

PLAYGROUND DONATION INFORMATION



Thank you for considering a playground donation to the Rotary Overseas Relocated Playgrounds Project (RORP). This information document explains how you can play a part in helping Rotary volunteers bring joy to children in developing nations.

ABOUT THE ROTARY OVERSEAS RELOCATED PLAYGROUNDS (RORP) PROJECT

Every year in Australia thousands of unwanted playgrounds are sent to landfill. By our standards, these playgrounds have reached the end of their life. They may be a bit faded, worn, or out of fashion, but they are still safe and structurally sound. At the same time we send these playgrounds to landfill, there are children in developing nations who have never seen, nor experienced, the joy of a playground. Rotary wants to stop these playgrounds being wasted and secure them for children overseas.

The Rotary Overseas Relocated Playgrounds project (RORP) was started in Melbourne in July 2019 and so far has relocated over 350 playgrounds for children in nations like Sri Lanka, Timor Leste, Fiji, Uganda, Nepal, the Philippines and Tanzania. Since launching in South Australia in 2021, Rotary has removed playgrounds for the Mount Barker District Council, the Rural City of Murray Bridge, the City of Whyalla, the City of Playford, the City of Port Adelaide Enfield, the City of Charles Sturt, the City of Tea Tree Gully, the City of Prospect, the Town of Gawler and the City of Port Lincoln. We know that among the 64 councils in South Australia, there are around 1650 playgrounds. Imagine the joy we could bring to children overseas if we could relocate each of these playgrounds as they were replaced.

In May 2023 we shipped our first consignment from South Australia to Ulaanbaatar, the capital city of Mongolia. We are currently preparing consignments to Timor Leste and the Philippines.

When we are referred a suitable playground, our team carefully photograph, survey and label every part. We then engage local Rotary Club volunteers to descend on the playground (armed with tools, WD-40 and determination) to disassemble it. The project team at the Rotary Club of Mount Barker liaise with the council ("the donor") to arrange contracts and necessary documents. We assist the local Rotary club with a project plan and tools and then we remove the disassembled playground to our storage facility at Edinburgh Parks, pending shipping.

The project is completely volunteer driven, however for each playground we ask for a donation towards the cost of shipping. The donation is calculated using a formula that reflects the size of the playground. We know that the donation is usually at least 50% of the cost of regular removal and disposal to landfill.

The Rotary Club of Mount Barker is the legal entity for the project and oversees all of the administration consistent with our business and legal requirements and advice. Our site managers carry construction white cards and our volunteers are insured by Rotary International.

The ideal is for donors to partner with Rotary for the removal of all of their redundant playgrounds. This means that donating the playground to children overseas becomes embedded in the tendering process when contractors are engaged.

There are significant social responsibility and economic benefits in donating a playground to the Rotary Overseas Relocated Playgrounds project. In addition to giving children the gift of joy from simple play; it keeps plastics and metals out of landfill; it engages manufacturers and local businesses with the chance to give time and services; it promotes positive relations between the community, councils and governments and it deploys volunteers in meaningful work.

GENERAL INFORMATION ABOUT HOW IT WORKS

- Playgrounds of any size are accepted, but all are subject to our safety and engineering inspection. We will never relocate a playground that is unsafe.
- The playground needs to be predominantly made of non-timber components and in good working order. Children in developing nations don't care about fade and wear marks.
- You will liaise with the RORP team at the Rotary Club of Mount Barker for the set-up and execution of the project. A site manager is appointed as the liaison between RORP, the council and the contractor.
- Many councils now advise the RORP team of all known playground removals over the year and the approximate month of removal.
- Rotary has extensive insurance cover.
- A Release and Indemnity Agreement will be customised for your council and provided prior to any project starting. The Indemnity remains valid for all playgrounds and until such time as both parties agree to terminate it.
- We ask for a donation to remove and relocate a playground. The donation assists us with the cost of shipping. The donation is calculated as \$450 per playground, plus \$18 for every pole and/or ground penetration. A typical large playground is about \$1500 and a smaller playground is around \$800. RORP is not a fundraising activity and our labour is by

volunteers.

- The Rotary Club of Mount Barker will issue a detailed quote at the start and a tax invoice once the playground has been removed.
- Rotary volunteers will not remove the fixed posts from the ground. We have neither the experience, nor the equipment. We will work with council and/or the contractor to do this at council expense. Our RORP team will assist to ensure that the poles and footings are removed carefully and intact, with limited damage.
- The Rotary team will need to take photos of the playground at least four weeks in advance. These photos will be used to generate plans and coding that will be added to the playground in permanent marker pen by a local Rotary Team. These codes are vital to assist safe and efficient reassembly overseas.
- We will agree on the timeline for disassembly and no volunteers will be on site until the playground has been fenced off and secured.
- Rotary will arrange collection and assume all responsibility for shipping and reassembly overseas.
- All components of the playground are normally required, including all of the nuts and bolts, clamps, etc. Ideally these are attached to the playground component with gaffer tape or placed into a suitable container. Other arrangements by mutual agreement. Rotary has limited opportunity to obtain spare and replacement parts.

For Further Information, contact:

Peter Baur

Chair, RORP SA

Rotary Club of Mount Barker rorpsa@gmx.com 0459 516 005

*Partner with RORP to donate all of
your playgrounds and use our
Partner logo in your paperwork
and communications.*



**RORP
Rotary Overseas
Relocated Playgrounds
Program Partner**