

# Human trafficking horror

## Suffering in Nepal to be filmed

By MICHAEL MCGOWAN

ON the eve of International Women's Day, a group of Newcastle residents is looking to shed light on the plight of disadvantaged women and children in one of the world's most remote locations.

A team of four Newcastle residents will head to Nepal on Monday to begin filming a documentary on the plight of the some 20,000 women and children who are sold to human traffickers from Nepal each year.

"They're running the project in conjunction with 3 Angels Nepal, an orphanage, school and safe haven for victims of human trafficking set up by Dr Rajendra Gautam in 2008.

The group includes marketing guru come project manager Belinda Bow, cinematographer Daniel Bracken, photographer Melissa Histon and benefactor Robyn Raymond.

Ms Bow first heard of 3 Angels about two years ago and has been involved with fund-raising efforts in Newcastle since.

She said bringing to light the reality of life for other women in the developing world was the major motivation in creating the documentary.

"I'm a wife, a mother and a businesswoman, and the reality is if I had been born in Nepal, in the exact same situation I am in now, the risk of human trafficking to me would be real," she said.

"Say I was in the same position, if my husband left me or died there is no recourse to justice for me.

"It really isn't something you hear about [but] there are literally communities in



STORY TO TELL: From left, Robyn Raymond, Melissa Histon, Belinda Bow and Daniel Bracken are all set for the trip.

Picture: Dean Osland

■ THE Hunter woman of the year will be announced at a special International Women's Day breakfast tomorrow.

The breakfast, hosted by the Hunter chapter of UN Women, has been held since 2011 to mark the global event. The award will be presented by Newcastle MP Tim Owen.

Nepal where there are no women or children, that's the extent.

"I want to be able to help share exactly what 3 Angels do with a western audience."

There will be a question and answer session with Will Creedon (chairman of Tourism Hunter), Eileen Doyle (chairwoman of the Hunter Valley Research Foundation), Tracey McCosker (chief executive of NSW Health Pathology) and Caroline McMillan (the vice-chancellor of Newcastle University).

Ms Bow will be blogging about her experiences at [www.belindabow.com](http://www.belindabow.com), and you can find out more about 3 Angels at [www.3angelsnepal.com](http://www.3angelsnepal.com).

"HILARIOUS!" Daily Mirror, London  
 \*\*\*\*\* ABSOLUTE GENIUS!  
 -The List, Edinburgh

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Newcastle Herald  
 Fri March 7  
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