

Bicycles for Humanity (WA) Inc.

ABN 66 157 631 327

7 Beverley Terrace

South Guildford, WA, 6055

Email: perth@bicyclesforhumanity.com

Web: www.bicyclesforhumanity.com

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CHAIRMAN'S REPORT - 2013

In our second full year of operation we have achieved all we set out to do and more. The committee, all members and casual volunteers can be justly proud of these achievements.

Our ultimate aim is to contribute to poverty alleviation in Africa by the supply of bicycles, spares and tools that support the establishment of community run and owned bicycle shops. These shops not only provide low cost, sustainable means of transport for hundreds of people who would otherwise walk, but also self determination for a community that benefits from the jobs created and access to cash generated in support of local heath care workers and volunteers.

On our way to meeting this goal in the past 12 months our association has packed and shipped two more containers containing some 650 bicycles, plus spare parts and tools to our partner in Namibia, the Bicycling Empowerment Network. These containers have provided the basis for new Bicycle Empowerment Centres to be established in the inland rural towns of Omaruru and Karibib, both in Orongo Province. Since our inauguration in July 2011, the four containers we have sent to Namibia have now contributed to the welfare of people in 10 towns scattered across central and southern Namibia.

For this we have our many Sponsors, private donors and supporters to thank in addition to our dedicated volunteers. All of our Sponsors and Supporters are acknowledged on our webpages. This year we offer special thanks to Anglogold Ashanti who covered the full cost of the container sent to Karibib and also to Bannerman Resources, iCeutica, Minemax and Shaw River Manganese, who were major sponsors of the container to Omaruru. The ongoing support of our in-kind service providers is also gratefully acknowledged.

None of this could be achieved without our members and casual volunteers who contribute in so many ways, including collecting, repairing and preparing bikes for loading in



http://www.givenow.com.au/bicyclesforhumanitywa

containers, fundraising and general administration. Jamie Brindle deserves special mention for his tireless work as manager of the High Wycombe workshop.

I'm sure everyone who has contributed is as pleased as I am with the effort made this year to improve the working conditions for, and health and safety of our volunteer workers at the High Wycombe workshop. This was achieved thanks to the wonderful grant we received from the Waste Authority to fund the upgrade and the many hundreds of volunteer hours that went into the workshop set-up.

Once again, leaving aside the Waste Authority Grant for workshop set-up, I am delighted to report that 94% of our expenditure of sponsors and donors funds went directly to shipping bikes, including cost of containers and insurance.

On behalf of the committee I would like to add my sincere thanks to the volunteers, sponsors, donors and supporters who make it all possible. We can all be proud of our contribution to *changing lives in Africa*.

David Tucker

Chairman