





The  
Reading  
Seed



Registered Australian Charity  
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The beautiful thing about learning, is that nobody can take it away from you.

B.B.King



## A YEAR OF GROWTH FOR THE READING SEED

To our wonderful supporters and friends,

What an amazing year The Reading Seed has had and definitely a year of growth for us in so many aspects.

Our Remedial Teaching Project continued with tutoring for 7 students living in The Village of Joy in South Africa. This is having some very positive results with the children involved. We have changed tutoring agencies due to costs and are currently using Saving Grace Junior Tutors, whom we are very happy with. The founder and tutor, Damilola is great with the children, keeps great communication with us and is making improvements.

The Further Studies Project saw Siphokazi complete her studies and international exam at the end of 2016 and gain full time employment. A MAJOR SUCCESS for this project as she is the first recipient of this project to finish and obtain work.

In January a student at The Village of Joy, Lungile became the next recipient for this project. Passionate about fashion she started a fashion course. She was doing extremely well but unfortunately left The Village, meaning The Reading Seed could no longer support her. This was very sad news for us but we have no control over the situation at the children's home. We hope Lungile will continue to pursue her studies on her own accord.

Our School Support Project through The Charity Club in Malaysia, supported 6 students with sponsorship to pay for school fees, uniforms and other resources needed. One of our recipients had a complete turn around from rarely getting to school to being elected a school prefect! Another student received the chance to pursue her studies at a boarding school in Malaysia.

Our membership program, which was established at the end of 2015/2016 financial year has continued to grow and become established, with valuable individuals as volunteers and members. To date we have 32 members on a members base of trustworthy, valuable people.

Over the course of the year we have had some great fund raising campaigns including our continuing Brave the Dare Campaign that sees the board members be nominated to complete a dare and in the process raise \$500. Justin has absolutely blown everyone out of the water by raising over \$1500 for his cycling dare around Perth in a Santa suit on a hot summer day! Great job Justin as well as our other board members!

Our fund raising committee was officially set up and this has seen some great ideas and campaigns for fund raising and we will continue to op

This had put The Reading Seed in a position where we have been able to take on another charity have also been so excited to take on our 3rd charity, La Buena Esperanza, a small school in Lima, Peru that was set up to optimise learning in children from these areas. They do not receive government support and so funding and resources are limited. We will be taking on more projects but in this financial year we were able to approve The English book project which involved the donation of English books to assist in the school's English program.

We continued to comply with regulations set by the Australian Charities and Non profit Commission. We also set up a child protection and anti-terrorism policy to ensure that the registered charities or agencies we are partnering with, do take the protection and well being of the children seriously and that the much needed funds The Reading Seed is sending to these children is definitely getting there.

None of this amazing work would have been possible if we didn't have our wonderful members and volunteers who donated their time and expertise to help with our events and fundraisers purely for the purpose to raise funds for the kids we support all around the world. Lastly thank you to the members of the board who have always given their time and guidance to allow The Reading Seed to achieve its objectives and grow.

As we continue to expand we have to remember that we are just a small charity, started by a group of people wanting to make a difference in the world. We do this because we want to, not for a salary and I believe this attitude sets us apart from others.

Enjoy reading our report this year!

**Emma Bales**

*Chairperson of The Reading Seed*



## **the beautiful thing about learning is nobody can take it away from you.... BB KING**

In the four years of operation The Reading Seed has raised much needed donations for under-privileged children to have the chance to better themselves through education, eventually creating sustainability within families and communities.

### **2013 – FOUNDING**

The Reading Seed was set up by founders, Emma and Daniel Bales, after living in South Africa for three years and seeing the effects of poor situations mixed with poor education. They knew they had to do something and so after hours of research they set up a charity which resonated the values and goals they want to achieve, along with their brilliant team on the board, a constitution decided upon and The Reading Seed was borne.

### **2014 – ONE CHARITY TWO PROJECTS**

The Reading Seed started supporting the children from a children's home, The Village in South Africa first with 2 different projects: The Remedial Teaching Project and The Further Studies Project. Funding was allocated program to help those children 'catch up' and learn foundational skills needed for learning that had not been taught. We also supported a student to study at university.

### **2015 – TWO CHARITIES THREE PROJECTS**

Obligations were complied with from the Australian Charities and Non-Profit Commission as well as meeting the needs of the children supported through the programs set up., including Brain Gain.

Unfortunately the student we supported at university left the care of The Village and so we had to cease funding.

Siphokazi became the recipient of The Further Studies Project to commence a vocational course in beauty.

### **2016 – TWO CHARITIES THREE PROJECTS**

The highlight of this year was the partnership established with The Charity Club in Langkawi, Malaysia. This charity helps those in need on the island of Langkawi and so the School Support Project was started to help get some of these kids to school. The money raised goes to uniforms, school fees, books and lunches for the children.

Siphokazi finished her studies.

### **2017 – THREE CHARITIES FOUR PROJECTS**

Siphokazi gained employment at a very reputable salon in Johannesburg and is now supporting herself!

At the end of June a third charity was taken on, La Buena Esperanza in Lima, Peru to start The English Book Project. English books were donated to this small school and will be used to assist in the school's English program.

# About The Reading Seed



In 2017/2018 we will be supporting 3 charities in 3 different continents with over 6 projects.



# Governance

## **REGISTRATIONS**

We are a company limited by guarantee, ABN: 94164356030. The Reading Seed was registered in 2013 with the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission (ACNC). We comply with all ACNC requirements to stay current as a registered charity each year. This process involves completing an Information Statement annually.

## **BOARD MEETINGS**

We have had four board meetings of Directors;

30th October 2016

Attendees: Emma Bales, Daniel Bales, Elizabeth Charles, Justin Frost, Michael Lush, Rebecca Lush

4th December - AGM 2016

Attendees: Board members and members

13th February 2017

Attendees: Emma Bales, Daniel Bales, Elizabeth Charles, Michael Lush, Rebecca Lush, Justin Frost

20th May 2017

Attendees: Emma Bales, Daniel Bales, Elizabeth Charles, Justin Frost, Michael Lush, Rebecca Lush

## SHORT TERM OBJECTIVES

The Reading Seed's short-term objectives within this year were to:

- provide educational advancement for underprivileged children through funding and sponsorship of different educational programs
- Fund a minimum of 3 projects across 3 different registered charities
- Create a membership base with over 30 members
- Ensure sound management and governance processes are in place
- Promote understanding and philanthropy amongst the community
- be a recognised leader in the provision of community support services as evidenced by the success of programs and practices

## LONG TERM OBJECTIVES

The Reading Seed's long term objectives were and are to:

- be a reputable presence amongst the community and have our registered charities and agencies we work with
- be a sustainable charity with sound management and good governance
- support multiple projects across multiple countries to promote philanthropy by allowing potential sponsors, volunteers and donors to support projects that they feel a close connection with

## STRATEGIES FOR ACHIEVING LONG AND SHORT TERM OBJECTIVES

To achieve these objectives, the Group had adopted the following strategies:

- Strive to ensure each dollar donated to The Reading Seed is delivered to the selected project by being 100% volunteer run with only essential overheads for good governance
- Strive to attract and retain quality volunteers who are aligned with The Reading Seed values and mission and committed to working to support underprivileged children in need
- Partner only with organisations where there is a strong connection with The Reading Seed member/s to ensure good communication and governance over the use of any donations
- Create a strong membership base

Continue with transparent reporting of costs and activities of The Reading Seed, including regular audits and ongoing company and charity registrations



Objectives  
and activity

# Our Values

WE SUPPORT EDUCATIONAL  
PROJECTS FOR UNDER-PRIVILEGED  
CHILDREN LIVING IN POVERTY

## OUR MISSION

The Reading Seed will provide educational advancement for under privileged children living in developing countries abroad or in Australia.

This will be achieved through funding and sponsorship of different programs appropriate for the educational needs of the beneficiaries, primarily through organisations such as orphanages and children's homes.

The Reading Seed was founded with two basic and clear objectives that spell out why we are here:

1. To promote a sustainable future amongst children who have not had the same opportunities or basic rights as us or our children

## OUR VISION

2. To provide a connection between Australians and those in need and promote a culture of philanthropy







# Our year in numbers



**3** registered charities with The Reading Seed.

**3 COUNTRIES IN 3 CONTINENTS WE SUPPORT**

**400** hours of tutoring sponsored in 2016/2017.

**32** members registered with The Reading Seed.

**\$9500 RAISED**

**4** projects registered with The Reading Seed.

**8** fundraising campaigns

**350** volunteer hours



2016/2017 was our fourth year of operations and another very solid year for The Reading Seed in which we maintained strong support for our existing projects at Changing Lives Ministries in South Africa and with The Charity Club Langkawi in Malaysia.

Furthermore, due to our strong financial position, strong fund raising and support from our members, we were able to take on a new charity, La Buena Esperanza, in Peru when the opportunity came up.

A total of \$13,074 was raised in the financial year, including \$9,487 of income and \$3,587 of non-cash donations. We are 100% volunteer run and once again The Reading Seed achieved its key objective to ensure that every dollar donated is a dollar delivered to our projects, with only 3% of the donated funds spent on administration costs - mainly international transfer fees.

The Reading Seed is committed to its members in acting as an open and transparent organisation and we have again had our financials audited to ensure we maintain the best possible governance processes and ensure we gain the trust of sponsors to grow in the future.

We would like to sincerely thank the team at Australian Audit for donating their professional services in completing an audit of our activities for the 2016/17 year.

This year we have made the following contributions;

1. Changing Lives Ministries (CLM) in South Africa;

Remedial Teaching- TRS donated \$5,320 towards remedial teaching aids and tutoring to assist children struggling at school.

Further Studies Scholarship- TRS donated \$609 towards Beauty Therapy training for Siphokazi, who graduated at the end of 2016. We look forward to supporting further students through this project in the future.

1. The Charity Club Langkawi

School Support Project- TRS donated \$2,229 to support 6 underprivileged kids from Langkawi to attend school

A summary of The Reading Seeds financials for the 2016/17 year is shown in the table below, and further details on our financials can be found in the auditor's report.

The Reading Seed has again finished the year with a strong balance sheet leaves which allows us to commit to the ongoing support of existing projects in the year ahead. This effort will again be supported by our fund raising and membership committees that were established in 2016.

We thank all those that supported The Reading Seed this year, and look forward to your support well into the future.

**Daniel Bales**

*Treasurer of The Reading Seed*



**STATEMENT OF CASHFLOW**

			2016/17	2015/16
<b>Opening Balance</b>			<b>\$6,089.39</b>	<b>\$6,524.41</b>
<b>Income</b>	Donations to TRS	Individuals	\$5,045.76	\$1,807.40
	Donations to TRS	Fundraisers	\$3,084.75	\$79.00
	Donations to TRS	Corporate	\$1,050.00	\$2,638.94
	Memberships Received		\$300.00	\$225.00
	Interest		\$6.45	\$8.13
<b>Total</b>			<b>\$9,486.96</b>	<b>\$4,758.47</b>
<b>Outgoing</b>	Donations to CLM	Remedial Teaching	\$5,320.29	\$2,056.09
	Donations to CLM	Further Studies	\$609.40	\$1,781.90
	Donations to TCC	Langkawi School	\$2,229.39	\$1,052.00
	Overheads	Financial Fees	\$281.92	\$120.00
	Overheads	Registrations	-	\$183.50
<b>Total</b>			<b>\$8,441.00</b>	<b>\$5,193.49</b>
<b>Closing Balance</b>			<b>\$7,135.35</b>	<b>\$6,089.39</b>

**Changes in Equity**

	2016/17	2015/16
<b>Opening Balance</b>	<b>\$6,089.39</b>	<b>\$6,524.41</b>
Operating Surplus (Deficiency)	\$1,045.96	<b>\$-435.02</b>
<b>Closing Balance</b>	<b>\$7,135.35</b>	<b>\$6,089.39</b>



# Our Board



Name	Position	Dates acted
Emma Bales	Director / Chairperson	2013 – Present
Daniel Bales	Director/ Treasurer	2013 – Present
Justin Frost	Director	2013 – Present
Rebecca Lush	Director	2013 – Present
Michael Lush	Director	2013 – Present
Liz Charles	Director/ Secretary	2013 – Present

**Coming together is a BEGINNING  
Keeping together is PROGRESS  
Working together is SUCCESS**

**Henry Ford**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Position</b>	<b>Year became a member</b>
Geoff Bales	Member	Member 2016 Sponsor since 2013
Kaye Bales	Member	Member 2016
Karl Bauman	Member	2016
Kane Charles	Member	2016
Keith Charles	Member	2016
Luke Charles	Member	2016
Julie Farrawell	Member	2016
David Farrawell	Member	2016
Anthony Hughes	Member	2016
Janice Hughes	Member	2016
Yvonne Jameson	Member	2016
Clarissa Johnson	Member	2016
Graham Kubale	Member	2016
Jennifer Lush	Member	2016
Robert Lush	Member	2016
Michael Monkley	Member	2016
Peter Monkley	Member	2016
Raelene Monkley	Member	2016
Mark Hughes	Member	2016
Noleen Turner	Member	2017
Christine Sheen	Member	2017
Karleen Ross	Member	2017
Emma Myers	Member	2017
Olive Chancellor	Member	2017
Debbie White	Member	2017



\* Janet Elliott

\*Nic Moir

\*Allison Moir

\*Lachlan Moir

\*Leah Moir

\* Rachael Angove

New members this financial year - 2017/2018

# Our generous donors and supporters

## LONG TERM REGULAR SPONSORS

Geoff Bales	Monthly sponsor since 2013
Kaye Bales	Monthly sponsor since 2013

## OUR BUSINESS SPONSORS THIS YEAR

Viral Patel from Australian Audit	We are Web Design	Nutrimetics
BHP BILLITON <a href="http://www.bhp.com.au">www.bhp.com.au</a>	RC TOMLINSON	ROTARY AUSTRALIA
Port Macquarie Performing Arts	Parapuerto Miraflores	Saving Grace Junior Tutors
MMG Mining <a href="http://www.mmg.com.au">www.mmg.com.au</a>	M & S PRINT	IRONMAN AUSTRALIA
Ros Trotter from Veducci	The Maragaret River Chocolate Company	Vintage House Wine and Spirits





**FUND RAISING COMMITTEE**

**MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE**

**BUSINESS SPONSORS**

**INDIVIDUAL SPONSORS**

**OUR VOLUNTEERS**

**THE READING SEED BOARD**





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