



Australian Relief & Mercy Services Ltd

ABN 84 008 643 258

Annual Reports 2004 - 2005



Australian Relief & Mercy Services Ltd is a signatory to the Australian Council for International Development (ACFID) Code of Conduct, which defines minimum standards of governance, management and accountability for non-government development organizations.

Adherence to the Code is monitored by an independent Code of Conduct Committee elected from the NGO community. Our voluntary adherence to the Code of Conduct demonstrates our commitment to ethical practice and public accountability.

More information about the ACFID Code of Conduct can be obtained from ACFID at:

Website: www.acfid.asn.au

Email: acfid@acfid.asn.au Tel: (02) 62851816 Fax: (02) 62851720



Australian Relief & Mercy Services Ltd is a member of COAID a consortium of smaller Australian relief and development organizations that are working together to benefit those who are in need in the developing world.

More information about COAID can be obtained from the COAID website:

Website: www.co-aid.org

Email: info@co-aid.org



The Board of Australian Relief & Mercy Services has endorsed the Fair Share campaign which is being run by a large group of concerned aid agencies under the auspices of the Australian Council For International Development (ACFID).

This campaign seeks to encourage the Australian Federal Government to increase its aid budget and to embrace policies that will help to reduce world poverty by half by 2015.

Australia has committed itself to achieving what have been termed the Millennium Development Goals (MDG). These are as follows;

Millennium Development Goals

Goal 1: Eradicate extreme poverty and hunger

- * Halve, between 1990 and 2015, the proportion of people whose income is less than \$1 a day.
- * Halve, between 1990 and 2015, the proportion of people who suffer from hunger.

Goal 2: Achieve universal primary education

- * Ensure that, by 2015, children everywhere, boys and girls alike, will be able to complete a full course of primary schooling.

Goal 3: Promote gender equality and empower women

- * Eliminate gender disparity in primary and secondary education preferably by 2005 and in all levels of education no later than 2015.

Goal 4: Reduce child mortality

- * Reduce by two-thirds, between 1990 and 2015, the under-five mortality rate.

Goal 5: Improve maternal health

- * Reduce by three-quarters, between 1990 and 2015, the maternal mortality ratio.

Goal 6: Combat HIV/AIDS, malaria, and other diseases

- * Have halted by 2015 and begun to reverse the spread of HIV/AIDS.
- * Have halted by 2015 and begun to reverse the incidence of malaria and other major diseases.

Goal 7: Ensure environmental sustainability

- * Integrate the principles of sustainable development into country policies and program and reverse the loss of environmental resources.
- * Halve, by 2015, the proportion of people without sustainable access to safe drinking water.
- * Halve, by 2015, the proportion of people without access to adequate sanitation.
- * Have achieved, by 2020, a significant improvement in the lives of at least 100 million slum dwellers.

Goal 8: Develop a global partnership for development

- * Develop further an open, rule-based, predictable, nondiscriminatory trading and financial system.
- * Address the Least Developed Countries' special needs.
- * Address the special needs of landlocked and small island developing states.
- * Deal comprehensively with developing countries' debt In cooperation with the developing countries, develop decent and productive work for youth.
- * Provide access to affordable essential drugs in developing countries.
- * Make available the benefits of new technologies – especially information and communication technologies.

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Company Directory

National Office

Melbourne

National Director- David Skeat

1 Kent Rd Surrey Hills Vic 3127

Phone (03) 98312406 Fax (03) 9836 9231

Email davids@arms.org.au

Web- www.arms.org.au

South Australia

Adelaide

Reverse The Curse

Director - Marion Fromm

P.O. Box 658.

MORPHETTVALE, SA 5162

Email:rtc@arms.org.au

Western Australia

Perth

Director- Peter Brownhill

P.O. Box 8501

Perth Business Center

Perth WA 6849

Phone (08) 9328 5321 Fax (08) 9328 1324

Email: dir_office@ywamperth.org.au

Queensland

Townsville

Director - Ken Mulligan

P.O. Box 6221

Townsville Qld 4810

Phone: (07) 47712123 Fax: (07) 47724414

Email: kenm@reeftooutback.com

Sunshine Coast

Director - Nerilee Sowter

POBox5633

Maroochydore

Qld 4558

Email:nerilee@arms.org.au

New South Wales

RescueNet

National Co-ordi nator - Mark Cockburn

PO Box 6206

Parramatta BC

Parramatta NSW 2150

Phone: (02) 9890 4222 Fax: (02) 98904211

Email: markc@rescuenet.org.au

[Web - www.rescuenet.org.au](http://www.rescuenet.org.au)

Northern Territory

Darwin

Director - Jen Keatch

P.O. Box 290

Darwin NT 0801

Phone / Fax: (08) 8981 2424

Email: jen@arms.org.au

National Website: www.arms.org.au

Board Of Directors

David Skeat (National Director)

(Dip Teach ECE)

National Director Mercy Ministries Youth With A Mission Australia. David has a background in teaching with specialisation in Early Childhood. He has also worked in the area of appropriate technologies. He has participated at board level for Mercy Ships Australia and Marine Reach Australia and is a member of the executive board of Youth With A Mission Melbourne and also serves on the board of COAID. He was formerly the Director of Youth With A Mission Albury. He is now based in Melbourne.

Steve Aherne (Director)

National Director Youth With A Mission Australia.

Has participated at board level for Mercy Ships Australia and is based in Melbourne. Steve serves on a number of boards, and is based in Melbourne.

Peter Brownhill (Director)

State Director for YWAM Western Australia and the Northern Territory. Foundation member of the work of the Institute for the Nations in Western Australia. Based in Perth.

Keith Grieg (Director)

Keith is an electrician with a background in missions and international aid. Keith was formerly the Director Of YWAM Sunshine Coast.

Tom Hallas (Director)

Asia/Pacific Field Director for Youth With A Mission International. Member of Youth With A Mission's International Leadership Team. Based in Canberra.

Chris Harrison (Director)

Formerly the Director of Youth With A Mission Darwin. He currently works as a staff development office with Youth With A Mission in Adelaide. He was formerly chairman of the Evangelical Alliance in Darwin. Based in Adelaide South Australia.

Jen Keatch (Director)

Jen is a housewife and mother who lives in Darwin and is the driving force behind the work that happens in that office.

Ken Mulligan (Director)

Director of Youth With A Mission Townsville. Ken has a farming background. Established the national ministry of Mercy Ships Australia, currently involved in training and management. Based in Townsville.

Marion Fromm (Director)

Director of Reverse The Curse. Marion has an administrative background and has formerly worked for Asian Outreach in Australia and Youth With A Mission in Osaka, Japan.

Ministries & Projects

Ache Relief Projects (National Office)
Australian Mercy Fund - (National Office)
Bali Orphanage (Darwin)
Birth Attendant School - (Perth)
Burmese IDP Project - (National Office)
Child Immunization Project - (Townsville)
Child Sponsorships - (National Office | Perth | Darwin)
Community Development School - (Perth)
Melbourne Community Outreach Program (National Office)
East Timor Relief - (Darwin | National Office)
Emergency Relief Projects - (National Office)
Karen Refugee Projects - (National Office)
Kids Ark - (National Office)
Medical Boomerang Teams - (Perth)
Perth Community Development Project - (Perth)
Primary Health Care School - (Perth / National Office)
RescueNet - (National Office | Sydney)
Reverse The Curse - (Adelaide)
Thailand Primary Health Care Projects - (National Office)
Thai Prostitute Outreach (Sunshine Coast)
Tsunami Relief (National Office)
West Timor Relief - (Darwin)

Associated Ministries & Organizations

ACFID
ACORN
Blue Hearts For Jordan (Jordan)
Co-Aid
Destiny International (Worster - South Africa)
Home Of The Open Heart (Chiang Rai Thailand)
Indian Christian Mission Center (India)
Kid's Ark - East Timor
Marine Reach (Australia)
OPAL (Australia)
Partners (Chiang Mai - Thailand)
Project LIFE (Bangkok - Thailand)
Youth With A Mission (Balut - Philippines)
Youth With A Mission (East Timor)



Overseas Offices

East Timor
Cambodia

ARMS Charter

Australian Relief & Mercy Services Ltd (ARMS) has been set up with the express purpose of providing direct relief to persons in any country who are suffering, distress, misfortune, destitution, helplessness and necessitous circumstances.

ARMS is a non governmental/non-profit organization that is governed by an elected board which is elected from its membership. Elections happen once every calendar year.

ARMS is funded through public donations, and through the seeking of grants and corporate donations from the business sector. All funds that are receipted into ARMS are subject to a yearly independent audit that meets the standards of the Australian Council For International Development (ACFID).

ARMS uses the services of volunteers who donate their time to ARMS to achieve its goals.

All ARMS workers are trained to uphold the dignity of those to whom they have been sent to serve.

ARMS does not give preference on the basis of nationality, gender, ethnicity, creed, or religion.

ARMS is willing to cooperate with all governments and other non government organizations for the common good of those in need.

ARMS believes firmly in the values of integrity and accountability in all its dealings.



Capstone Statement

ARMS - people who care helping people in need.

Company Outline



Australian Relief & Mercy Services Ltd (ARMS) is a non profit charitable company, limited by guarantee and incorporated in the ACT, with registered offices in Melbourne, Perth, Darwin, Adelaide, Townsville and the Sunshine Coast.

Australian Relief & Mercy Services Ltd is the mercy ministry arm of Youth With A Mission Australia.

ARMS is dedicated to the relief of people suffering hardship and distress both within Australia and overseas and does so through a National Fund and International Fund that have been set up in accordance with the provisions of the Income Assessment Act 1997. Donations to the work of ARMS within Australia are tax deductible.

All ARMS staff give their services and expertise without charge. They maintain their personal support from people who believe in the value of their ministry.

ARMS has many expressions of its ministry some of which include, training, emergency relief, provision of medical supplies, project grants, child sponsorships, community development, ministry to the homeless, family counselling and the provision of primary health care.

ARMS relies on the generosity of the church, the corporate sector, small business, and the public in general for the finances necessary with which to run its ministry.

Mission Statement

As a Christian organization that sees Christ as the ultimate expression of God's mercy, ARMS outlines its commitment to mercy ministries in the following statements;

1. To example the love and compassion of God to a needy world.
2. To restore wholeness and hope to broken lives.
3. To empower and support families in crisis.
4. To equip people through training and skills development.
5. To serve communities by sharing resources.
6. To Mobilise people to help the poor and the needy

ARMS Involvement In The Boxing Day Tsunami



Most Aid and development organizations will have something to say about the effects of the Boxing Day tsunami. The ramifications of this disaster are still being felt by the people in the effected areas.

ARMS was one of the first Aid organizations on the ground in Aceh, we recruited an Australian medical team and together with our friends at Partners were able to put 21 people from five nations on the ground in Aceh with in 96 hours of the disaster. This was an amazing effort and we are still amazed at the way things just came together so quickly.

When we were travelling to Banda Aceh the airport was not open and we had drive 12 hours from Medan to the disaster site.

When we arrived, the United Nations were not long on the ground and there was little or no coordination happening as the extent of the disaster was still being measured. The UN suggested that we just find a site and dig in; so we did. After consultation with the community leaders of a refugee camp in the university district where hundreds of families had gathered we set up camp, started to run clinics, purify water, distribute food and clothing and provide safe sanitation.

After shocks were common when we were in the first camp and when they happened the people in the houses surrounding the camp were terrified and would run around yelling that another tsunami was coming, but the people in the camp seemed a little more subdued than those who lived in the houses nearby. I put this down to our presence in the camp giving them some reassurance that they were safe.



The needs of these refugees were many and after a few days of working in the camps the refugees told us of other communities of refugees that had retreated into the hills far above the water line. A team of us went out in search of these communities and we found at least three remote camps. Because they were in such remote locations they had not be found by the UN and were without food, clean water and medical aid.

Again we were able to provide this for them and were able to let the UN know where they were.



How the tsunami was portrayed on the news was nothing to what it was like in real life. The tsunami wave penetrated inland 6.5 kilometres from the beach; with it were carried rocks, a ship, cars, steel, wood, and everything else you can imagine that had been shaken loose by the preceding earthquakes. This was used like the blade of a bulldozer to flatten large sections of the city.



Many of the people caught up in the waters had no chance – and every survivor had a story that would break your heart. Hundreds of thousands of people were dead and buried in debris by the time the wave began to recede. When we were in Banda Aceh rescuers were pulling 1400 bodies a day out of the river alone!

Those of us who were in Aceh felt very privileged, the people in the camps were so trusting, many had just experienced the worst day of their life and were sharing it with strangers, because in many cases there were not many other people who would listen. There were so many broken hearts. We could see from day one that the tsunami victims were going to need more than just a hand up – their whole way of life, infrastructure, as well as homes markets, hospitals etc had been destroyed. This was going to take more than just a few months of hard work; it was going to take commitment. So once we had returned to Australia we began to plan and pray what we would do next.

Our time on this first team set us up to recruit other medical teams to go to Aceh. This seemed at first a little bit of over kill because by the time our second team was ready other NGOs had sent hundreds of doctors into the region and the reports we were hearing said that there were too many medical personnel there, many of whom had nothing to do. We still felt that it was right to send a new team. The second team consisted of local GPs, nurses and a counsellor. They arrived in Banda Aceh towards the end of January.



This team was attached to a work team who were going into outlying areas to do water purification work and other work such as clearing away debris. Once it became known that there were medical personnel in the area people just came out of nowhere. Many had no transport and could not go to Banda Aceh where the western doctors were. So the second team was run off its feet; but they had had the time of their lives.



One of the doctors on that team knew someone high up in the health department and through this relationship an ongoing arrangement was made whereby teams of Australian medical personnel would continue to come and work at a hospital in Jantho about an hour out from Banda Aceh. By staffing this hospital refugees in the nearby camp had access to medical services and pressure was taken off the hospital in Banda Aceh. This project is still in full swing but is changing its emphasis from the provision of clinical care to providing training for Indonesian doctors who are now doing the bulk of the patient care at Jantho.



ARMS has also provided other funding and care for the tsunami victims. We helped to fund the visit of a critical incident counselling team to help refugees work through issues related grief.

We funded a medical education team from South Africa who came out to Aceh and provided care and education to refugees helping them to better care for themselves.

We funded a refugee employment project that is helping refugees get back on their feet financially.

Provided emergency funding to a medical team going into the earthquake in Nias.

Have helped with the refurbishment of Jantho hospital.

Provided cash grants to emergency teams working in Sri Lanka, Thailand and India.

ARMS expects to continue working in Aceh well into 2006.

David Skeat
National Director

TABLE OF TSUNAMI EXPENDITURE

Direct Relief For Thai Victims	\$ 2,000
Direct Relief For Sri Lankan Victims	\$ 3,000
Direct Relief For Indian Victims	\$ 4,000
Direct Relief For Aceh Victims	\$12,700
Direct Relief For Nias Earthquake Victims	\$ 2,000
Nias Earthquake Deployment Costs	\$ 1,200
Aceh Relief Team Deployment Costs	\$ 5,500
Aceh Medical Team Deployments	\$ 6,600
South African Health Education Team	\$14,000
TOTAL	\$51,000

* This table does not include Jantho Hospital project costs

Ministry Reports



NATIONAL OFFICE REPORT

Hekan Building Project Is Going A Long Way



The Hekan House was something that has been a joint project between ARMS and MMM International and under development since 2001. The basic design of the houses has changed somewhat since the house were first conceived by retired builder Don Langley whilst on a trip to East Timor.

Over the years ideas have been tested and refined until we now feel confident that not only can we build a good quality house but we can now do it much cheaper than

before. New technologies have been employed and the Hekan house has moved into a whole new realm. But the Hekan design is more than just a house, it is a means through which buildings large and small can be built. In East Timor Hekan has been used to design clinics, an ablution block, houses and the largest application is the Preschool Training Center in Hera. This structure is huge but sturdy as it is built on the Hekan principles.

The total cost of the project is expected to be about \$140,000. This will fully cover the costs of two large building that when complete will hold offices, 3 classrooms, a staff room, kitchen and dining room, storage rooms and toilets and showers.

Building one which contains the classrooms, offices, staff room and toilets is nearly complete. Our hope is that it will be fully completed by the end of 2005. MMM international have been very gracious with their expertise and sponsors TW Buildex, and Kids Stuff have also helped the project to fast track. ARMS donors and local churches have also given generously to this project. Volunteer teams from churches have played a major part in seeing the project progress.



In the 2004 - 2005 financial year \$34,267.42 raised for this project and more needs to be raised if we are to complete the project over the next 12 months. Once the building is completed more funds will need to be raise furbish the classrooms, offices, kitchen and dining rooms. ARMS is also seeking funding to bild a play ground on the premises for the local children. Once completed the building will also house a community clinic that is attached to the ministry of the preschool.

Hekan is an application that we believe hold great promise for the future especially in providing buildings of quality for the poor and the dispossessed.

Australian Mercy Fund

The invested capital within the Australian Mercy Fund (AMF) grew by \$3,042.74 making an invested total of \$21,262.62. A small loss of \$48.47 was made on the sale of units we had with Colonial First State.

In November 2004 the Board made a disbursement of \$925.00 to Partners in Thailand these funds were for the setting up of a Micro Enterprise bank within the Mae-la Refugee camp. Funds re-invested in the AMF from the Disbursement Account totalled \$309.00



The Australian Mercy Fund		
	2003 - 2004	2004 - 2005
Invested Income	17,775.29	21,262.62
Disbursement Account	722.63	278.04
Total	18,497.92	21,540.66

More information about ARMS can be found on the ARMS website

www.arms.org.au

Karen Refugees and Internally Displaced People (IDPs)

Our focus on the Karen refugees in Thailand and IDPs in Burma remains strong. Our work now sponsors 3 IDP clinics, two refugee preschools, two refugee orphanages and also provides emergency resources for emergencies involving movements of refugees and IDPs fleeing from the Burmese military.

We often send in medical personnel to help train paramedics and Primary Health Care workers who are working amongst these populations. This work is growing.



Our partnering agency Partners are about to extend their work into the Shan people who are suffering much like the Karen at the hands of the Burmese military. We anticipate that we will also provide support for these people as well.

Over the financial year 2004- 2005 ARMS distributed \$31,136.00 Burmese IDP projects in Burma. Of this amount \$5225.00 went to clinics serving the IDP populations inside Burma. An amount of \$14,853.00 provided training and resources for Primary Healthcare workers and Paramedics working inside Burma. The



Sangklaburi Medical Project received support totalling \$2,000 and \$9,058 was sent over to provide emergency relief to IDP populations inside Burma.

Within the refugee camps inside Thailand ARMS provided the a total of \$19,936.00 in funding as follows. Karen refugee pre-schools - \$1775.00, Saw George Children's Home \$1050.00, Pehlu's orphanage received \$4970.00 in funding and support.

ARMS provided funding to Partners Relief and development of \$5506.00. Support for Karen primary health care workers totalled \$1420.00, and the ARMS Christmas appeal totalled \$3,215.00

Tsunami Appeal

The ARMS tsunami appeal had a great response and raised \$75,077.02 up until April 30th 2005. These funds were distributed in a wide variety of ways but the vast majority were put into our efforts in Aceh where we had the greatest focus.

Kid's Ark

Besides building the Kid's Ark preschool teacher training center ARMS also helps to fund the Kid's Ark Preschool and Community health clinic. In the financial year 2004 - 2005 ARMS distributed \$3,962.96 to Kid's Ark \$1,900.00 of which was for the Clinic the balance was for the running of the preschool.

Home of The Open Heart (HOH)

Home of the Open Heart is a project located in Chiang Rai Thailand that cares for families that are living with AIDS and also runs an orphanage for AID babies.

Over this financial year ARMS distributed \$7,866.77 to HOH. Of this \$4,942.77 was in general funding to HOH and the balance was in child and staff worker support.

Child Sponsorships

There was no change in the numbers of children sponsored in this financial year. We are are hoping that in the coming year we can increase our committment to child sponsorship.

MMDTS

January 2005 saw the recommencement of the Mercy Ministry DTS (MMDTS). The MMDTS was developed by David Skeat in when he was in Albury. They serve as a training tool that helps long term volunteers connect with works serving the poor and needy.



This year's DTS saw 13 students from 5 nations join a staff of 6 from three nations. The lecture phase combines three extra weeks of lectures that centre on God's heart for the poor. The specialist lecturers that were used for these weeks included, David Cowie from Marine Reach, Steve and Oddny Gumaer for Partners and our own Kathy Kennedy. The lecture phase went really well and feedback from the students said that they felt they greatly benefited from it. Before the teams ventured into the main outreach locations two mini outreaches were held. One outreach was in Albury and the second in Mildura.



One event from these smaller outreaches that stick in my mind was the work we doing in a local church who were reaching out to the poor and homeless in their area. The students had the idea of running a pampering morning for some of the homeless ladies who were coming into the church centre. This turned out to be a great time and the church community worker commented that she had never seen so much self esteem in the women who came along to the pampering session.

The outreach teams went overseas to Thailand and Burma, and East Timor and Indonesia. There they had a great time working in preschools, orphanages, refugee camps, etc. They all came home very excited and all had stories to tell of how God has used to them to be a blessing to other living in poor communities. The next MMDTS will be in May 2006. Reports form both teams are available on the ARMS website.

Reverse The Curse

The RTC report is very encouraging and we are all very pleased with the work that is unfolding in Cambodia.

Reverse the Curse received \$14,024.01 through the National Office in the year 2004-2005.

National Office

The ARMS National Office has had a productive and difficult year. ARMS takes no funds from project funds but tries to raise its operational costs as a seperate item. The financial year has seen increases in big ticket items such as insurance, legal fees etc and thus it has been very difficult for the National Office to run effectively as it might. Cut backs in staff numbers are also a concern.

In the coming financial year we need to see and increase in administratvie financial support as well as an increased staff who can carry the load.

David Skeat - National Director

ARMS SUNSHINE COAST REPORT 2005



The office at the Sunshine Coast is the newest member of the ARMS family. Ministry Director Nerilee Sowter outlines how the team there have been kept busy over the past 12 months.

At the Sunshine Coast we have had a very busy year. Even though we are the youngest ARMS office we are very passionate and very busy in our work amongst the poor.

LOMBOK -

In the past 12 months we have sent 2 teams to minister to the children at the Lombok orphanage and to offer basic first aid and help to the mountain villages. These teams were also involved in teaching English in local schools, and generally helping out around the orphanage property.

We have raised and sent approx \$200 to the Lombok orphanage from the sale of greeting cards.



BANDA ACEH – One of our staff were able to go into Banda Aceh for 14 days and assist with the Tsunami effort in January 2005 -up. The team were able to locate a truck and to carry supplies across the border in Banda Aceh. Once there they were able to provide emergency medical support for tsunami victims, provide food, clothing water purification and sanitation. .

NIAS – We were able to send a team into Nias to help out with the clean-up after the earthquake hit in March 2006.

Nerilee Sowter - Director

RTC CAMBODIA DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Wonderful progress has been made since April 2004. I returned to Phnom Penh at the end of April 2004, with the confident expectation that the machinery we had purchased would be shipped out to Phnom Penh quite soon. So, on my arrival I began to look for a suitable building to house our machinery and begin the work of setting up the factory. A new tenement house was rented, which has a large ground floor area suitable for the factory production. The first floor has 2 offices and the upper two floors have 3 bedrooms, lounge and kitchen, suitable for staff accommodation. I employed a translator/driver/assistant and a night guard.



I moved into the factory on June 4th and began to equip the house for living, installing air-conditioners, office furniture, household furniture etc. The shipment of our equipment was continually delayed and it ultimately arrived in September. Hugh Magarey, an RTC Board member and his son Thomas and Eion May from Melbourne office, came to assist in the setting up of the steam driven kettle and attached boiler. A dehydrator was designed from the Lord's inspiration, to use the heat from the rear of the office air-conditioner to provide the heat and fan for the dehydrator. A local company manufactured it to our specifications and design. This has proved to be highly successful.

Six land mine accident survivors were employed at the beginning of October and they were trained from scratch, to process dried fruit to Australian health standards. We also had to experiment with the production of initially, dried fruit straps, from tropical fruit such as pawpaw, pineapple, and mango. This was not simple, because the tropical fruit has different properties from stone fruit and berries used in Australia, so it took us four months to perfect the process and train the staff in hygienic preparation methods. Then we developed a range of glacè mango, pawpaw, pineapple and ginger. With the cutting waste from fruit straps we made a range of fruit balls. Ginger Syrup was another by-product from glacè ginger. This made up our initial product range, which we began to sell in January 2005.



In February we added two more land accident survivors to the staff. Five ladies and two men have lost legs and another man has shrapnel wounds to his torso and a shoulder injury from the explosion. All of them are very capable employees. Bunthoeun is a university graduate who was injured on his family farm and could not find employment in spite of his education. He has become our trainee factory manager, assisted by Kimsan as chief cook.

Kimsan was also injured on his family's farm. Thida works as receptionist, Vissay as trainee salesman and Sothea sells our products from the factory door. The other ladies work in the kitchen in fruit preparation and cleaning.

I returned to Australia for holidays in December and January and Eion and Fiona May, from ARMS Melbourne office, came out to run the factory in my absence. I was most thankful for their willing and capable assistance and their family was a great encouragement to the staff.

Major promotion of our products came from our exhibits at the International Day of Disability in December and at the Expo and Export Exhibition in March. As a result we were twice featured on National TV, first in the news about the Expo and later as a documentary on dried fruit production, along with the promotion of employment for people with disability. Marketing opportunities have increased from that free publicity. Sales of our products are increasing, but to date, we are still far from covering the cost of production, let alone cover the cost of all the other running expenses. Occasional house guests for a few weeks have helped to cover the cost of the rent.



We have two volunteer expatriates who are giving their time to help us with training the staff. Roz Gill, from Melbourne, has been teaching English and Lani Heramas, from the Philippines, has been training the staff in marketing.

Finances have been very limited since last October, perhaps because people think that now we have started production, we are self supporting. This is far from the case. Production costs and salaries of staff have only increased our expenses. The Lord has been faithful to supply our needs, but it has required greater faith on behalf of the Board of RTC, who are really struggling with the responsibility of raising sufficient funds each month to keep us going. Successfully marketing our products will ease this burden and ensure the sustainability of this factory into the future. The Lord has provided wonderfully for all our needs and we can see His hand and His anointing on everything we do.

Marion Fromm
Director

RESCUENET ACTIVITY REPORT - 2005



The year 2004/05 was a great year for RescueNet. In the early part of the year we ran a very successful training course in Canberra that saw a new group of trainees successfully complete their RescueNet training. Some of these graduates have joined the RescueNet team and are ready to be deployed. Another course was run later in the year in Las Vegas where a smaller but no less committed group also did their training. As a result a RescueNet office has opened in there.

At the end of the year RescueNet responded to a disaster in the Philippines where 15 Typhoons saturated the eastern mountain range in the Aurora and Quezon provinces. Team members came from Australia and from our new office in Las Vegas.

An enormous illegal logging trade was being carried out on this range of mountains until four super-typhoons succeeded these initial 15 typhoons.

The outcome was that all the piles of illegal logs, bulldozers and logging equipment, plus all the boulders, dead trees, etc, became too much weight for the sodden ground, resulting in thousands of mini landslides.

These mini landslides quickly gathered together and before long became lethal super-slides that wiped out entire villages – villages that were caught between super-slides and seas of 5 and 6 meter waves.

A huge loss of lives, property, livestock, etc ensued with thousands of people somehow escaping with simply the clothes on their back.



We teamed up with Operation Blessing, our old friends from Iraq, and the New Life Church to mount a relief effort spanning three weeks, wherein most mornings we started at 3 and 4am and finished at around 2am the following morning.



On the first night alone, we took the vitals off, assessed by doctors, given medication to, fed with a hot meal, provided a weeks supply of food and clothing.

On arriving back to Australia, the Indian Ocean tsunami occurred, and David Skeat helped lead a team to assist with those effected.



David later reported that God was with them in an amazing way as they helped to stabilise the area and medically attend to masses people with diseases and infections, so were so serious that they would have otherwise have died.

Unfortunately, we later cancelled a training in Townsville and another in Las Vegas USA, but on the bright side, David Skeat and Mark Cockburn are to hold talks with Mercy Works in Tyler Texas in September

2005, to share common ideas about a possible follow up to the RescueNet Emergency Relief work.

Then in an effort to foster a growth in Mercy Ministries across to England and Europe, Lynn Green has invited Mark and David to promote ARMS and RescueNet in England, Holland, Germany, Switzerland, Italy and Albania throughout October.

We now prepare for that trip plus another training course in Perth following the next NLM. YWAM New Zealand are still interested in to run a course throughout 2006 as is YWAM Philippines.



Mark Cockburn National Coordinator



Perth Community Development Programme & Neighbourhood Care Programme 2004/2005



The **Community Development Programme (CDP)** has continued ministering to families in crisis in the Perth metropolitan area. The programme is well received by welfare and referral agencies in the city. It has been stated that often we are still the only service operating in the city that is available for referral to these families. We continue to receive more referrals than what we can handle. One comment we received this year from a social worker was that the best results they achieved with a family was when they referred them to our service! This is a wonderful encouragement and testimony for us.

Staff numbers decreased this year and we currently have a team of six with some part time. We are continuing with the “in home help” offering cleaning, shopping, childminding, gardening, prayer and friendship, anything that will help the family to get through their crisis and stay together as a family.

Since the beginning of the programme in 1988, the CDP has visited and ministered to 1296 families. In this last year we have ministered to 81 families. We are currently regularly visiting and assisting 17 families, either on a weekly or fortnightly basis, which keeps us very busy!

Breakdown of statistics:

Gender of person requiring assistance:
Female 78%, male 22%

Marital status:
Divorced/separated families – 31%
Single parent families - 26%
Widow(er) – 18%
Married – 14%
De facto – 11%

Age groupings:
< 20 years - 4% 20-30 years - 19% 30-50 years - 44%
50-65 years - 18% age 65+ - 16%

Help offered:
Heavy duty cleaning (washing floors/walls, bathrooms etc) – 40%
Housework (washing, ironing, dishes, etc) – 28%
Gardening – 17%
Friendship/Counselling – 4%
Shopping – 3%
Babysitting – 3%
Packing/unpacking – 3%
Cooking – 1%
Shifting furniture – 1%

We received referrals from 33 different agencies in the city, government and non-government, as well as word of mouth through friends and family of previous clients. We visited families in 46 suburbs around the city!

The Neighbourhood Care Programme

We have run the Neighbourhood Care Programme this year, which is very exciting. This is where we train local church volunteers to do the same work as the Community Development Programme, serving their local community and connecting with families.

Finances

We continue to work on a donation basis and families will give to the programme as they are able. The majority of our funds however, come from the annual street appeal, which this year was in February and we raised \$9870.70.

Kathy Kennedy



Medical Boomerang, Kathmandu, Nepal 8 – 30 April 2005



The Medical Boomerang team recently returned from an awesome outreach to the nation of Nepal.

There were six of us on the team from a variety of medical backgrounds including general practice, nursing, occupational therapy (and counselling), physiotherapy, primary health care and first aid. Each day we would travel to a different part of Kathmandu and set up a clinic. These would be held in community centres, churches, or peoples

homes and would vary in size but the average was 80 people per day and we were able to see nearly 1000 patients treated.

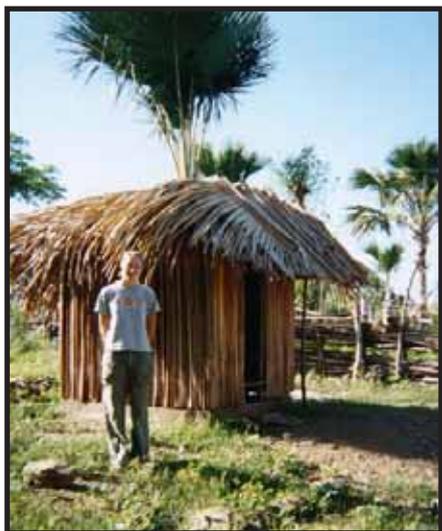
We saw a range of conditions such as headaches, low back pain, joint pain, epigastric pain, fever, eye problems (especially cataracts), ear problems, asthma, lung problems, leprosy, and skin problems (fungal infections). We also saw several cases of domestic violence; therefore, it was a huge blessing to have a trained counselor who could offer advice and encouragement to these ladies. She also helped counsel many people with emotional problems and stress.



Kathy Kennedy - Perth Director

ARMS DARWIN REPORT

The ARMS **Darwin Medical Project** in Weberek has continued to develop momentum over the past twelve months. An initial visit to East Timor and specifically Dili and Weberek in June 2004, by a small team of three medical professionals from Darwin has enabled a project plan to be developed in conjunction with the team working there. The aim has been to offer an advisory role as needed in the ongoing development of the medical clinic, as well as to support the work of the nursing staff in Weberek. Training programs for East Timorese health care workers have also been developed by the nurses, along with providing general health education for the community.



Preventative health care in both **Weberek and Sidara** has also been a consideration as the medical team have been evaluating the status of nutrition in each of these communities. Over the coming months the medical team will be addressing this in partnership with the nurses in each of these communities.

In January 2005 I visited East Timor again, this time accompanied by my seventeen year old daughter Inez. We spent this time assisting and observing the pre-school programs of **Kid's Ark in Hera** and in Sidara. This past year ARMS Darwin co-ordinated a fund raising project with a local primary school. This project partnered with the Salvation Army who then donated \$5 for every bag of clothing or items given to their stores on behalf of the benefiting charity. The enthusiastic involvement of the school and students raised \$470.00 which could then be used to purchase educational equipment and educational toys for Kid's Ark.

Over this past year **ARMS child sponsorship** has increased in Hera, where Kid's Ark has 45 young children regularly attending the pre-school sessions. Seventeen children are currently sponsored at Kid's Ark through ARMS, as we continue to make this sponsorship opportunity known to the general community. Two of the local East Timorese pre-school teachers working with Kid's Ark are also currently assisted with monthly sponsorship to enable them to gain experience and undertake further training.



The child sponsorship program for school aged children provided care by YWAM in **Bali** has also continued to grow, they now provide for twenty-four children. Six of those children are currently sponsored through ARMS. Support of one staff person working in Bali has also been provided over the past year. Anna Haythorpe who works with ARMS in Darwin was able to go over and visit this location in October, allowing her to

develop closer ties with the project.

Links with The Hope of the Nation Foundation in **West Timor** have continued in various ways. As they have been in the process of establishing secondary level education for their students, ARMS was able to provide assistance to the project leaders during a visit to a local Darwin secondary school. Two students are also receiving specific assistance with sponsorship.



As the staff of ARMS and Reef to Outback Darwin, we wish to thank all those who have generously supported these projects over the past year. Many donations come through our office as finance or gifts in kind, and it is a special privilege to see the opportunities for lives to be transformed and to recognize the place we each have in building the Kingdom.

Jen Keatch

ARMS TOWNSVILLE REPORT

Reef to Outback, Townsville continues to support the work of Mercy Ministries through a variety of opportunities.

However although Discipleship Training Schools (DTS) teams from Townsville have continued to be effective in outreach to various locations including developing nations, specific activity in regard to ministry within the context of Australian Relief and Mercy services has been limited over this past year.

Ken Mulligan

MALARIA MINISTRY REPORT



I arrived in Mae Sot on Tue Nov 9th with microscopes and other gear thanks to generous allowances by Singapore and Phuket airlines. Russ and the Partners staff made me very welcome and I stayed in their office guest room except for one night with Em, Napoleon, Ler Bwey and their family at Mae Plu. This was a very happy time, they are all well, Ler Bwey has her motorbike and a white paper ID that allows her to ride it to Mae Salit to do IDP Malaria smears across the river as well as to the boat to Ler Ber Her. This ID will be

upgraded to a card in a few months.

It was not possible to teach either in Mae La camp as I had hoped, or the 101 IDP camp hospital, due to tight Thai security at present. I taught again at the Karen Health and Welfare Dept near Mae Sot, this was OK but not a good teaching situation. Saw Gyi Gyi, a very nice Health Dept official interpreted for me. He and Russ had arranged for the purchase of microscopy staining and other requirements, this was a big help. Orange Base Hospital had given me a very good Olympus teaching microscope and I used the double head from it on one of the microscopes donated this time, this was a great help. I also took one other donated microscope. The students were from three IDP clinics, one has a microscope taken on the last trip, one a good one which I took this time, the other has a badly deteriorated one take earlier that I have brought parts of back for repair. I have also brought one complete microscope and parts of two others for repair. Problems include both physical damage caused while fleeing from the enemy and fungus destruction in lenses and prisms. The teaching went very well and we had a good time together.

The last few days before I left were fairly active with two visits to clinics in Burma, some quite long walks, a bit of hill climbing and negotiating narrow ridges between rice fields overgrown with high grass. We drove in on side roads and narrow tracks to avoid the Thai border guards. The first Burma clinic we went to was Nya Li Ah Ta where 101 division have a hospital/clinic. We went by longshaft boat across the river,

a bit south of Mae Ramat, the boat wasn't available to get back so they refloated a smaller one submerged to hide it from the Burmese military to paddle back in. The other one was south of Mae Sot, further upstream, higher and colder, we crossed in to Burma by bamboo bridge. It has a clinic called Baw Way Hta in the Wa La Khee area. These were both places where students use our donated microscopes, it was good to see the conditions they work under and give advice. The 101 hospital has good working conditions for





staining and microscopy. The situation at Wa La Khee is the opposite.

In the picture opposite, the guy squatting is a Medic. The girl in camouflage jacket is the Microscopist. Because of jungle situation the only way she can examine Malaria smears is to have the microscope standing on this bench, with her kneeling behind it, and the microscope mirror directed at the only available patch of clear sky. The microscope

was unusable because of fungus damage to lenses and I have brought them home for possible repair. These people are doing their very best, but conditions would make it extremely difficult to differentiate between or even see different species of malarial parasites.

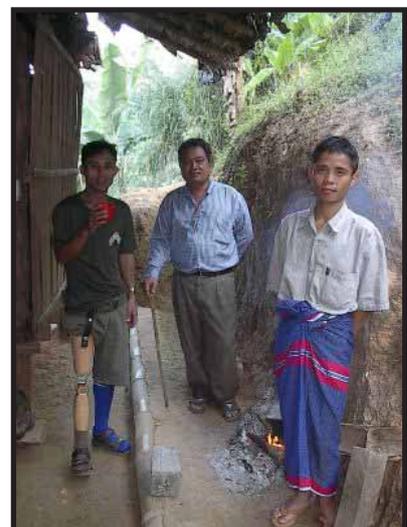
Because of the danger of not correctly identifying *Falciparum* malaria in children and pregnant women, I will recommend to Gyi Gyi and Russ that health workers in these conditions be provided with finger prick strip tests specific for *Falciparum* malaria.



Microscopy is less expensive, and accurate, for use in clinics with controlled conditions doing a high number of smears, but much more expensive long term for small numbers, both for reagent costs and trying to keep microscopes in reliable condition. In these cases, and for field work, the Paracheck F strips which I have given previously, and they have obtained more of since last year, will be much more reliable and can save many lives by enabling prompt commencement of appropriate medication for this serious species of Malaria.

In future I would like to spend as much time seeing, or learning about, the conditions that donated microscopes will be used under as I do teaching people how to stain and examine Malaria blood films microscopically.

I also went to Mae La with Jonathan, visited Peh Lu at the orphanage, Jonathan's house, wife and new baby, Pastor Arthur and Clasper at the Baw Naw church where I had been able to teach previously, and Jury's Child Care Foundation. Jury was away, but we met her daughter, they care for and train disabled people as well as normal children. Mae La is now surrounded by barbed wire and concrete posts and access very restricted, we had to walk around a track along the top edge and down to get to Jonathan's house and Pastor Arthur's.





My last Saturday at the Partners office was spent teaching a Primary Health Care outreach team from Montana about Malaria. This was a very happy occasion and we made good use of the teaching microscope and my PHC Malaria powerpoints.

I had a two day stop over in Singapore on the way home. Mrs. Sheryn Mah, one of a group hoping to donate equipment for Dr Dan's Bairopite Clinic Laboratory, kindly invited me her stay at her home. Her parents are from Queensland so I had some good time talking to her Dad, her husband David is a Government minister. We had a good meeting with a Singapore Med Lab Scientist for discussions about the most useful items for them to buy for Dan.

Robin Wales

Audit Of Accounts



AUSTRALIAN RELIEF & MERCY SERVICES LIMITED
A.B.N. 84 008 643 258

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30TH APRIL 2005

	2005	2004
	\$	\$
REVENUE		
Donations and Gifts	397,431.88	306,234.25
Grants	190.00	-
Investment Income - Interest Received	2,582.10	1,176.78
Investment Income - Other	254.12	10.63
Other Income	12,757.79	8,235.75
TOTAL REVENUE	413,215.89	315,657.41
DISBURSEMENTS		
Overseas Projects		
Funds to Overseas Projects	260,947.33	164,792.00
Other Overseas Project Costs	13,157.87	1,937.11
Domestic Projects	21,870.50	2,980.98
Fundraising Costs		
Public	5,651.65	5,582.51
Loss on Sale of Non-current Assets	-	1,974.00
Administration	78,378.71	85,935.00
TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS	380,006.06	263,201.60
Excess of revenue over disbursement (shortfall) before extraordinary items	33,209.83	52,455.81
Extraordinary items	0.00	0.00
Excess of revenue over disbursement (shortfall) after extraordinary items	33,209.83	52,455.81
Funds available for future use at the beginning Of the financial year	168,137.70	115,681.89
FUNDS AVAILABLE FOR FUTURE USE AT THE END OF THE FINANCIAL YEAR	201,347.53	168,137.70

ARMS does not take administration fees from project donations but rather raises its administration costs separately.

AUSTRALIAN RELIEF & MERCY SERVICES LIMITED
A.B.N. 84 008 643 258

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30TH APRIL 2005

	2005	2004
	\$	\$
ASSETS		
Cash	126,553.25	104,346.89
Receivables	50,044.84	16,964.59
Investments	1,500.00	6,000.00
Property, plant and equipment	31,821.02	45,605.30
TOTAL ASSETS	209,919.11	172,916.78
LIABILITIES		
Accounts Payable	8,571.58	4,779.08
Borrowings	-	-
TOTAL LIABILITIES	8,571.58	4,779.08
NET ASSETS	201,347.53	168,137.70
EQUITY		
Retained profits	201,347.53	168,137.70
TOTAL EQUITY	201,347.53	168,137.70

Table of Cash Movements for Designated Purposes For the Year Ended 30/04/2005

No single appeal or other form of fund raising for a designated purpose generated 10% or more of total income for the period under review.

INDEPENDENT AUDIT REPORT
TO THE MEMBERS OF
AUSTRALIAN RELIEF & MERCY SERVICES LIMITED
A.B.N. 84 008 643 258

Scope

We have audited the financial report, being the Directors' Declaration, Profit and Loss Statement, Balance Sheet, Statement of Cash Flows and Notes to the Financial Statements of Australian Relief & Mercy Services Limited for the financial year ended 30th April 2005. The company's directors are responsible for the financial report. We have conducted an independent audit of this financial report in order to express an opinion on it to the members of the company.

Our audit has been conducted in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards to provide reasonable assurance whether the financial report is free of material misstatement. Our procedures included examination, on a test basis, of evidence supporting the amounts and other disclosures in the financial report, and the evaluation of accounting policies and significant accounting estimates. These procedures have been undertaken to form an opinion whether, in all material respects, the financial report is presented fairly in accordance with Accounting Standards and other mandatory professional reporting requirements and statutory requirements so as to present a view which is consistent with our understanding of the company's financial position, and performance as represented by the results of their operations and their cash flows.

The audit opinion expressed in this report has been formed on the above basis.

Qualification

In the normal course of it's business, the company derives a substantial portion of it's income from donations and sales to related parties. As the effective control over such transactions are not established until they are received and entered in the accounting records, we have been unable to independently verify whether the amounts received from this source have been completely accounted for.

INDEPENDENT AUDIT REPORT

TO THE MEMBERS OF

AUSTRALIAN RELIEF & MERCY SERVICES LIMITED

A.B.N. 84 008 643 258

Audit Opinion

In our opinion, the financial statements of Australian Relief & Mercy Services Limited is in accordance with:

- (a) the Corporations Law, including:
 - (i) giving a true and fair view of the company's financial position as at 30th April 2005 and of their performance for the year ended on that date;
and
 - (ii) complying with Australian Accounting Standards and the Corporations Regulations; and
- (b) other mandatory professional report requirements.

Name of Firm: T A Khoury & Co
Chartered Accountants

Name of Partner:
Tony Khoury

Address: Sydney

Dated this 23rd day of September 2005