



Trekking to Send Hope

September 2013

A group of women, from different walks of life, looking for their own personal physical challenge are coming together to walk the Kokoda Track, starting 26 October 2013. We are taking the opportunity to raise money for those less fortunate and learn more about the sacrifices that others, Australian and Papua New Guinean, made for our freedom.

We will be supporting the charity Send Hope Not Flowers which aims to reduce maternal mortality in developing countries. Send Hope Not Flowers has donated to partner organisations working on the ground in PNG, Indonesia and the Solomon Island to prevent women dying in childbirth. It chooses projects which are long-term and sustainable, such as training midwives or local village women to become birth attendants or providing basic supplies to assist with birth.

Every cent raised by the Kokoda Trekking Ladies will go directly to projects in PNG such as programs run by Dr. Barry Kirby (you can read about his inspirational story – [A Builder's Labour](#)).

To put it in real terms, with your help we will be able to provide funding for life saving programs and items such 'Baby Bundle Gifts' (\$27 per Baby Bundle Gift) and surgical sutures. Milne Bay Province suffers historically high rates of women who die giving birth in their local village with no medical assistance. In an attempt to lower the death toll, health workers asked women why they didn't travel to the local health centre to give birth under medical supervision.

Most women admitted they did not have any nappies or baby clothes for their baby when it was born and they felt shy at exposing their poverty in the town.

In this program, local mothers will be offered a Baby Bundle Gift – which includes the clinic cost, a baby bath, cotton nappies, a blanket, baby clothes and sanitary supplies for the mother - when they come to have a supervised delivery at a health centre.

A simple, practical, and critical program to reduce the maternal mortality rate.

So why trek Kokoda?

Because it's a challenge. A challenge for us, but also to raise awareness that often distance is one of the greatest challenges for a woman getting to the health services they need for a safe birth in developing countries. Together, we can change this...





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- Send Hope website – www.sendhope.org/donate/
 - Direct debit –
 - Name: Send Hope
 - BSB: 302167
 - Account: 0005054

All the money raised from my marathon will contribute to programs in the Milne Bay Province, Papua New Guinea, run by Dr. Barry Kirby (you can read about his inspirational story – [A Builder's Labour](#)).

To put it in real terms, with your help we are able to provide funding for approximately 92 'Baby Bundle Gifts'. Milne Bay Province suffers historically high rates of women who die giving birth in their local village with no medical assistance. In an attempt to lower the death toll, health workers asked women why they didn't travel to the local health centre to give birth under medical supervision.

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Thank you all for your support and donations.

To find out more about Send Hope Not Flowers visit www.sendhope.org or follow them [@Send_Hope](#)

