



TREASURER'S REPORT

FOR ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The inaugural year for Himalayan Heart Australia was one of learning and education, of trials and yet more trials. With very few members, we were limited in our ability to take on a number of enterprises suggested as fund raising opportunities.

However, we did undertake stalls at Caboolture Markets and at Beachmere Lionesses Markets; with some minor fund raising through the sale of some of our Nepalese jewellery. We did raise money on each of these days but it was only with the considerable help of limited members and their generous donation of time and effort. Needless to say an increase in members would be required to allow attendance at such events to continue.

An increasing percentage of our bank balance has been from donations and we continue to discuss ways in which we can publicise our efforts and increase our member and donation base.

Generous sponsors continue to purchase items from Nepal which we use as stock and sell at our market stalls. Other donors provide us with stock in the way of beautifully presented Nepalese photos made into cards which we again sell at our market stalls. Donations of brickabrack and jumble make up the majority of stock which is also sold at market stalls.

Efforts and endless research to obtain grants were ongoing throughout the year with no success due to our charity dollars being used offshore. Contact continues to be made with Ausaid which appears to be our only hope for funds if and when their criteria can be met.

Opportunities also were investigated through numerous payment options for credit card donations such as Pay Pal, EziDebit and charity fund raising ventures such as Everyday Hero. Costs associated with joining and maintaining such entities, in my opinion and at this time, can outweigh any benefits; and we should continue to encourage donations to be paid or transferred direct into our bank account.

Whilst bigger plans are afoot in the coming six months to hold various functions to promote our charity, and endeavour to increase our membership base and overall community awareness, we still need to consider market stalls as a good source of regular income. Larger events may be an opportunity to make more money but they also come at a greater risk considering the larger cash outlay and increased effort by limited numbers of volunteers. This is a juggling act which should be closely monitored to ensure perceived gains do not outweigh outlays in money, effort and volunteer enthusiasm.

To all those members who worked on stalls, organised donations of stock and saleable items, spoke to people and encouraged them to donate their items or their dollars and who donated their time and their effort in any way, as Treasurer and a member of HHA, a heartfelt thank you. Our year end funds may only be small but it is a positive figure and, as such, it is a positive achievement and you should be very proud of yourself and your efforts.

Onward to bigger and better things next year ...