



Palms Australia

Opening our hands to Solidarity, Justice & Dignity for all

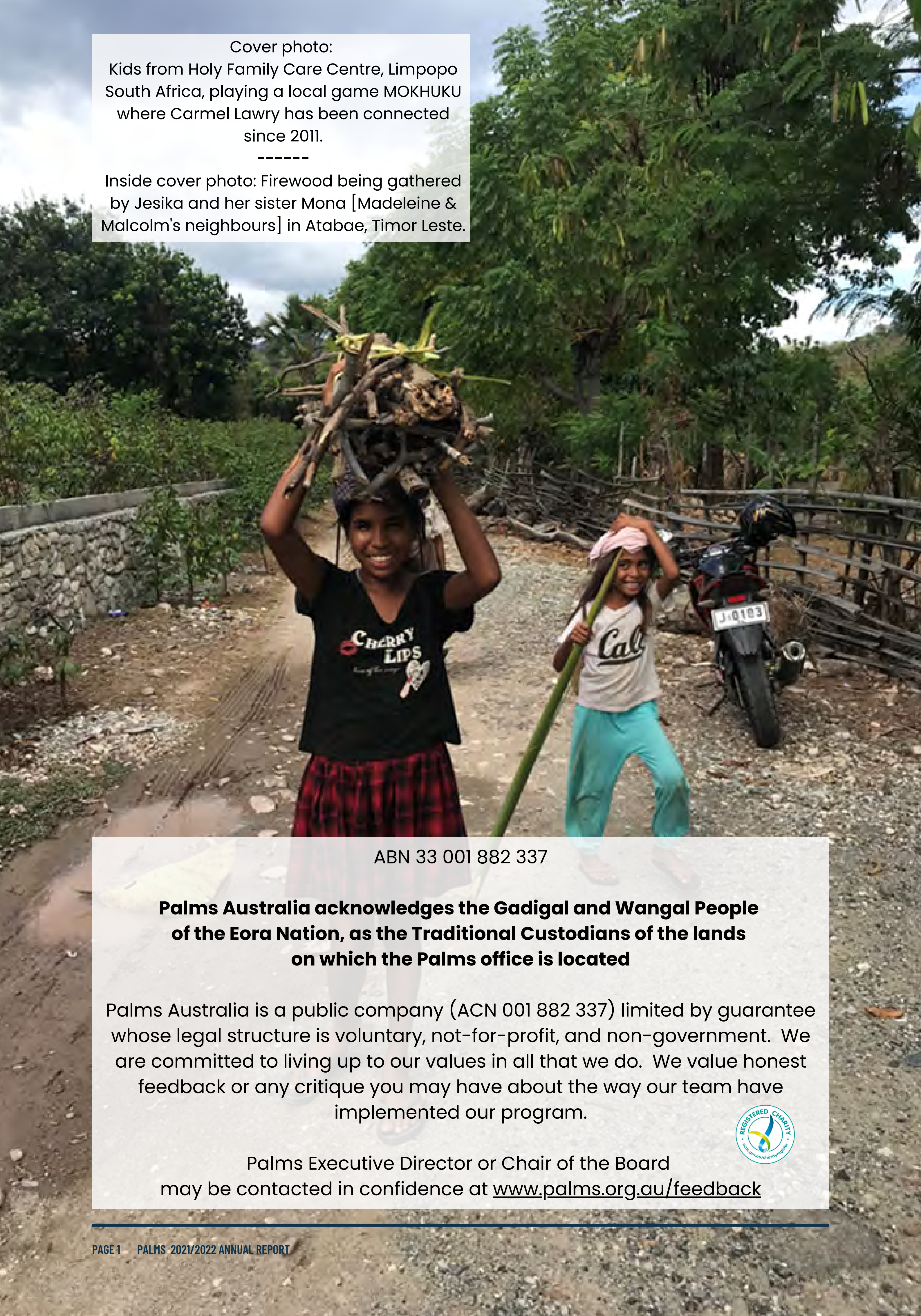
2021/22 Annual Report



Cover photo:

Kids from Holy Family Care Centre, Limpopo South Africa, playing a local game MOKHUKU where Carmel Lawry has been connected since 2011.

Inside cover photo: Firewood being gathered by Jesika and her sister Mona [Madeleine & Malcolm's neighbours] in Atabae, Timor Leste.



ABN 33 001 882 337

Palms Australia acknowledges the Gadigal and Wangal People of the Eora Nation, as the Traditional Custodians of the lands on which the Palms office is located

Palms Australia is a public company (ACN 001 882 337) limited by guarantee whose legal structure is voluntary, not-for-profit, and non-government. We are committed to living up to our values in all that we do. We value honest feedback or any critique you may have about the way our team have implemented our program.



Palms Executive Director or Chair of the Board may be contacted in confidence at www.palms.org.au/feedback



Sr Frances Hayes and one of her local counterparts celebrating the Kings Birthday in Mae Ramat, Northern Thailand.

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About Us

Since 1961 Palms Australia has been contributing to justice in global development by engaging with grass roots organisations seeking sustainable solutions to poverty in their communities. We recruit qualified and experienced Australians able to assist a requesting organisation achieve the developments they identify to foster the strengths of their people. We thoroughly prepare and support those we recruit for mutual development with their counterparts.

OUR VISION

People reaching beyond every barrier of culture, religion, nationality, gender, class and individualism, to cooperate in achieving a just, sustainable, interdependent and peaceful world free of poverty

OUR MISSION

Facilitate, and be open to mutual formation and inspiration, with those who share their skills abroad to:

- Advance the awareness, enthusiasm and involvement of Australian and international communities in shared action to achieve just, sustainable and peaceful development.
- Participate in an exchange of knowledge and skills to meet the requests of communities seeking to reduce poverty by developing the capacities of their people and organisations.

OUR VALUES

Solidarity. Love. Humility. Justice.

Solidarity is the key energising value of Palms Australia. Solidarity is a principle arising out of our reflection that all living creatures are interdependent. Relationship invites responsibility and, therefore, solidarity. In valuing solidarity we value love that is lived out in respect for the dignity of all life. We value humility lived out in personal integrity and responsibility. We value justice lived out in a willingness to challenge structures that prevent collective participation in creative solutions.

OUR GOALS



Sustainable Development

An exchange of knowledge and skills to create new opportunities, ever increasing capacity and lasting change for all.



Solidarity

Strong and growing relationships between individuals, organisations, communities and cultures that engage in connected intentional efforts to create just opportunities for all.



Poverty Reduction

Productive partnerships that address inequalities and overcome disadvantage to offer creative solutions that build pathways to equal participation in social and economic life.



Connection

Deeper awareness, enthusiasm and involvement of Australian and international communities in shared action to achieve Palms vision for our collective future.

FROM THE CHAIR

**One generation shall commend your works to another;
they tell of your mighty acts. (Psalm 145:4)**

How do we embrace the inevitability of change after we have been living with uncertainty for the past two and a half years? With grace, with close listening, with understanding of those affected, with joy at the memories, with deep thanks for what was and what is to come.

We are in the midst of generational change for Palms Australia. With Christine O'Halloran's resignation, we honour the decades of service that she has selflessly given to supporting our partners and people in placement. Christine has been the mainstay of our overseas programs for over 20 years: on call 24/7, always ready to take a phone call, respond to an email, a true "port in a storm". Christine will be part of the handover to Lalena Graham, the newly appointed Programs and Placement Coordinator. We also welcome Emily Shaw in the role of Participant Support and Community Engagement who will be part of the continuity of the huge role Christine has played.

We thank the Palms Australia staff of Kevin Wilson, Robert Reynolds and Cassandra Falson for their embrace of the re-structure of organisational roles during the past year.

Palms Australia is also facing existential change. We need to grow our program placements in order to meet the requests from partners. We have 35 partner requests at the current time.

On Sunday 8 May 2022, I attended Palms Australia's 104th Orientation Course at Carmel House, Varroville, with 10 participants preparing for placement. Four of these have already joined our partners in Timor Leste and Northern Thailand. We need to get the word out as our Pacific Island neighbours open their borders so that we can respond to the many requests for community accompaniment.

Liz Stone



It would be good to have 20 participants take part in the Orientation Course in January 2023.

We are grateful to our donors who have been trying to underpin the operational costs of Palms Australia as we have had to continue to dip into reserves. More placements and a growing program meeting partner requests will be the key to readying Palms Australia for the future.

At the same time the opening up of another income source with the Neighbours Without Borders program will require assigning resources so the Board will be closely monitoring staff roles and organisational revenue over the coming year.

Thank you to Colin Small who resigned as Treasurer this year due to ill health. Our grateful thanks to Greg Browne for stepping in as Treasurer. Both former Palms Participants, together with Brendan Joyce, Sam Haddin and Dr Stephen Yates, the Board is well served by the lived experience of these Directors in challenging times. Thanks also to Ben Thurley, Sr Philippa Murphy (OLSH) and John Powell for the expertise and perspectives they bring to the Board.

To Roger O'Halloran, thank you on behalf of the Board for your continuing service as Executive Director as we face these challenges and changes for Palms Australia with faith and trust in the mission and programs honed over 60 years of the organisation.

Grace and peace,
Elizabeth (Liz) Stone

Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up. (Galatians 6:9)



FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Roger O'Halloran

Turning challenges into stronger programs

FY 2021-22 has been spent preparing for renewed engagement with partners abroad. It has also given us the opportunity to evolve into the new world we find ourselves in today, both at home and abroad. Palms unique commitment to humble intercultural engagement is available now not only to assist community development in the villages of our partners across the seas, but also in the suburbs and towns of Australia.

Palms recruitment for overseas assignments across the year culminated in May with our first Orientation Course in 28 months. Five of the participants have gone to assignments in Thailand, Timor Leste and American Samoa. There are now seven people in placement abroad and by the end of 2022-23 we plan to have 16 people on assignment and to keep building again the following year.

As I write the new participants are still in the first phase of placement, building relationships and understanding the strengths of the local community, developing language and cultural skills, and networking. They are gathering the essential background for understanding how their skills will be most usefully shared with local counterparts. It's a time that tests the patience of one from a human doer culture, but a time of great learning from the human beings in whose culture one is engaging.

The Australian program we have been developing ([Neighbours Without Borders](#)) will see us preparing people for assignments in their own communities. These assignments are designed to assist their communities to engage all cultures and sub-cultures in bringing their strengths to inclusive community development.

The training is especially suitable for schools, churches, clubs and other community groups looking to create new enthusiasm for collective community growth. We are particularly excited with evolving new partnerships with the Sydney Archdiocese Justice and Peace Office and the Maitland/Newcastle Diocese.

In the office I am losing a partner of 20 + years. My life partner Christine is moving on employment wise. I will miss her calm and sound reasoning and the understanding she has been able to nurture with the people from all walks of life that Palms has been sending and supporting across that time. Fortunately, I will still have her wisdom at home.

Christine will spend the rest of 2022 in part-time mentoring of two great replacements.

Emily Shaw will support enquirers and applicants as well as build support in the Australian communities of those taking up an overseas assignment. Lalena Graham brings great experience from living and working in Australian Indigenous and African communities to support people while on assignment. Both will assist the participants transition at the beginning and end of their placements.

Kevin, Robert and Cassandra will continue to anchor Palms in Accounts, Events, Special Projects and Communications. Each member of staff brings unique skills and attributes to contribute to a dynamic, supportive, rewarding team that I am excited, proud and thankful to be a part of.

Over the year the Board too has given tremendous support to Palms planned growth. Despite the times potentially telling us to cut costs and downsize, they have recognised the value of holding onto the strengths in our staff to build an economy of scale for the future. However, they also have assisted to gently challenge the assumptions of the past to ensure that Palms is prepared to adapt and embrace the new world in which we live.

Palms members can be proud of the organisation they underpin. I am most thankful to be working for them in assisting our partner communities. I thank too our donors and program participants for their continued faith and engagement in what we are all trying to achieve in opening our hands and our hearts to the world.

We have grown through a time in hiatus to be perhaps healthier than before, and certainly ready again, to reap the rewards of the opportunities Palms offers to all with sincere and authentic cultural humility.

Go gently,
Roger O'Halloran



Hmong Dormitory Students from St Joseph's School
wearing their traditional dress on Sundays
Mae Ramat, Northern Thailand.

PROGRAM AND PLACEMENTS

Christine O'Halloran
Lalena Graham

OVERVIEW

We live in an ever-changing world, where living with uncertainty and insecurity is part of the deal. Our overseas partners continue to request Palms participants to support their skill development. **They want to ensure their programs respond to this changing world** and we are inspired by their ongoing trust and commitment to Palms and the unwavering hospitality and support they show to our participants.

A few of our participants remained overseas throughout COVID-19 continuing to work collaboratively with their host organisations on the Thai/Myanmar border, South Africa and Papua New Guinea – when they were not in lockdown! Palms also has been able to recruit and prepare a new cohort of participants who have taken up their respective placements in Timor Leste, Thailand and American Samoa as of June 2022.

As this is my last annual report for Palms Australia I thank all partners, participants, donors, supports and staff for what has been an amazing 20 years of collaboration!

FAREWELL CHRISTINE



This reflection came out of a bittersweet message to farewell Christine O'Halloran, Palms' Programs and Placement Coordinator since 2001. *I came to Palms as a student and now I am a priest* due to Palms and particularly to Christine. I suspect all who have taken the decision to go to an unknown country with Palms would want to express their innermost thankful heart for the guidance she has provided.

Ordination of Rev Fr Charles Dufour PhD on 13th August with his sister and her husband.

Engaging as a program participant with Palms Australia was a gift that I offered to God in thanksgiving for completing my PhD at Flinders University. This gift, four years later has struck me with something more than gold, an eternal gift of Priestly Ordination. Volunteering as most people will know, especially among Australians, is a gift that one gives totally without expecting anything in return. The spirit of volunteering is a part of Australian DNA, an identity that Australians nurture and at the same time a pivotal nursing garden to assisting other nations.

I came to meet Christine in 2017 via emails and telephone calls. Christine was brilliant enthusiastically informing me all about the mission of Palms Australia to educate and empower disadvantaged adults and children alike around the world. In 2018, I had a two-week Orientation Course in Bowral at Hartzler Park Conference and Retreat Centre. This is the place where I physically met Christine for the first time as well as other program participants preparing for their assignments with the Palms Australia Team. At this Orientation Course, I spent an hour in private conversation with Christine and rediscovered what Pope Francis will call *Creating a Culture of Encounter*. From this point on, my journey with Palms Australia became clear and I set my mind to going anywhere in the world where I would be of assistance for a sustainable project.



In 2019, Palms Australia through Christine's professional consultation with various countries and institutions overseas decided to place me in Papua New Guinea at Good Shepherd Seminary. I was willing to go to Papua New Guinea for at least two years and return to Australia to settle into employment. To my surprise, the two-year plan to stay in Papua New Guinea is now extended to an infinite date.

I am moved to the core of my being for the graces I have received and still receiving from unknown people, friends I have come across, Catholic Christians in Papua New Guinea and God. My first appointment was at Good Shepherd Seminary as a lecturer for several philosophical courses. During this time, I had a warm and spiritual conversation with Archbishop Douglas Young SVD about pursuing a priestly vocation. Archbishop Young assisted me tremendously not only in becoming a priest but also with integrating into Papua New Guinea Culture by attending various courses on the different cultures of Papua New Guinea. I was excited and sometimes overwhelmed because I was discerning whether it was God's Will for me. The journey of priesthood started with difficulties but also included many blessings which saw me a priest on 13 August '22, the day that seems to be the forty-fifth anniversary to the priesthood ordination of Archbishop Young.

During the four-year period for priestly Ordination, the first two years I worked full time at Good Shepherd Seminary. In 2021, the Archbishop appointed me to Saint Anselm's in Banz town as a Deacon Assistant to Fr Alfred Koimo. It is worth mentioning that I experienced what Saint John of the Cross describes as "[The] Dark Night of the Soul: An Understanding Amidst the Absence of Meaning". This was a significant window period that shifted my mind and helped me to accept reality from God's perspective. I had four people who encouraged me and prayed for and with me. They helped me according to their differing expertise:

- Archbishop Douglas Young was like a Father figure but also a paraclete (John 14:16, 26),
- Father Peter Balabansky was a spiritual companion and experienced priest from the Anglican Communion,
- Professor Vicky Balabansky, a woman of intellectual and Biblical hermeneutic insights,
- Finally, Christine O' Halloran became a counsellor and friend because of her psychological background but above all because of her invaluable heart for charity and concern for my wellbeing in Papua New Guinea.

Christine supported my work through thick and thin, especially through the COVID-19 pandemic period via numerous conversations on WhatsApp and emails. Not so long ago, before Christine went on leave, she booked a return air ticket for me to come home to Australia for a break. This might sound simple. However, it was an acrobatic exercise to get me from Mount Hagen to Adelaide and back. I am certain that what Christine has done for me, would have also been done for every program participant.

The time has come unexpectedly and it has compromised our joy. Christine, I pray that you enjoy your post Palms' life. Your departure has robbed Palms Australia and anyone you have known of well-deserved human quality of life. Recently, you have trained Lalena, whom I congratulate for her new role. She has already engaged effectively and sufficiently in the new job. This is one of your qualities Christine, as evidence of your charitable heart to empower others.

On behalf of all Palms program participants living overseas and within Australia I say a BIG THANK YOU to you, Christine. May God bless you and bring more healing to you and your family.

Rev Fr Charles Dufour, PhD
Lecturer of Philosophy
Good Shepherd Seminary



Christine O'Halloran
Palms Programs and Placements Coordinator
2001 - 2022

THE PROGRAM IS STRENGTHENED BY THE PROCESS PASSED FORWARD

Christine has built an extraordinarily resilient process of program management and is giving time to mentor those who have come to strengthen it further.



Lalena Graham is being mentored as Programs & Placements Coordinator

It is a privilege to have the opportunity to join an organisation whose work I deeply respect and admire. I'm excited to be here and look forward to contributing to the incredible work that has been done so far as I settle into the role with the wisdom, support and mentorship of Christine and the incredible work she has been doing over the past 20 years.

What brought me to Palms?

In a nutshell I have a love of cross-cultural work and am especially passionate about working collaboratively with communities in diverse cultural and often remote environments to foster sustainable development outcomes. Early in my career I volunteered in Zimbabwe and worked in South Africa for several years. These formative experiences, living and working in different cultures to my own and seeing the world through different cultural lenses sparked my passion for international development and were significant drivers for the direction I have taken in my studies and work choices ever since.

In Australia I have spent a number of years working remotely in far North-West Queensland and the Northern Territory with Aboriginal communities, on a range of social enterprise projects. Later on I completed post-graduate studies as an ESL Teacher and spent some time volunteering in Laos before continuing to teach in Australia. I've since been teaching English and working with refugees for almost a decade, supporting students and their families with cultural transition and settlement issues. Now, I feel I am returning to my first passion, international development work and very much look forward to working with Emily Shaw, Participant Support Officer on the unfolding of a new and inspiring journey with Palms Australia.

NINE PARTICIPANTS ARE REIGNITING THE PALMS VISION AND MISSION IN FIVE COUNTRIES



Charles Dufour in Papua New Guinea



Carmel Lawry in South Africa



Frances Hayes in Thailand



Veronica Lawson in American Samoa



Madeleine Minns, Malcom Gaydon, Colleen Thornton-Ward and Michele & Anjelica Rankin in Timor Leste

WHO, WHERE, HOW MANY IN 2021/2022?

Program Participant Profile:

Number: 8
Gender: 75% female | 25% male
Age: Range 24–72 yrs
Average 53
From: QLD – 5; VIC – 1
SA – 1; WA – 1

Beneficiaries:

	Females	Males	Children
Direct (1,136)* :	110	122	904
Indirect (41)**:	23	15	3

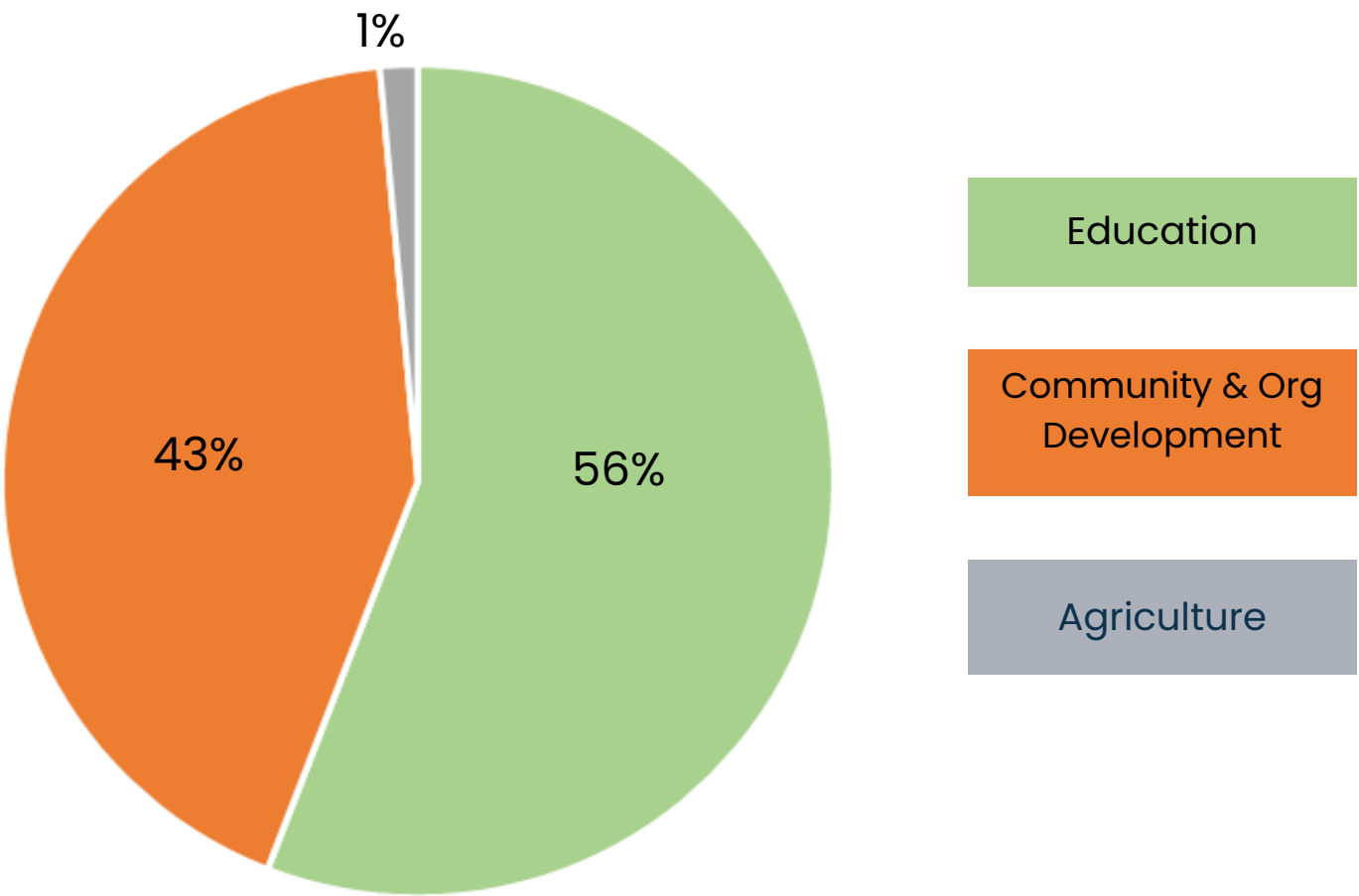
* Those benefitting directly engage in training and mentoring with the Palms program participant. They may be an individual counterpart, or work team, or a class of students.
** Those benefitting less directly include the people served by an organisation as a result of its capacity being developed in collaboration with the Palms participant.

Placements & Outputs:

Countries (5): Thailand, Timor Leste, Papua New Guinea, South Africa
Host Partners: 6
Days of service: 1,571
[Includes remote mentoring days]

Sectors:

Our development programs have focused on three sectors: education, agriculture and community & organisational development.



TIMOR LESTE



ENGLISH MENTORING IN ATABAE



Junior High Principal (centre), Feri (English teacher) & Madeleine Minns

Madeleine left for assignment as English Teacher and Community Development Mentor in Atabae, Timor Leste on the 8th June 2022. Madeleine is an experienced teacher across NSW and Queensland engaged to provide educational support for the existing Community English Program by working alongside Timorese teachers and conducting an English Teaching Mentoring program with the Atabae Junior High School teachers.

Madeleine says: “...My aim is to work WITH the English teachers in the community, and not run English learning in opposition – I hope to support THEIR programs and not reinvent the wheel”.

LIVESTOCK MENTORING IN ATABAE

Malcolm has commenced his role in Atabae as Livestock mentor. Mal’s background is in teaching, music, motor mechanics as well as livestock breeding and management. He is supporting Timorese farmers in the Atabae area to curb disease and death in pigs, chickens and even dogs. An important part of Mal’s role is to support local solutions to improve the situation with natural, easily available and sustainable options. According to Mal “...previous programs only lasted while the funding lasted”.



Malcolm Gaydon inspecting the pig pens with Father Kornelius

TIMOR LESTE



Some Facts that underpin Palms country strategy

- Almost 40% of the population is under the age of 14 while less than 5% is over the age of 65.
- Timor Leste has two official languages: Portuguese and Tetum. English and Indonesian are sometimes used and are designated as working languages.
- About 80% of households in Timor-Leste rely on agricultural activity as the major source of income and for their direct food needs, and experience an annual 'hungry season' from November to March

ENGLISH TEACHING & MENTORING IN MALIANA



Fr Nico, Colleen Thornton-Ward, Marianne [English Teacher] & Marcellus outside Colleen's accommodation

Colleen began her role as English teacher/mentor in July, 2022. Her role includes teaching students and mentoring English teachers in Junior and Secondary level, with particular focus on Colegio Infante de Sagres, Maliana.



Some Facts that underpin Palms country strategy

- There are approximately 92,000 refugees from Myanmar, mostly Karen [84%], Karenni [10%], Burmese [4%] and Mon [1%] who live in 9 camps along the Thai/Myanmar border.
- Many are long-term refugees fleeing the aftermath of a failed uprising against Burma’s military regime in 1988 and more recent coup d’état [Feb 2021].
- As of February 2022, the Thai government estimated that 17,000 Myanmar refugees had crossed into Thailand since the coup.

ENGLISH TEACHING & MENTORING IN MAE RAMAT



Sr Frances Hayes with Karen students and Sr Marie Emie [St Joseph’s College, Mae Ramat, Thailand]

Frances began her Palms placement at St Joseph’s College in Mae Ramat, Thailand in June 2022. Her role is to teach English and mentor the English teachers. She is teaching across all year levels including special focus on dormitory students who are mostly from Myanmar.

AMERICAN SAMOA

AMERICAN SAMOA (U.S.)

Some Facts that underpin Palms country strategy

- The focus of American Samoan education is 'education for export,' since the majority of young people relocate to the United States
- American Samoa has one vocational-technical school and one community college for higher education.
- Many religious rules are followed on the island such as families gathering at 6 p.m. for prayers, a midnight curfew, and a ban on swimming on Sundays.

TEACHER MENTOR IN PAGO PAGO



Jeanette Alvarez [Director – Catholic Education Office] & Veronica Lawson

Veronica began her role as Teacher mentor in August, 2022. Her role involves providing mentoring and professional support for local educators and modelling best practice in classroom teaching. Under the auspices of the Diocese of American Samoa she'll be working primarily at Fa'asao Marist High, and St Theresa's Elementary Schools.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Cassandra Falson
Emily Shaw
Robert Reynolds

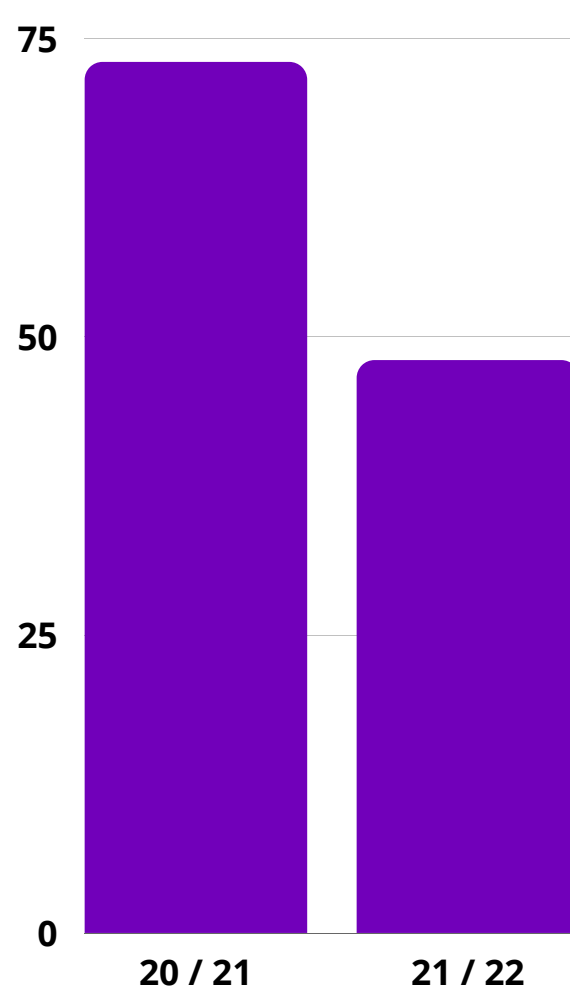
RECRUITMENT

Overview

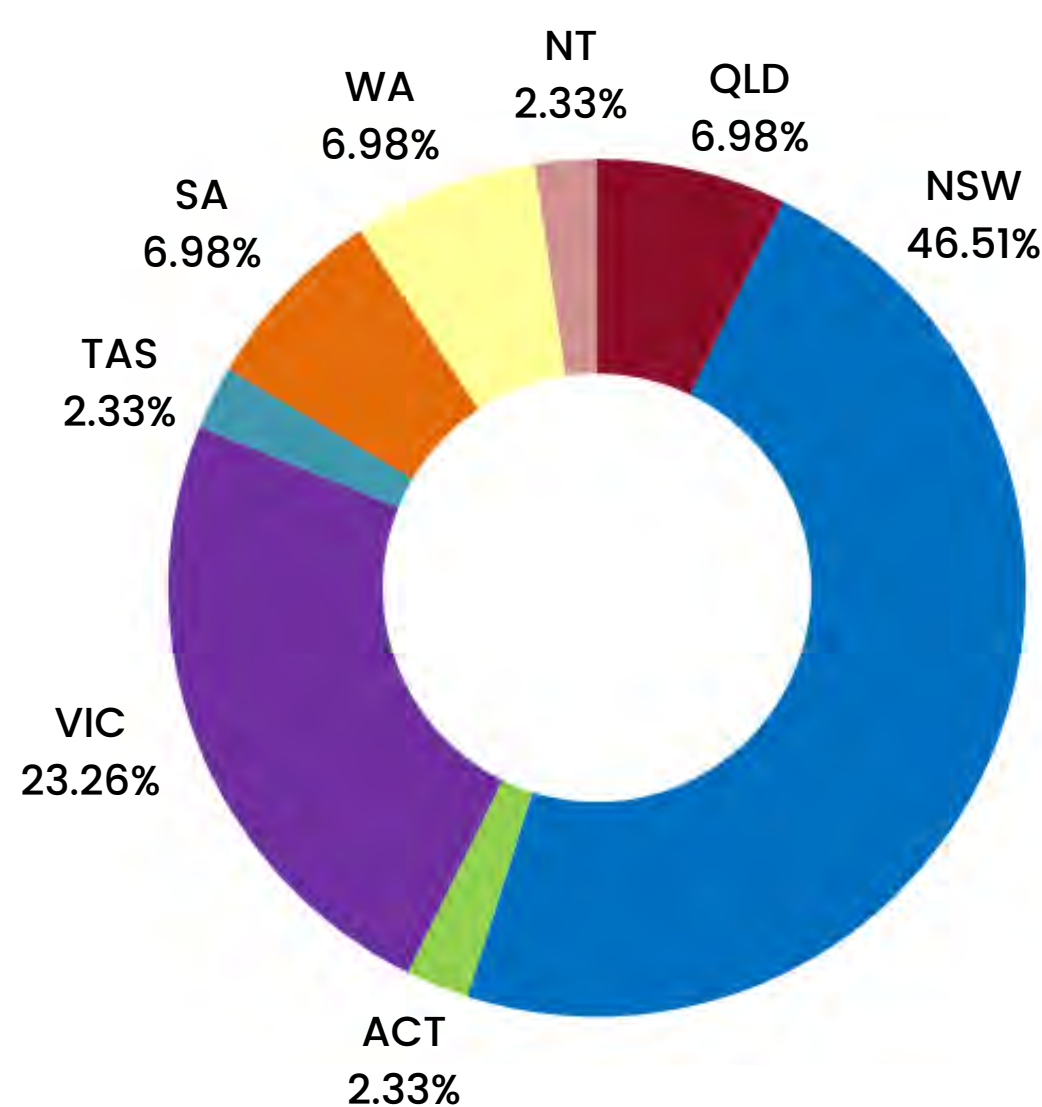
The number of enquirers has continued to drop in the past year with the uncertainty of travel and closed borders still making an impact. The statistics reflect that most enquirers come from church parishes, are female, from NSW and a third from the 60-69 age group.

Enquirer Statistics

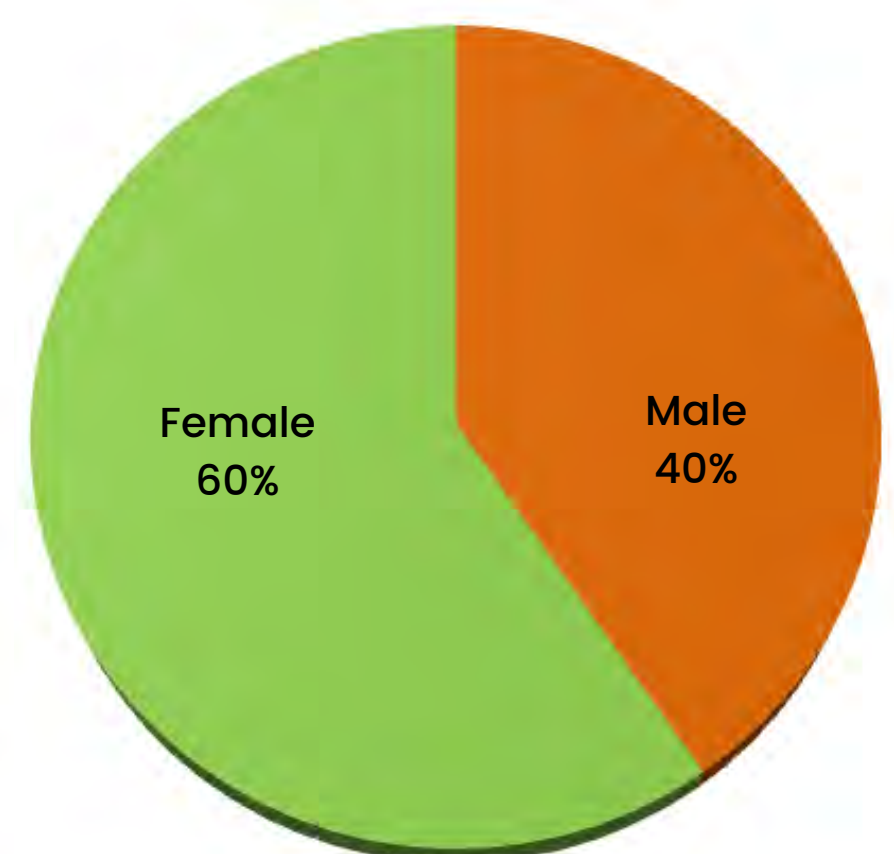
Number of Enquirers



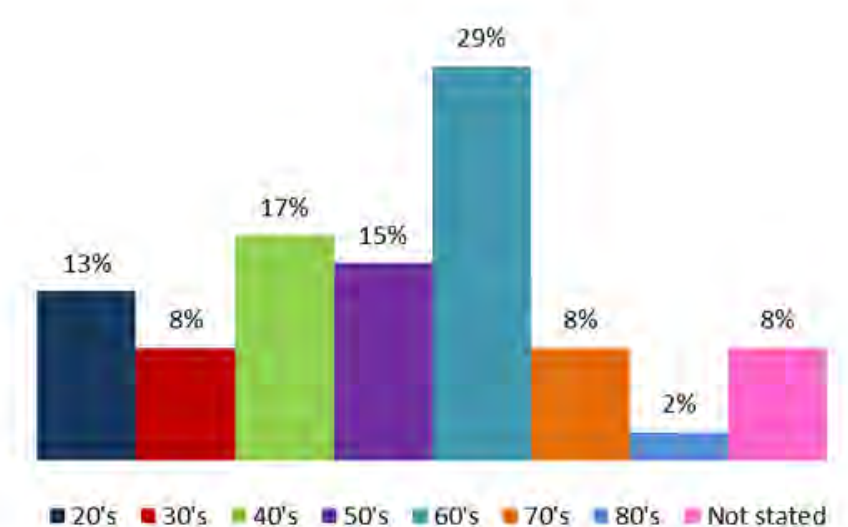
Enquirers by Location (%)



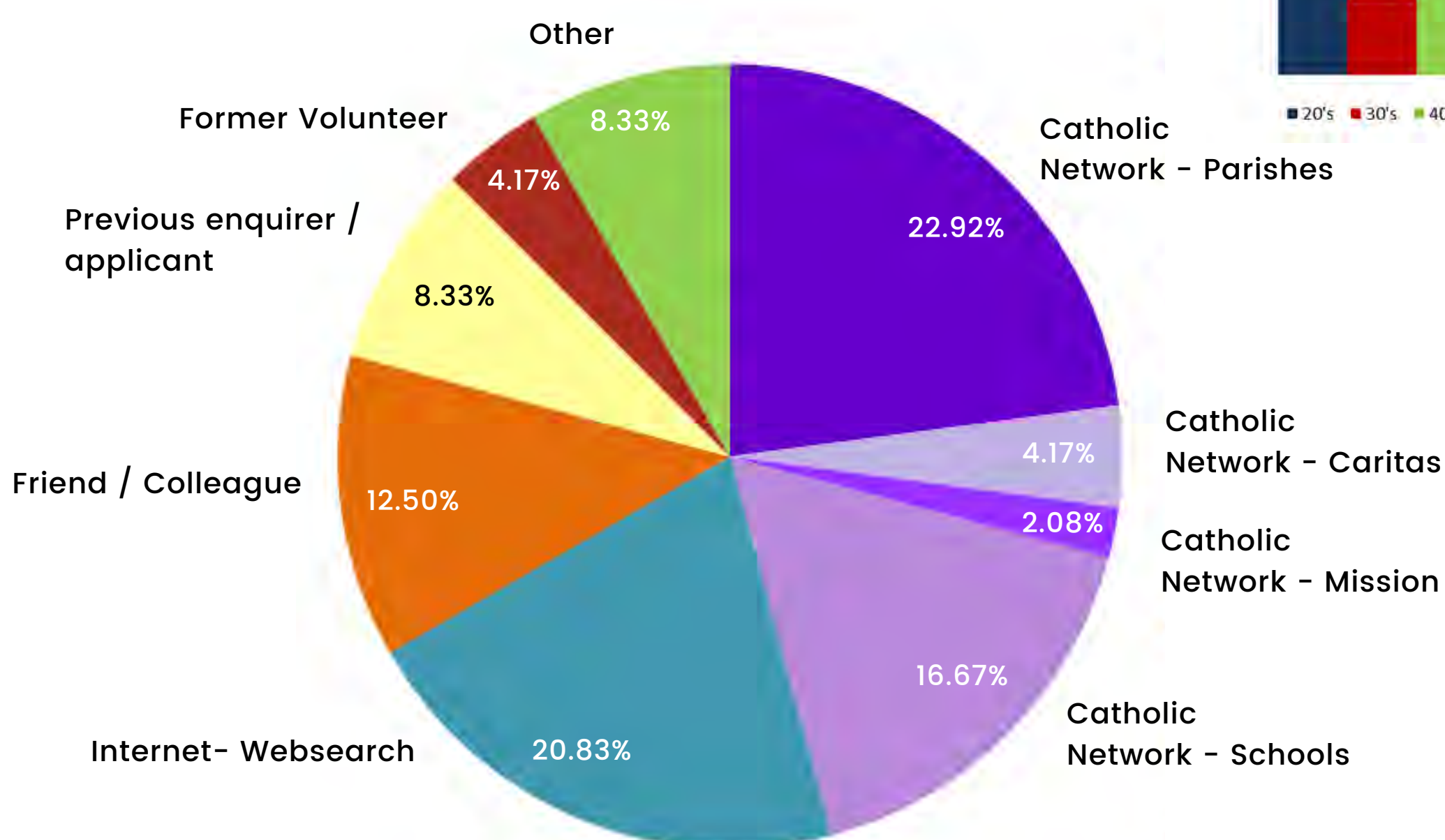
Enquirers by Gender (%)



Enquirers by Age (%)



Where Enquirers Heard About Palms



COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS

The goal of Palms Community Connections is to raise awareness and support for Palms placements through the Australian community, namely through the support network of the Palms participant. In order to create stronger Community Connections, online webinars were held with Palms participants and Community Support Teams (nominated by the participant) to explain the purpose and importance of Community Connections.

Despite the challenges of Covid we have managed to sustain strong relationships with participant's communities and now with participants in the field Community Support Teams are learning and able to share insights to cultures and communities previously little known to them. Articles detailing participants' initial impressions and experiences have been popular with support teams as they continue to stay engaged with the Palms participant. Information Sessions with participants in the field have been attended by Support team members as well.

As the project goes forward, we continue to refine the process in order to increase engagement and enthusiasm for the Global Mission program with participants communities.

EVENT HIGHLIGHTS

Online and in-person

NSW was in lockdown from June to October 2021 during which time we held our Annual General Meeting, Solidarity Awards and Palms 60 event celebrating our sixty years of service to international development. We learned that, while online events can lack some of the warmth and vibrancy of in-person get togethers, they do facilitate participation by people from far flung locations and we were very happy to host people from around the world including some of our community partners.



While we continue to offer online webinars to engage people in recruitment for our overseas placements and Neighbours Without Borders programs, the lifting of lockdown made it possible to deliver face to face events. In March 2022 we helped coordinate a face-to-face event in Griffith NSW, in an effort to attract farmers and teachers to vacant positions in Tanzania. We also held an Orientation Course in May 2022 which was the first time since the beginning of the COVID 19 pandemic that we were able to prepare new applicants and send them on to placements overseas.

We plan to continue to offer a mix of online and in-person events in order to effectively reach the widest audience possible.

NETWORK

Dioceses, Parishes, Orders & Schools

A key ongoing strategy for engaging parishes and schools is to seek formal letters from all 28 Archbishops and Bishops endorsing our program and encouraging parishioners and Catholic teachers to heed the call to global mission. These letters enhance the likelihood that recruitment notices and other communications will make it to our target audiences through parish bulletins and school networks.

In late 2021 we sought updated letters for the 2022 round of recruitment promotion and by early 2022 we were pleased to have received 22 letters of endorsement.

Recruitment information was distributed throughout the parish and school networks in October 2021 and February 2022 to align with our online recruitment webinars featuring returnees or people already in placement and our proposed orientation courses in January and May 2022. We requested and received financial contributions to cover the costs of participants in the May 2022 orientation course from the Archdioceses of Brisbane, Perth and Melbourne.

Another opportunity to engage within dioceses as well as with orders came about through promotion of the new Neighbours Without Borders program including invitations to participate in online introductory webinars. There has been interest in the program from several dioceses, most notably Maitland-Newcastle and Sydney Archdiocese, as well as some orders.

Pastoral Ministry Network

We have continued to steadily build our relationship with the Pastoral Ministry Network in order to get information on our programs to their members and we were able to deliver a workshop outlining the Neighbours Without Borders program at their Alive in the Spirit Conference in May 2022.

Catholic Media

We were pleased to have several articles published in the Catholic press including feature stories on program participants, special Palms events and opportunities to explore or join our programs.

Universities

We have maintained our ongoing strategy of posting our opportunities abroad on University Careers Hub websites which has resulted in a number of enquiries from graduating students.

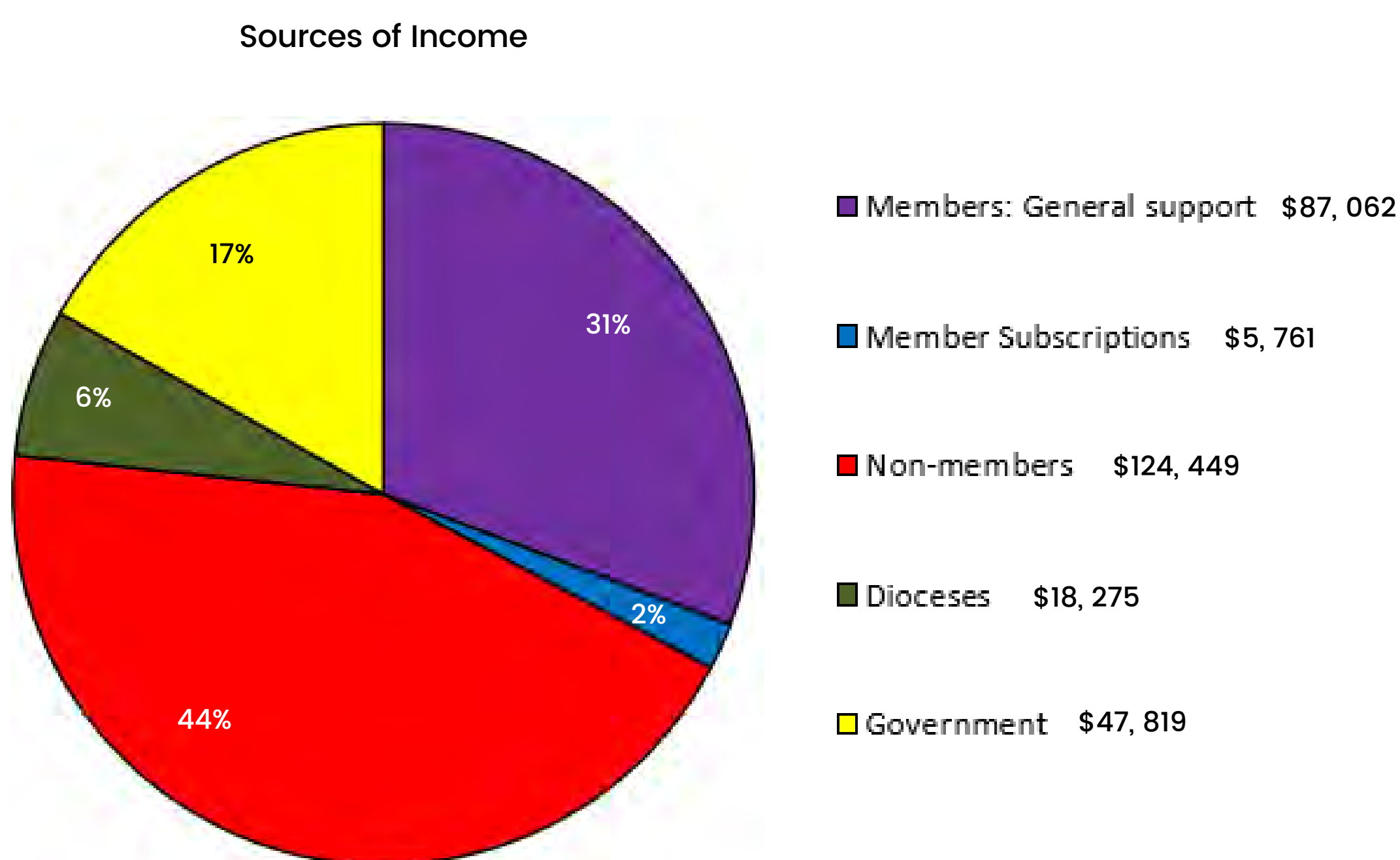


Palms photos across the decades

Throughout 2021 we compiled a photo book celebrating 60 years of human connections which went on sale in January 2022. The book contains more than 200 photos spanning 6 decades from the 1960's to those preparing for assignment in 2022 and beyond. It includes photos of preparation courses, in-country gatherings, celebrations and individual participants from 19 different countries across Asia, the Pacific and Africa. [Book purchases](#) will continue to support our work of sustainable development.

SOURCES OF INCOME

During FY2021/22, individuals associated with Palms (both members and non-members) again contributed the most support. This was provided through a combination of regular pledges, one-off donations, appeals at Christmas and EOFY, and raffles during Spring and Easter. Supplementing their outstanding generosity was income received as grants from various dioceses and government support during the Covid-19 lockdowns. The support received through Palms' fundraising activities testifies to the success of our community engagement throughout the hiatus caused by the pandemic. With restrictions now easing, Palms is well placed to cultivate the enthusiasm of supporters for new overseas placements in FY2022/23.



I give to Palms because its work takes place at the grass roots level and is focused on empowering and upskilling people to build community. There is an emphasis on sustainable development and justice-driven endeavours to end poverty.



Meg Smith, former Program Participant and member

FINANCIAL REPORT

Kevin Wilson
Greg Browne

STATEMENT OF PROFIT OR LOSS AND OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2022		
	2022	2021
REVENUE		
Donations and Gifts	217,716	308,361
Grants	18,275	0
Investment Income	3,059	24,939
Other Income	53,581	148,340
TOTAL REVENUE	292,631	481,640
EXPENSES		
Funds to International Programs	4,327	11,589
Program Support Costs	218,642	191,324
Community Education	89,190	106,260
Public Fundraising Costs	16,621	26,743
Accountability and Administration	57,152	73,697
Other Expense	4,645	701
Loss on disposal of assets	0	0
Cost of goods sold - Fundraising expense	869	0
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	391,446	410,314
SURPLUS/(DEFICIT) FOR THE YEAR	(98,815)	71,326
OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME		
Other comprehensive income for the year	0	0
TOTAL COMPREHENSIVE INCOME FOR THE YEAR	(98,815)	71,326
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION AS AT 30 JUNE 2022		
	2022	2021
ASSETS		
Cash and cash equivalents	558,420	630,766
Trade and other receivables	34,354	9,558
Financial assets at fair value through profit or loss	527,806	559,018
Other financial assets	150,000	150,000
Property, plant and equipment	25,336	28,322
Right-of-use assets	806	11,498
Other assets		
TOTAL ASSETS	1,296,722	1,389,162
LIABILITIES		
Trade and other payables	18,673	13,827
Employee benefits	135,137	123,753
Contract liabilities	0	0
Lease liabilities	821	11,960
Deferred income	5,963	4,679
TOTAL LIABILITIES	160,594	154,219
NET ASSETS	1,136,128	1,234,943
EQUITY		
Retained earnings	1,136,128	1,234,943
TOTAL EQUITY	1,136,128	1,234,943

Please note: The information was extracted from the financial statements of Palms Australia for the year ended 30 June 2022.

A complete set of financial statements and Independent Audit Report are available upon request.

DIRECTORS' DECLARATION

Palms Australia
Directors' declaration
30 June 2022

In the directors' opinion:

- the attached financial statements and notes comply with the Australian Accounting Standards - Simplified Disclosure, the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012 and other mandatory professional reporting requirements;
- the attached financial statements and notes give a true and fair view of the company's financial position as at 30 June 2022 and of its performance for the financial year ended on that date; and
- there are reasonable grounds to believe that the company will be able to pay its debts as and when they become due and payable.
- the accounts give a true and fair view of all income and expenditure with respect to fundraising appeals;
- the provisions and regulations of the Charitable Fundraising Act 1991 (NSW) and the conditions attached to the fundraising authority have been complied with by the incorporated association; and
- the internal controls exercised by the company are appropriate and effective in accounting for all income received and applied by the organisation from any of its fundraising appeals.

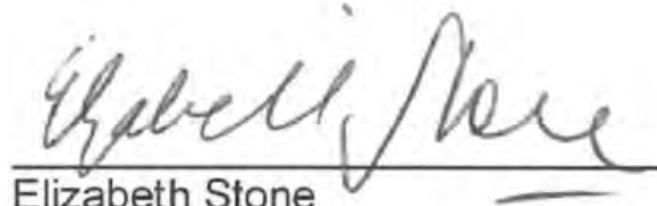
Signed in accordance with a resolution of directors made pursuant to sub s. 60.15 (2) of Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission regulation 2013.

On behalf of the directors



Roger O'Halloran
Director

12TH September 2022



Elizabeth Stone
Chairperson

Program participant Malcolm Gaydon [R] with Anos [acting as interpreter] and Basilio who is learning about animal care & welfare.
Atabae, Timor Leste - July 2022



AUDITOR'S DECLARATION



p: 61 2 8238 6900

f: 61 2 8238 6999

Logicca Assurance Pty Limited

Level 6

151 Macquarie Street
Sydney NSW 2000

GPO Box 5486
Sydney NSW 2001

ACN 119 952 233

ABN 84 119 952 233

www.logicca.com.au

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF PALMS AUSTRALIA

ABN: 33 001 882 337

Report on the Audit of the Financial Report

We have audited the financial report of Palms Australia, which comprises the statement of financial position as at 30 June 2022, the statement of comprehensive income and statement of changes in equity, the statement of cash flows for the year then ended and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies, and the responsible entities' declaration.

In our opinion the financial report of Palms Australia has been prepared in accordance with Division 60 of the *Australian Charities and Not-for-Profits Commission Act 2012*, including:

- (a) giving a true and fair view of the registered entity's financial position as at 30 June 2022 and of its financial performance for the year then ended; and
- (b) complying with Australian Accounting Standards to the extent described in Note 1, and Division 60 the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Regulation 2013*.

Basis for opinion

As is common for organisations of this type, it is not practical for the entity to maintain an effective system of internal control over cash donations and other fundraising activities until their initial entry in the accounting records. Accordingly, our audit in relation to those activities was limited to amounts recorded.

We conducted our audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report section of our report. We are independent of the entity in accordance with the ethical requirements of the Accounting Professional and Ethical Standards Board's APES 110 Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants (the Code) that are relevant to our audit of the financial report in Australia. We have also fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the Code. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Emphasis of Matter - Basis of Accounting

We draw attention to Note 1 to the financial report, which describes the basis of accounting. The financial report has been prepared for the purpose of fulfilling the registered entity's financial reporting responsibilities under the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012* and the *New South Wales Associations Incorporation Act 2009*. As a result, the financial report may not be suitable for another purpose. Our opinion is not modified in respect of this matter.

Responsibility of the Directors for the Financial Report

The directors are responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial report in accordance with the financial reporting requirements of the New South Wales Associations Incorporation Act 2009 (the Act) and its regulation and Division 60 of the Australian Charities and Not-for-Profits Commission Act 2012 and for such internal control as the directors determines is necessary to enable the preparation and fair presentation of a financial report that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial report, the directors are responsible for assessing the association's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the directors either intends to liquidate the association or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial report as a whole is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with the Australian Auditing Standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of the financial report.

A further description of our responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report is located at the Auditing and Assurance Standards Board website at https://www.auasb.gov.au/auditors_responsibilities/ar3.pdf. This description forms part of our Auditor's Report.

Report on Other Legal and Regulatory Requirements

Opinion pursuant to the Charitable Fundraising Act (NSW) 1991

In our opinion:

- i. the Financial Report gives a true and fair view of the entity's financial result of fundraising appeal activities for the financial year ended 30 June 2022;
- ii. the Financial Report has been properly drawn up, and the associated records have been properly kept for the period from 1 July 2021 to 30 June 2022, in accordance with the Charitable Fundraising Act (NSW) 1991 and Regulations;
- iii. money received as a result of fundraising appeal activities conducted during the period from 1 July 2021 to 30 June 2022 has been properly accounted for and applied in accordance with the Charitable Fundraising Act (NSW) 1991 and Regulations; and
- iv. there are reasonable grounds to believe that the entity will be able to pay its debts as and when they fall due.

Name of firm: Logicca Assurance Pty Limited



Director: Peter Hersh

Address: Level 6, 151 Macquarie Street
SYDNEY NSW 2000

Dated this 12th September 2022



Liability limited by a Scheme approved under Professional Standards Legislation

LOOKING FORWARD

2022

OCTOBER

29-30 Palms Re-Entry Workshop

NOVEMBER

8 Community Connections Webinar
29 Team Supporters Webinar

DECEMBER

Palms Christmas Appeal

2023

JANUARY

7-15 Palms 105th Orientation Course
8-11 Neighbours Without Borders Workshop

MARCH

Encounter Tour: Thailand, Timor Leste or
Samoa / American Samoa

APRIL

Palms Easter Raffle

MAY

Encounter Tour: Thailand, Timor Leste or
Samoa / American Samoa



Frances Hayes with year 11 Students
St Joseph's School Mae Ramat, Northern Thailand.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS



**LIZ
STONE**
Chair

Director
since
Oct 2020

BA, MIntS, Grad Cert
Leadership, AGIA
General Secretary
National Council of
Churches in Australia



**GREG
BROWNE**
Treasurer

Director
since
Mar 2022

BEd, MBA, ICAA
Chartered Accountant,
self employed and
Palms participant
PNG 1996-98



**SAM
HADDIN**

Director
since
Oct 2020

BEd(Pri), BSocSc(Psych)
Teacher & REC
Holy Spirit Catholic
Primary School and
Palms participant Timor
Leste 2014-15



**ROGER
O'HALLORAN**
Exec Director

Director
since
Nov 2001

BA (Soc), Grad Dip Ed (Sec),
MEd (Leadership)
Executive Director
Palms Australia and
Palms participant
Western Samoa 1993-94



**SR PHILIPPA
MURPHY**

Director
since
Dec 2020

BEd, MEd(Leadership)
Provincial Leader
Daughters of Our Lady
of the Sacred Heart



**BRENDAN
JOYCE**

Director
since
Oct 2014

BSc, Grad Dip Ed(Sec),
Grad Cert RE, MSD
Website Manager
NSW Cancer Council
and Palms participant
PNG 2003-04



**DR STEPHEN
YATES**

Director
since
Oct 2020

MBBS, MPHTM,
FRACGP, FACRRM, FACTM
Senior Medical Officer
Warwick Hospital QLD and
Palms participant ZAMBIA 2013-14



**BEN
THURLEY**

Director
since
Oct 2020

BA(Hons), Dip.Ed(Sec), B Div
CEO International
Nepal Fellowship Australia



**JOHN
POWELL**

Director
since
May 2021

BA
Former Deputy Executive Director
UN World Food Programme and
Editor of Palms Publication Global
Educator



Leave a bequest

Plant the seeds of hope for those in greatest need.

Bequests are a unique experience of giving. They allow you to make the kind of gifts which might be desirable, but impossible to give during your lifetime. As the ultimate expression of generosity your bequest will play an important role in the work of Palms Australia. The spirit and commitment of this support will continue to live on in the lives of requesting communities through the presence of Palms workers sharing their skills and goodwill.

Leaving a legacy is not a matter of choosing between your family and a good cause. You can provide for both, giving security for your family and building a more just world by supporting an overseas community.

To make a bequest to Palms Australia or for more information, contact Roger on 02 9560 5333 or roger@palms.org.au.

Students from St Joseph's School
Mae Ramat, Northern Thailand

Thank you

Dear Supporter,

Thank you for your ongoing support of Palms Australia this financial year.

Your contribution is vital for impactful sustainable development in the grass roots communities with whom Palms works, and demonstrates to them that a stranger miles away cares about their future.

Madeleine Minns hitching a ride with Ernesta, one of the English teachers at the senior High school, Tecniko Vokasional, Atabae Timor Leste.



Back cover: More ambitious students at St Joseph's School Mae Ramat Thailand use the Covid testing wait time to catch up on homework. Photo taken by Sr Frances Hayes.



Palms Australia

P0 Box 521, Leichhardt NSW 2040

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