

[illegible]

AUSTRALIA DAY

Ambassador



In 2009 my running found new purpose and intention. A visit to South Africa to run the Comrades Marathon took me back to the very front row of poverty. A vision for the future became clear and exciting – getting shoes onto bare feet across the planet and in October 2009 we formed the charity “Shoes for Planet Earth”.

Our first box of shoes went to runners in South Africa but we soon realised that the high cost of international shipping was more than we could afford. Rather than abandon our vision we “looked local” to see if there was a need for shoes amongst the needy and homeless in Sydney and throughout Australia. We have never looked back.

“Shoes for Planet Earth” took its first steps slowly but then it started to run...

To date we have:

- Changed over 80,000 lives through the gift of a pair of shoes.
- Given shoes to the homeless, sporting communities, natural disaster victims, orphans, church groups and people in need.
- Sent shoes to 24 countries other than Australia and we continue to grow.
- Promoted walking for Sydney’s homeless.

Our charity has three primary goals:

1. To collect and send sports shoes to people in need throughout Australia
2. To change lives by promoting a healthy lifestyle through exercise.
3. To encourage recycling to reduce landfill.

There are not enough hours in a day to answer all life’s calls, but running keeps me sane, fit, happy and healthy so that I can continue to do the work that God has put me here to do.