



CHRISTMAS BLESSINGS 2015

Dear

The year 2015 has ended on a high note for The Sophia Foundation. After starting discussions five years ago on introducing an environmental aspect into the wonderful humanitarian work that Ikamva Labantu is doing, we celebrated the graduation of eight of Ikamva Labantu's Community Based Workers from the Ingcambu Nobomi (Roots & Life) Programme - see photograph above. We also received the gift of our beautiful new logo so filled with wisdom and symbolism from our dear friend EllaLou O'Meara; and have completed our provisional new website <http://www.thesophiafoundation.org.za/>.

There were many additional highlights during the year with our collaborating partners. The Peace Parks hosted a visit to The Kruger National Park to see the work of the project "Critical Veterinary Support in Kruger National Park: Giving injured rhino and infants a second chance" and to hear about the heroic efforts that are being made to combat rhino poaching. We also enjoyed being part of a feedback session on their programme by the Earthchild Project Alumni and having the opportunity to share some of their life stories and hopes and dreams for the future at a celebratory dinner.

Hayley Bagnall, who has travelled The Sophia Foundation journey with me for the last three years and has contributed so much to the Foundation, did some great work in the area of sustainability and you will be able to read more about her challenging findings in the "Paper Log" publication on the website. She will be returning to the United Kingdom with her partner but will stay connected to The Sophia Foundation and we will continue to share information, insights and support. I wish her a

very exciting and happy next phase and know that whatever she touches will be enormously enriched by the great gifts she has to offer.

I will continue to work next year on deepening relationships and collaborations with organisations and individuals from whom I have learned so much and who are a living expression of the ethos of The Sophia Foundation - “raising consciousness for the good of the whole”; and on penetrating more deeply the mystery of the Sophia wisdom and how best to manifest this in a practical way.

Thank you so much for all you have given in your own particular way to The Sophia Foundation. May the Christmas Festival be a time of confidence, of trust and of hope and may the seeds which you have planted this year thrive in the light of the coming year.

With my warmest wishes and appreciation

Lorraine

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