

Annual Report – TOS Australia

We are often asked by our national groups around the world for ideas for projects, activities and fundraising. The TOS Australia is one of our most vibrant groups. We share their annual report here as a source of ideas particularly for our smaller and newer TOS National groups. We thank Jean Carroll, Coordinator of the TOS in Australia for her clear and comprehensive report.

TOS Australia, National Coordinator's Report, 01 Sept. 2015 – 31 Aug. 2016

It is with pleasure that I present this report of our TOS activities for the period 01 September 2015 – 31 August 2016.

Like Madame Blavatsky, our late founder, Annie Besant, saw altruism as essential to living a spiritual life. This is evident as I review our year and see how our groups are helping those less fortunate, both here in Australia and internationally.

All groups across our vast land have continued to implement the key points from our Five Year Plan, i.e. building closer ties within our local communities and our theosophical lodges. Some of our groups are now featured in lodge programming, whilst service at a community level strengthens an awareness of the wisdom teachings.



Jean Carroll, National Coordinator TOS Australia

In addition to working and donating within their local communities, our groups have been keen contributors to our international projects. A total of \$16,080 (US\$11,500) was transferred for the year as follows:

- Four Qandeel Home Schools TOS Pakistan \$4,400 + 31 Scholarships \$4,650
- The Golden Link College, the Philippines \$3,020. This amount is generously matched by the Kern Foundation through TOS in the USA.
- Adyar Social Welfare Projects:
 - Animal Welfare Dispensary \$1,000
 - HPB Hostel for Boys \$260
 - Educational support for Olcott School \$2,000
- Assam Mobility Aids Project \$750



The TOS in Pakistan is again giving seminars to benefit its members and the public.

The TOS in Islamabad is one of our key international beneficiaries. In addition to the home schools we are able to support 31 scholarships annually with the help of our financial managers, Maple Brown Abbot, TOS Canberra and TOS Brisbane. TOS National has been supporting these two projects for just over ten years. Mr Mushtaq Jindani has supplied inspiring reports on the success of students. We have also received encouraging news that after a lapse of some years because of political circumstances, workshops

have recommenced in Karachi. This year there have been two such events and we congratulate the team for the light they are sharing in raising consciousness.

In October 2015 TOS National organised a tour to the sacred sites of Cambodia. I am pleased to report it was an amazing trip, with such a strong sense of compassion and caring amongst the 21 participants – theosophy in action. Our TOS raised \$675 from this tour towards the national projects abovementioned.

Three newsletters were once again published in 2016 and distributed to a total of 180 electronically and 30 by hard copy.



Australian TOS tour visited villages in Cambodia via ox cart.

My sincere thanks to our treasurer, Carolyn Harrod and her husband Geoff, our webmaster, who have both been facing serious health challenges this year. You inspire us all in your willingness to serve the greater cause. Thanks also to our secretary Travis James, our auditor Donald Fern and to TS headquarters for their inclusiveness at national events. A special thanks to our nine groups and to all whose combined efforts take our world forward.

Jean Carroll,
National TOS Coordinator