

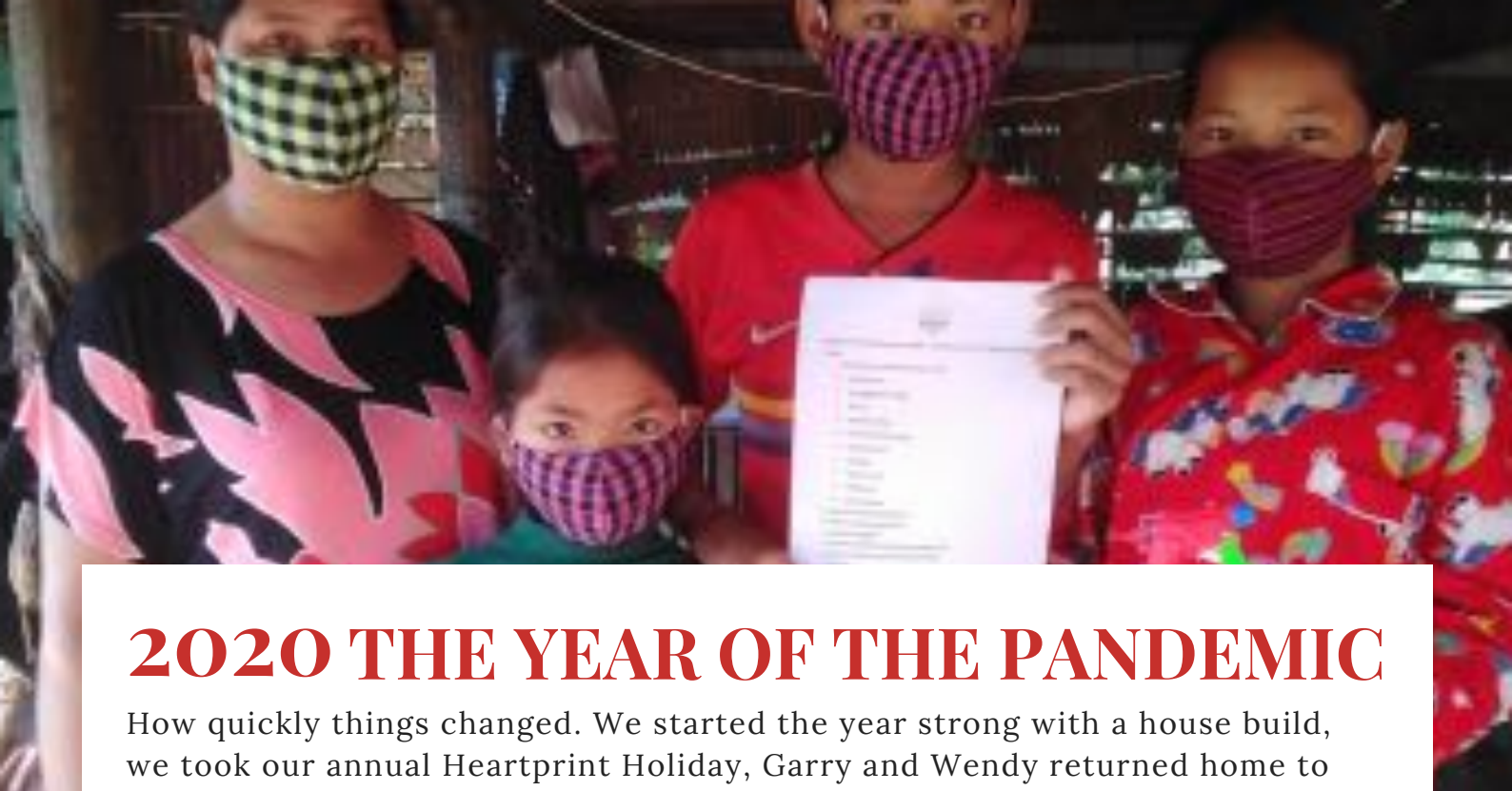


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**HEARTPRINT  
ANNUAL REPORT**

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**JAN - DEC 2020**



## 2020 THE YEAR OF THE PANDEMIC

How quickly things changed. We started the year strong with a house build, we took our annual Heartprint Holiday, Garry and Wendy returned home to Australia for the birth of their grandson, and on arriving back in Cambodia the whole world shut down. It was not like anything we'd had to deal with before, we deal with poverty daily but we knew this would be so much more than that and sadly we were right. We set out to make sure our staff and communities would be cared for.

We sent out a call for help to our supporters and they came through time and time again. We closed down Heartprint House our Community centre and volunteer home and moved everything to The HOPE Initiative to save some money. With volunteers no longer able to visit we simply couldn't afford to keep it and it was sucking money that could be used to support our communities.

We stuck with our current plans for Heartprint but changed them slightly to allow for growth and protection throughout the pandemic. We had started plans in 2019 to register as a local NGO (Non-Government Organisation) in Cambodia to support our registered charity in Australia and allow us to do more on the ground. This turned out to be a great decision allowing us to do more as more and more restrictions were put into place by the government.

Our focus changed, we started handing out school packs when schools closed, we handed out rice and food staples when tourism dropped that low everyone lost their employment but never did we lose our passion to help. Garry and Wendy stayed on the ground in Cambodia throughout the whole year, giving up family time to be there for those that needed it and our amazing sponsors and donors were behind us the whole way getting us through. What an amazing family we have proved to be.

The Heartprint Board.





# MEET THE TEAM

## THE PEOPLE BEHIND THE HEARTPRINTS

### STAFF

BOR SREY PHEAP  
SIM THANN  
RAM SREY NOY  
HAY SREY MAO  
TEP SREY NEAR  
SIM THOM  
WENDY O'BRIEN

### BOARD

RIANNAN DE LA TORRE  
GARRY O'BRIEN  
SAMANTHA O'BRIEN  
TAYLA MARKS  
JORDANA WILSON  
BRAD O'BRIEN  
MARK CALDWELL  
ALEISHA HOWEY



# ABOUT US

Emerging from a compassionate action or thought, a Heartprint is that which leaves a positive impression upon your heart. As an Australian based charity dedicated to raising funds and offering ground support in Cambodia, our goal is to leave an impression on the hearts of impoverished Cambodians.

Through supporting the relief of poverty, we also support the obtaining of education and the breaking of child abandonment practices. Through fundraisers and donations, we are able to provide housing, education support and work opportunities to allow all Cambodians to have hope, dignity and the opportunity for a brighter future



## MISSION

Our mission is to eradicate the poverty cycle by providing education and support, allowing families self-sustainability to be able to provide for themselves.

## PHILOSOPHY

Heartprint believes -

The circle of poverty can be stopped by providing education and support

That everyone has the right and power to take control of their own life

Equal rights for all human beings

## GOALS

Provide housing for those below the poverty line

Aid in the set up and continuation of self-sustainability

Assist in education, helping to break the poverty cycle

Provide sanitation and clean water helping to prevent the spread of disease



# | 2020 at a Glance



5 HOUSES



3 WELLS



24 TOILETS



10 BICYCLES



12 BABY BASKETS



25 SPONSORED STUDENTS

# RICE RELIEF



16840



360



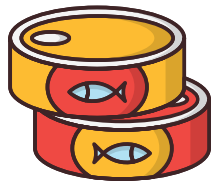
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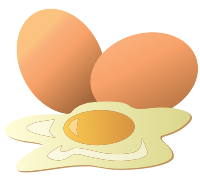
527



1590



138



3210



125



350



350



With the Covid 19 pandemic closing down the entire world we immediately knew it was going to be a tough year. Siem Reap, a tourist town relies heavily on visitors. With the shut down of flights, the town quickly became a ghost town. Hotels and restaurants closed and many locals lost their jobs. With so many people already living under the poverty line, the loss of employment hit our small town hard.

As it became evident we would need to step in and support our local families we at first called upon our HOG club for funds. It quickly became evident it was going to take a lot more help than the club could support.

A call to help, saw our amazing supporters step up to a whole new level and they continued to support our actions throughout the whole year, providing, hot meals, rice, and food staples.

Throughout the year we changed and grew as we learned more about the situation. Continuing on with our belief of a hand up not a hand out we eventually concluded that education workshops were a great way to help support families with food as well as teaching them about important topics.

Education workshops included:

- Medical
- Importance of Education



# THE HOPE INITIATIVE

The start of the year saw the completion of the HOPE Initiative. After many house builds with Heartprint, Mick and Asti Hughes decided they'd like to volunteer their time and make their donation to The HOPE Initiative, which helped us greatly. They plastered, they painted, and not long after they left it was ready.

On the 19th of March with a small intimate blessing ceremony involving the Heartprint staff, we officially opened the centre and our below programs commenced.



## YOUTH GROUP

Our Youth Group program kicked off with Bong Srey (Big Sister). The ten-week program includes family meals, communication, empowerment, and adventurous activities as well as the use of personal journals.

Our eventual aim is to create a unique youth group for the local children that will include the Duke of Edinburgh International Award.

A special mention to Mick and Astrid Hughes and Samm O'Brien for their invaluable input into the course outline.



## DANCE & MOVEMENT

A ten-week dance class with "Dance with Tola" saw the the Dance & Movement program spring into action. Ten participants learned new dance steps and thoroughly enjoyed every minute.

Dance and Movement classes provide children with special needs and/or learning difficulties to participate alongside their peers doing something they love as well as increasing their fitness and motor skills.

# THE HOPE INITIATIVE CONTINUED



## COMPUTERS

Sunday Computer Activity sessions moved across to the HOPE Initiative and with a lot more space we were able to spread out and add in additional sessions.

The kids are learning Word, Excel, Google skills, and the Khmer keyboard. These additional skills will provide better career opportunities and for those wishing to attend University, a great head start.



## BUILD A FUTURE

Thanks to a grant received by The Rotary Club of Logan we were able to buy two straight stitch machines and an overlocker. This was the start of the Build a Future program.

Build a Future, gives people opportunities to work at their own pace, learning and developing new skills. It's not only sewing though, we also offer skill sessions in woodwork, metalwork, knitting, weaving, crocheting and so much more.



## ALL MINDS MATTER

Our All Minds Matter program includes one on one counselling sessions with a qualified counsellor. We offer this drop-in service every week for three hours of a Wednesday afternoon, as well as group sessions so they don't feel alone.

Living below the poverty line causes many stresses including abuse, alcoholism, and drug addiction, providing these sessions is the simple hand-up a lot of people need but do not have access to.





# CAFE BESDOUNG

Part of the grant we received from The Rotary Club of Logan included the funds for screenprinting equipment. With the closing of borders due to Covid 19, it became extremely hard to purchase equipment from outside of Cambodia and we were fast approaching the grant expenditure deadline. At the same time, we were forced to close Heartprint House our Community Support Centre and Volunteer accommodation through lack of funds. Thankfully Rotary permitted the remainder of the grant to be transferred over to start an onsite cafe at The HOPE Initiative.

The build crew got straight onto renovating a small cafe structure we picked up second hand and along with the equipment we already owned at Heartprint House and the purchase of a second-hand coffee machine, Cafe Besdoung was born.

The cafe officially opened on the 19th of July and all the hospitality staff from Heartprint House came over to work in the cafe so they were all able to retain their jobs.

Although there were very few visitors throughout the year we know we now have a base we can build on for when tourism finally bounces back.

We intend to use the cafe for training and employment opportunities for those with special needs and learning difficulties.



# COMMUNITY BUILDS

Covid 19 had a huge effect on our community builds this year. The inability of volunteers to travel really took a toll on our house donations. In the past, we have relied heavily on volunteers coming to build and supplying the funds for the project which caused a huge downturn. That combined with the on and off restrictions imposed by the Government we only managed to build 5 houses this year.

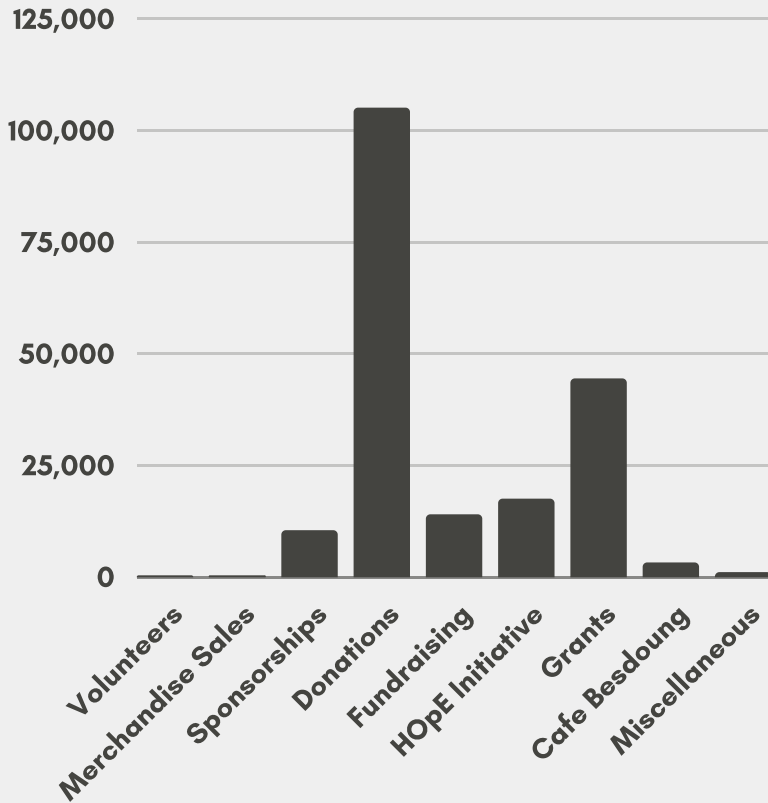
There were a lot of positives though, thanks to The Reece Grant and Dave McNulty we were able to provide 20 families with toilets. On top of that thanks to our donors, we built another four toilets and installed three wells.

The highlight though was definitely the restoration of Srey Mom's wheelchair and getting her mobile again.





# OUR YEAR IN FIGURES



## INCOME

Volunteers	\$177
Merchandise Sales	\$4,237
Sponsorships	\$10,325
Donations	\$104,904
Fundraising	\$13,880
HOPE Initiative	\$17,386
Grants	\$44,300
Cafe Besdoug	\$3,106
Miscellaneous	\$942

**TOTAL \$199,257**

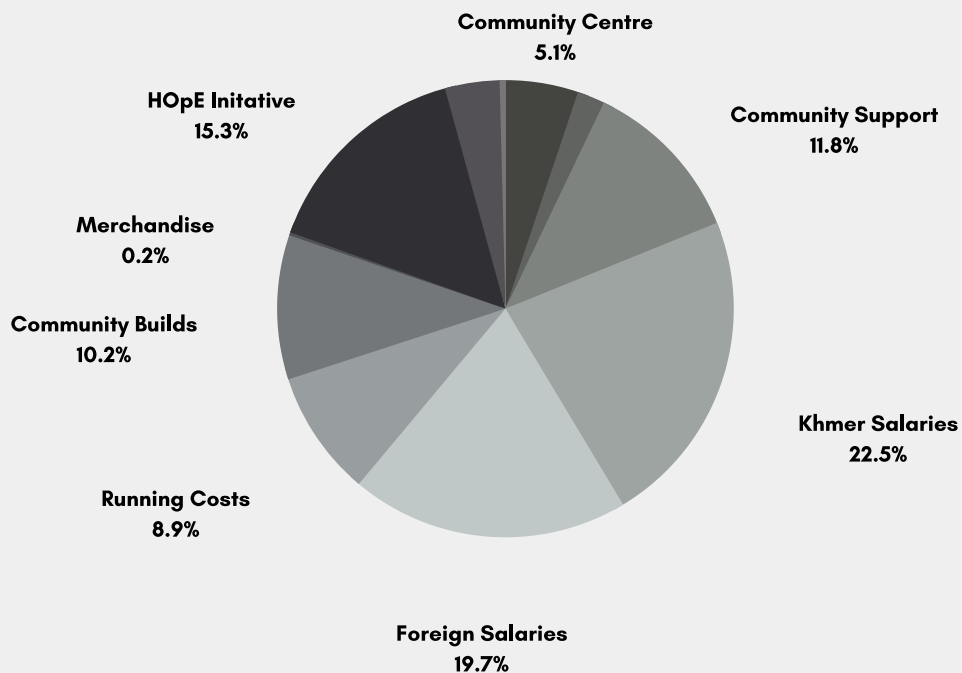
**"OVER COMING POVERTY IS NOT A GESTURE OF CHARITY, IT IS AN ACT OF JUSTICE"**

**-NELSON MANDELA**

## EXPENSE

Community Centre	\$8,733
Education	\$3,313
Community Support	\$19,977
Khmer Salaries	\$38,218
Foreign Salaries	\$33,464
Running costs	\$15,110
Community builds	\$17,338
Merchandise	\$365
HOPE Initiative	\$25,976
Cafe Besdoug	\$6,562
Miscellaneous	\$695

**TOTAL \$169,751**





# HEART OF GOLD

Where would we have been without our Heart of Gold Club this year? We seriously couldn't have got through without them.

With so many people out of work, living under the poverty line this year due to the pandemic, we called on the club for just about everything.

Lack of volunteers meant a shortage of salaries, a shortage of rent, and more. These amazing club members stayed with us all year, some even doubling their donations to make sure we were never short.

Fortnightly rice runs to grandparents, baby baskets, baby formula, the list is endless to what they supported throughout the year.



# HEARTPRINT HOLIDAY

Garry and Wendy started the Annual Heartprint Holiday three years ago as a Christmas present to each other. As years have passed their children got on board and visiting interns were also lucky enough to share the experience.

So far the Heartprint family has visited more than eight provinces. For most of them that had never left Siem Reap before it's become the favourite time of everyone's year.

It's so important to travel, to learn about your own country's history, to try new things, to realise there's a whole other world out there. For us, it's one of the best presents you can either give or receive.

The holiday usually takes place at the start of the year, after we've all worked hard to put on our community Christmas day.

This year in January, we visited Battambang. Only a four-hour drive from Siem Reap, but unseen by the staff. We took a ride on the bamboo train, visited the killing caves, and saw the bats at sunset.

Towards the end of the year with the ever ominous virus overlooking our shoulders, we decided we'd take the 2021 holiday early just in case.

We had booked to go down to the coast but with a provincial ban on travel, we had to change plans. We took the gang camping on the outskirts of Siem Reap. Noy was so excited she said she'd wanted to do that since she was a child. We swam, we went paddle boarding, visited temples, and had the best time ever.





# LIGHT READER CONTENT

At the end of 2019, we had a very special visit from Britt and Francesco from Light Reader Content.

They stayed with us for a few weeks, followed us around, worked with the staff, and came up with some great ideas to help promote Heartprint.

They provided our Khmer staff with a platform to tell their stories, this was a very empowering thing for them to do.

We also worked on a cookbook together which is available for hard copy purchase or download.

And, of course, they made our amazing Heartprint Story, a movie all about Heartprint which was released this year



[HP Story](#)  
[movie](#)



[HP Staff](#)  
[movie](#)



[Purchase the](#)  
[cookbook](#)



# CHRISTMAS GIVING



This year's Christmas giving looked a lot different to other years but we still managed to give out a record 338 presents.

Following the government guidelines families came in groups of 20 throughout the day and everyone did their bit to be responsible; wearing masks and trying to social distance where possible.

The Heartprint staff was amazing as always and the day ran smooth thanks to Pheap's great organisation. We all missed Samm who has been with us from our first ever Christmas giving but thankfully a couple of local expats volunteered their time and our Bong Srey girls came along to help.

A lot of very, very happy faces thanks to all our amazing sponsors.

# MAJOR CONTRIBUTORS

Montage Commercial Interiors  
Diegos Authentic Foods  
The Reece Grant  
Kindredhouse  
Ignite Education  
Penny James  
Heidi Knodle  
Dave McNulty  
The Dunn Family  
Mick & Astrid Hughes  
Rotary Club of Logan  
Black & White Accounting  
Mark Caldwell  
Craig Goodman  
Macclesfield Academy  
Rebecca Lucas  
Riannan DeLaTorre  
Jayden Krieg  
Rick Bywater  
Australian Institute of Fitness  
Christine De La Torre

Adele Fletcher  
David McCrostie  
Graeme White  
Anne and Wayne Murray  
Samm O'Brien  
Mc Phail Real Estate  
Louise Davey  
Amanda Wrench  
Happy Hub  
Jonathon Parkinson  
Louisa Egerton  
Raw Squeeze North Lakes  
Moo Free Burgers North Lakes  
Aleisha Howey  
Help Cambodia Wagga  
Leanne & Charlie Ritossa  
Lanlan  
Adam McDonald  
Kailei Zhang  
Tony & Kerrie Garay



# FUNDRAISERS

Read-A-Thon  
Goodies Cheese boards  
Sports Memorabilia Auction  
Face Mask Fundraiser  
50 hours of Silence  
Christmas Giving  
Matt Frankland Turns 60

# FIND US!

[www.heartprint.org.au](http://www.heartprint.org.au)

