



Theosophical Order of Service in Australia National Coordinator's Report 2017

This is my last report as coordinator of The Theosophical Order of Service (TOS) having now served for a total of six years. At next year's convention we will be breaking from the tradition of appointments to a democratic system and for the first time be electing our future Management Team. Regardless of which system is in place, I have faith in the members of TOS as I have seen firsthand the tireless commitment to service shown by our TOS groups and their members.

All our world's great traditions emphasize service as a path for spiritual growth. Our theosophical world view stresses action/doing without looking at the fruits of action. Annie Besant stressed that service is a process; the first stage involves action and accountability i.e. being concerned with the results of such action. In time, this may change as the accomplishments become insignificant to the task at hand.

This year I have seen evidence of this with the outstanding support for our Syrian Refugee Appeal. A total of \$9,000 has been forwarded to TOS Italy where they have a programme already functioning on the border of Turkey and Syria assisting displaced persons, plus assisting asylum seekers at home in Italy. The knowledge that we cannot solve the problems of the world, but we can assist simply because it the right thing to do, is the mindset that has enabled this project to be so successful.

This year TOS made total donations of \$26,500 made up as follow; -

- Pakistan Home schools \$4400
- Pakistan Educational sponsorships \$4650
- Philippines Golden Link College \$3000
- Syrian Refugees via TOS Italy \$9000
- India:
 - Adyar Olcott Memorial School \$2000
 - Adyar Animal Dispensary \$ 150
 - Adyar Women's Welfare Centre \$ 500
 - Adyar HPB Hostel \$ 700
 - Assam Mobility Project \$ 750

My personal thanks to both Carolyn and Geoff Harrod for their unfailing support, Travis James our secretary, Donald Fern our auditor and to all our TOS members who go about doing what needs to be done - you are simply amazing people.

Jean Carroll
TOS National Coordinator