



thefenwickfoundation

*Building Stronger Communities*



## **2020 Build**

Koh Ramdual, Cambodia  
**Volunteer Information**

# Background

## Koh Ramdual

Koh Ramdual is an island located 25km from the Phnom Penh town centre on the Bassac River, in the district of Takmao. The island is home to over three hundred Cambodians who were displaced during the Pol Pot regime. Many of these people are widows or handicapped with very little access to medical facilities, food, clean drinking water and other basic amenities. The people live in bamboo huts constantly in need of maintenance and repairs. The islanders find it difficult to make a living and to break the cycle of poverty, struggling on a daily basis to teach their children the necessary skills needed to improve their quality of life.

## The Fenwick Foundation

The Fenwick Foundation was established to honour the memory of a remarkable young man and to carry on his dream. Fenwick Joyce was a man of energy, compassion and vision. He was “hands on”, generous with his time and expertise and in forming relationships, which ultimately led to his greatest wish: to establish real communities of people.

Fen was 29 years old when he died. The year before he completed his Bachelor of Building at the University of Technology of Sydney. He was posthumously awarded his degree with Honours.

In his last year of study, Fen and other final year students went to Koh Ramdual. The students worked there to build a community centre and this experience inspired Fen, and his close friend and fellow student, Tom Jenkins, to continue their involvement at Koh Ramdual. Fen was so moved by working with this group of people that he decided to contribute in some personal way to the development of this South East Asian community.

Before realising his dream, Fen passed away suddenly and tragically but the Foundation, established in his name, continues his vision.



## Projects so far

The Foundation has been involved in three Build so far. The first on Koh Ramdual and the other two near Phnom Penh in conjunction with Habitat for Humanity.” to “The Foundation has been involved in four Build so far. Two on Koh Ramdual and the other two near Phnom Penh in conjunction with Habitat for Humanity.

## The Family Care Foundation, Cornerstone.

Cornerstone Project which is honoured by the Cambodian Government, works hard to improve the quality of life for orphans, abandoned children, widows, handicapped, blind and the poor in and around Phnom Penh, as well as in Kandal (Koh Ramdual) and Siem Reap provinces through:



- Providing basic needs such as food, clothing, medical attention, educational and job opportunities and motivational programs.
- Offering a chance to orphaned and/or underprivileged children to get an education and learn foreign languages, through local and foreign sponsorships, to break their poverty/begging cycle, allowing them to find better paying jobs when they become of age.

With the support of generous contributors, close to 2000 children are regularly provided with:

- Food and clothing, dietary supplements and vitamins, hygiene and cleaning agents, medical care and psychological assistance.
- School materials, financial sponsorship toward their education, vocational and professional training, computer skills, secretarial, culinary, artistic, musical and linguistic training, and preparation toward acquiring a job after they turn 18.
- Excursions, celebrations, birthdays, playground upgrades, gardening, new volleyball and basketball courts, repairing and painting facilities, and improving the general conditions of life for the needy.

Additionally, Cornerstone has participated in emergency relief efforts in areas of the country devastated by natural disasters

## This project

In March 2020 the Foundation will return to Koh Ramdual to build another house for a resident family. The Foundation will be working in conjunction with the Family Care Foundation, Cornerstone Project. You will be one of a group of volunteers who will work with local contractors to complete a house in five days. At the end of that time you will have the wonderful experience of handing over the house to its new occupants who will have assisted you in the building of their new home.

## Cost

You will be responsible for your own airfare to Cambodia and for your accommodation and meals in Phnom Penh. Transport from Phnom Penh to Koh Ramdual and return each day, cost of lunch at the site, contribution to the cost of building materials, hire of contractors and insurance amounts to \$700 per participant. You will need to raise this via Crowd Raiser site by clicking on the following link:

[givenow.com.au/fenwickfoundation](https://givenow.com.au/fenwickfoundation)

## Role of volunteers

Volunteers will be oriented on the work of the day every morning by the construction supervisor. Your tasks will depend to some extent on your skills but may involve moving building materials, mixing mortar, raising walls, stripping and weaving bamboo, digging and laying bricks. Because it is quite hot at this time of year the work will take place in the cooler morning part of the day breaking at 2.00pm for lunch and return to the hotel.

## Schedule for the Build

Saturday	7 March	Arrive Phnom Penh
Sunday	8 March	Free and orientation
Monday	9 March	Commence Build
Friday	13 March	Complete Build and Handover Celebration

## Social Activities

There will be opportunities for you to spend time getting to know Cambodia and your fellow volunteers. A welcome dinner is planned for Sunday night. Sunday is a free day and you may choose to visit the infamous "killing fields" or explore Phnom Penh or wander down to the local markets. If you can stay on in Cambodia a visit to Siem Reap to the ancient ruins of Angkor Wat is a great extension.



## Travel and Accommodation

- As a volunteer you are responsible for making your own travel arrangements to and from Phnom Penh. You will be met at the airport and transferred to your accommodation. If you are intending to arrive earlier than the Build or stay later, please let us know so we can factor that in to transfers and accommodation arrangements.
- Accommodation will be booked for you at The Harmony Hotel <http://www.harmonyphnompenhhotel.com> The cost is \$US 27.50 per person per night in a two person shared room or \$US 55 per person per night in a single room.
- You will be responsible for the cost of your meals, excluding breakfast which is part of the room rate and also lunch which will be provided on site. Allow about \$US 30 per day.



## What you'll need

- **Passport** – all volunteers will require a current passport which is valid for at least six months beyond the date of arrival in Cambodia
- **Visa** – volunteers have the option of either organising a visa prior to departure via <https://www.evisa.gov.kh> or alternatively paying \$US 30 on arrival
- **Immunisation** – you are encouraged to have a tetanus shot (current for 10 years) before starting the build. Visit the Centre for Disease Control for information about other immunisation requirements and recommendations
- **Other health reminders** – we recommend that you consult your doctor concerning your health and international travel plans.
- **Foundation paperwork** – we will be in regular communication regarding information we need from you (like your travel arrangements, confirming your passport details). We will also ask you to obtain a police check and to sign a form of indemnity.
- **Important documents**
  - Personal identification
  - Passport and visa and photocopies of both
  - Airline tickets
  - Fenwick Foundation contact numbers
  - Emergency contacts
  - Copies of all forms of ID and credit cards that you are travelling with along with emergency numbers for replacing or cancelling credit cards that may be stolen or lost
- **Fundraising** – once you are committed to going you will need to start raising the funds you require by seeking donations from family, friends and colleagues. The Fenwick Foundation does not have DGR status so any donations made are not tax deductible. Use the Crowd Raiser site

[givenow.com.au/fenwickfoundation](https://givenow.com.au/fenwickfoundation)