rosie Nave, KTF teacher, Alola Elementary School**

"All of the last year I haven't received any Government subsidy for my school to help me so I can purchase my learning resources, and then KTF has done a lot for me including my training... I can say a great support has been done for my training... so I would like to thank KTF for that and also because I haven't received any subsidy for the school, but KTF has stepped in provides our education resources and has done a great deed for me which is to help the school to run." **Anthionius Buna, KTF teacher, Ononda Elementary School**



WHAT OUR SUPPORTERS HAVE TO SAY...

"I have considered it a privilege to be able to volunteer on the Kokoda Track with the Kokoda Track Foundation. The KTF provide exceptional support for volunteers, and their networks and contacts on the ground ensure that the experience of working in remote schools is as safe and productive as is possible. Particularly impressive is the response from the local people to the KTF - this speaks of a deep, mutual respect that exists between the KTF and the local people. This respect is fostered by the culturally sensitive manner in which Dr Nelson and her team carry out their projects in the region. Working with the KTF is an honour and I strongly recommend a trip into this beautiful country to work with its beautiful people." **Derek Hughes, volunteer teacher**

"I was lucky enough to join Dr Nelson on her KTF trip to PNG last year. During the week we visited schools and communities along the Kokoda Track where Dr Nelson assessed school scholarships, community health care, community infrastructure development and micro-finance projects for women. As a 21 year old, it was inspiring to watch Dr Nelson's professionalism, compassion and ability to effectively communicate to all of the schools and communities we visited. Something I found particularly inspiring on this trip was how KTF work with community leaders, teachers and other members of the community to address how they can most effectively help. It was amazing to witness the amount of progress and positive change that KTF has made in so many communities. Seeing the positive change and community development progress achieved by the KTF inspired me to do my Masters in International Development, which I am currently undertaking." **Caitlin & Geoff Harris, KTF supporters**

"Being a founding director of the Kokoda Track Foundation provided extraordinary insights into the past decade of our unique work and unrivalled success. Through great empathy, creative thinking and intelligently stretching money and resources the Foundation has achieved the impossible over and over again. Today the Foundation is celebrated at all levels of community and government as the most reliable, cost-effective, corruption-free organisation improving the lives of those living along and beyond the Kokoda Track. With an emphasis on ensuring goods and services delivered are appropriate, continual on-the-track collaboration with local villagers and by diligently monitoring funds and progress in our many programs, the Foundation strategically injects the best help possible into the heart of the PNG people's needs. Our educational programs have already achieved spectacular results. As well as completely revitalising local aspirations for child education in the villages they are producing outstanding individuals of enormous potential throughout the higher education and teaching system. From building our "Kokoda College" to the our "Lighting up the Track" solar lights program (kids can now read in their homes after dark!) future generations are being positively shaped in a very bright way. As Australians proudly know, the Fuzzy Wuzzies and Aussie Diggers collaborated amid the blood and mud to triumph against impossible odds during Australia's darkest days in WW2. At that time none were treated as the heroes they all were. Today the Kokoda Track Foundation honours their sacrifices by helping empower the people of Papua New Guinea in fulfilling aspirations for themselves, their families, their communities and their wonder-filled country."

Yahoo Serious, founding director and movie writer/director/producer/actor



Our Board



Patrick Lindsay
Chairman

Author and documentary maker, Patrick has been a passionate advocate of the story of Kokoda since he first visited the village in 1983 and first walked the Track in 1992. He has written numerous best-selling books including the Spirit of Kokoda, the Spirit of the Digger, the Spirit of Gallipoli and Fromelles. He created the format for the top-rating TV series, In Their Footsteps recently created the Kokoda App to bring the story to the digital generation. Patrick has been chairman since 2006.



Bernie Egan
Director and Honorary Treasurer

Bernie was appointed Honorary Treasurer in 2006 and director in 2009. Bernie developed his passionate interest in PNG and the Track when he walked it with one of his sons in 2006. He spent 35 years with the Reserve Bank of Australia followed by 5 years with APRA. Since 2008 he has consulted to Ernst and Young and Promontory Financial Group and undertook a number of missions with the International Monetary Fund. He is currently a Senior Financial Sector Specialist with the Bank for International Settlements in Basel.



David Frecker
Director

David is a corporate and commercial lawyer and company director based in Sydney, and has worked extensively in PNG. He has been on the board since 2006 and chairs the Finance, Audit & Risk Committee. He is a partner in the national law firm, Ashurst Australia. David is also a director of Kula Gold Limited, a listed company with a gold development project in PNG. David enjoys a range of outdoor activities and has walked the Kokoda Track twice, in 1992 and 2009. He continues to visit PNG periodically.



Yahoo Serious
Director

Yahoo was the first Australian to write, direct, produce and star in a major motion picture and earned an international reputation as one of Australia's most original and successful independent filmmakers. In 1989 he was on the cover of Time magazine. Yahoo studied at the National Art School, was awarded an Honorary Doctorate at Newcastle University and the Celebrated Filmmaker Award from Harvard University for his acclaimed worldwide hit Young Einstein. He is a founding director and has walked the Track 5 times.



Dr Genevieve Nelson
Executive Director

Founding director and executive director, Genevieve has extensive experience working and living in PNG. She completed her doctorate in PNG examining the influences of student achievement for PNG children. Genevieve is an adjunct Research Fellow with the University of Western Sydney and a psychologist. She has walked the Track 18 times and spends 2-3 months of every year in the remote communities implementing and monitoring KTF's programs. Gen was a finalist in the 2012 Young Australian of Year and Telstra Business Women's Awards.



Elizabeth Carr
Director

Elizabeth's focus is the inter-dependence of the private and public sectors in order to enrich the economic and social fabric of Australia and its role in the international community. She has a Masters Degree from Harvard University and is an expert in governance, accountability, and strategic policy. She is the Chair of the Macular Degeneration Foundation and holds board positions with Environmental Protection Authority, Safety, Return to Work and Support Board, Kambala School for Girls, and a Fellow of the AICD. She walked the Track in 2009.



Graeme Carroll
Director

Graeme is the Chief Executive Office of the RSL & Services Clubs Association and has held this position for 10 years. He has an extensive background in the development of industry codes of practice and compliance, event organization and journalism. A major corporate social responsibility project of the Association is the Kokoda Youth Leadership Challenge through which clubs sponsor young people on life changing treks retracing the footsteps of our diggers. The Association also oversees Operation CARE which supports soldiers wounded in overseas conflicts.



Peter Thomas
Director

Peter is a chartered accountant, company director and business adviser based in Sydney. He has been on the board of the Foundation since its inception and is a member of the Finance, Risk & Audit Committee. He is a principal in TFG International Pty Limited, a consulting and advisory firm and also holds a range of board positions with government and non-government organisations across Australia including Foundation for Alcohol Research & Education, Australian Renewable Energy Agency, Bluearth Institute and Catholic Care. Peter walked the Track in 2002.



Professor Stephen Wearing
Director

Stephen is an Associate Professor at the University of Technology, Sydney and is an expert in sustainable tourism. Stephen specializes in the social sciences in natural resource management. His research and publications range across the areas of resource management to the sociology of leisure and tourism. Stephen has served as chair and advisor to Youth Challenge Australia for 18 years and walked the Kokoda Track in 2006. He has also taught as a visiting fellow at Wageningen University in the Netherlands, Newcastle University and Macquarie University in Australia.



Salman Haq
Honorary Secretary

Salman has been the Foundation's Honorary Secretary since 2006. Salman is a fellow of the Institute of Chartered Secretaries, a member of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in Australia, and a fellow of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales. Salman's career spans over 20 years including positions with Touche Ross & Co and Goodman Fielder LTD. Salman visited Kokoda village with the Kokoda Track Foundation in 2008.

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The Kokoda Track Foundation would like to acknowledge and thank our partners and supporters for their commitment to helping us keep the spirit of Kokoda alive this year.

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They were there for us in our darkest hour...

...now it's our turn to lend a hand

The Kokoda Track Foundation

