



District 9810 News

Issue 3 December 2015

District Governor 2015-16 David Tolstrup

District Governor David's Report

The wonderful work of the Rotary Foundation is something that fills all Rotarians with pride, and so it should. At the recent Zone Institute, senior Rotary leaders were extremely upbeat and filled with confidence that polio will in fact be eradicated by the end of the end of the year in which Ian Riseley will be our International President.

Quite apart from Polio the other successes of the Foundation: supporting global and district grants and funding the peace centres for studies into conflict resolution are all programs of which we are proud. Clubs and individuals in our district are fabulous financial supporters of the foundation, and this of course results in our district being the recipient of large amounts of Foundation funds to spend in our District through the District Designated Fund arrangements. We can all donate to "our charity of choice" safe in the knowledge and confident that 50% of these donated funds will come back to our district in three years to be spent on projects undertaken by our clubs. The sustainability aspect of the new global grants system has introduced a new and appropriate discipline into such grant processes.

During the club visitation program I used the concept of sustainability in another context in relation to the Foundation. The Foundation needs to have sustainability in its future funding to ensure it can plan well in to the future. I then linked the concept of Foundation funding sustainability with the theme of Rotary International President Ravi Ravindran, "*Be A Gift To The World*", suggesting that through providing for The Rotary Foundation in an individual's estate planning that they could continue to be a gift to the world long after they pass from this planet. Through making a bequest to our charity of choice it can be a gift that gives on giving long after we have passed. I also suggested that our children would welcome the fact that we were able to invest some of their potential funds in such a worthwhile manner.



Many of us in Rotary are already members of the Bequest Society of The Rotary Foundation. Should anyone else wish to contemplate making provision for the Foundation in their estate planning, please contact me and I can provide some information as to how to suitably include such a provision in your will.

Whilst talking about our Foundation, may I remind you of my previous comments about the timing of making your own and your club's contribution. With our exchange rate being under pressure there may exist an opportunity to maximise your investment in the work of the Foundation by making that contribution sooner rather than later.

In 2017 we will be celebrating the centenary of the Foundation "*Doing Good in the World*".

What a wonderful outcome from the idea of one man, Arch Klumph, all those years ago.

In talking about the legacy of those that have gone before, the theme for the 2016 District Conference in Shepparton is brought into context: "***Power of the Past, Force of the Future***". Many of the presentations at the recent Zone Institute in one way or another addressed this very concept.

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As previously written we have seen the concept exemplified in the recent celebrations of club milestone anniversaries.

At these functions the deeds of the past were celebrated and applauded but everyone present were keenly focusing their attention on the future. The future of Rotary is assured IF Rotary remains relevant to the community. Clubs also need to adapt with changing times and be relevant and empathetic to and engage their member's desire to make a contribution of their time, talents, attributes and passion to make a positive difference in the world. Clubs will remain strong if, and only if, we are satisfying the WIFM – "what's in it for me" of every member and potential member.

Attendance at the Conference, in Shepparton from March 18-20, may well be one strand of that complex WIFFM of many club members. I certainly encourage all members within our district to register for this most promising event.

Whilst making sure that you enjoy every moment of your Rotary life, remember to "Be a gift to the World".

Merry Christmas to all Rotarians partners and families.

DG David



DISTRICT CONFERENCE SHEPPARTON

18TH TO 20TH MARCH 2016

Hear leading industry experts on how Rotary is achieving real world outcomes locally and globally.

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Rotarians Serve Up Some Justice

Five Rotarians from the Rotary Club of Box Hill Central were among the 1,500 people from around the Country to participate in *Ping-Pong-A-Thon*. This was a 24 hour table tennis marathon.

They raised over \$1,500 towards the national target of \$200,000T. They did this through sponsorship by other club members, family, friends and work mates, and with a donation of \$500.00 from the Rotary Club of Box Hill Central.

Where is the money going? The money will help to bring an end to human trafficking and sexual exploitation of young people in SE Asia.

The innovative, life-changing projects of eight partner organizations in the Philippines, Thailand, Laos and Cambodia will benefit from the funds raised by the 2015 Ping-Pong-A-Thon.



D9810 ROMAC has recently hosted Heldericky (Ricky) Da Cruz Tolentino a 16 year old boy with a leg problem from Timor Leste.

He undertook all pre surgery appointments with assistance from a number of helpers across the district. He went into St Vincent's Private Hospital 30th September 2015 . Professor Tony Penington took a six hours to remove a vascular malformation in his right leg.

Ricky has participated in physiotherapy sessions provided by a physiotherapist to improve mobility and continues to improve his English with Intha encouraging his skills.

While recuperating, Ricky has visited and spoken to District 9810 clubs. Sight-seeing provided new opportunities for learning.

He visited Ballarat, McRae, Port Melbourne, Melbourne Zoo, and Healesville Sanctuary and even played a game of tennis at Kooyong. Ricky also met ROMAC patient Celestina who has been staying at Children's First Farm in Kilmore.

A message

Through the operation at St Vincent's hospital, I feel my life will become normal again. Before the operation I was disabled from the age of 3 years old. With my disability I always felt I was different from other people. I felt shy and ashamed to be with other people. The operation meant so much to me as it almost could fix my

foot to 90 degrees. I can be strong and live my life with happiness and without pain. Everything will be okay if I have good health and am without disability and pain. I will then be satisfied with my life and not ashamed of myself.

I am grateful to ROTARY and ROMAC which sponsored me to get medical treatment. Also to my host family in Melbourne (Jason & Intha Chetty) who were looking after me and treating me as well as their son. Then to all the people who supported me with prayer and everything else.

I love you all.

Ricky

When we heard this from Ricky it strengthened our resolve to continue the work of ROMAC .

Thank you to:

St Vincent's Private Hospital

- Jason and Intha Chetty the host family
- The Bentleigh-Moorabbin Club who sponsored Ricky
- The pro-bono medical work from Professor Tony Penington
- Katrina Langford, Robin Dos Santos and Lidia Soares who have assisted with interpreting throughout the visit.
- Rotary volunteers who were supported by the Australian Timor Leste community.



(Ricky) Da Cruz Tolentino
and Jason Chetty



ROTARY RESOURCES FOR SCHOOLS: GEOGRAPHY OF HUMAN WELLBEING

What?

Rotary project websites on specific humanitarian topics are collated into a single spot, for use in the geography classroom. This makes these Rotary websites available for teachers to use for their own professional development or for students to construct their own research.

Why?

The geography curriculum requires students to investigate how non-government organisations address humanitarian issues. Rotary International is an excellent organisation for this. By collating the website we make the information available.

How this began?

Our member Christine Lower was at a Geography Teachers Association of Victoria (GTAV) Conference. The session topic was "World Issues, and the work of non-government organisations". The speaker then suggested the teachers contact their local Rotary Club for information. Christine tried to think how local Rotary clubs would manage to respond to the request and provide the information in the required quality and depth required by students.

As a Geography Teacher, Christine realised this was something that she could do and a project team was formed with specific roles – interpreting the geography requirements, identifying suitable website and making up pages for each project to be added to our website.

Just the beginning!

We began with the topics that the current VCE Study Design requires, i.e. End Polio Now and Rotary against Malaria. However, this course expires at the end of 2015. The new National Curriculum saw the introduction of the theme "Geography of Human Wellbeing". This led to the addition of Education; Maternal Health & Wellbeing; HIV/AIDS and WASRAG. These have now been added to our website.

Please see our webpage:

<http://rotaryclubgreatermelbourne.org.au/projects/resources-schools/>

which shows the following links to get directly to our resource pages:

Education Programs

- Maternal Health and Wellbeing
- HIV and AIDS Support
- End Polio Now
- Rotarians against Malaria
- Water and Sanitation Rotary Action Group (WASRAG)

The links are monitored regularly to ensure that they remain current. Also new topics will be added and Christine and Team are currently working on pages for ROMAC, Interplast and Wheelchairs for Kids.

The GTAV are fully supportive of our initiatives and publicises them in their publications. They have links to our resources on their website.

<http://www.gtav.asn.au/resources/unit-4-global-perspectives/rotary-eclub-of-greater-melbourne-vce-unit-4-geography-support>

With the introduction of the National Curriculum, we are currently contacting the Geography Teachers Associations throughout the country so we can promote our webpages through them also and hopefully develop further partnerships as we have with GTAV.

Also, although these resources are aimed at the Australian Geography Curriculum, schools around the world could access them and use what we have developed – an International education resource.

A wonderful Vocational Project where we are promoting Rotary through the geography curriculum, and helping teachers and students to be aware of the name and work of Rotary.

Exciting to think that Rotary International could become a normal part of life for young people in their classrooms!

Carol Hedley

President

Rotary eClub of Greater Melbourne

www.rotaryclubgreatermelbourne.org.au

Australian Indigenous Community Support

The District 9810 'Australian Indigenous Community Support Committee' Mission Statement is to:

- Support and guide young aboriginals who aspire to be leaders in the community
- Financially assist aboriginal students with their academic and sporting endeavours
- Assist health service organizations in enabling aboriginal communities to sustain good health care practice, and,
- Provide scholarships

Assistance is needed beyond what Governments can provide and projects worthy of consideration need to be developed in consultation with:

- Elders and Indigenous Workers
- Government and Non-Government Agencies relevant to the project
- Rotary Districts and Clubs in the specific areas of need.

The Australian Indigenous Community Support Committee members:

Chair: Liz Guiver

Committee: Lyn Anderson, Rob Henry, David Hone, Michael Jacobs, Tina McInerney and Paul Power.

Projects for the 2015-16 Year

Western Australia

1. 'Feed the Little Children'

This is our District Governor's wife, Alison's project for this Rotary year. The project is situated in the Kimberley, in Western Australia where there is a population 14,000. Nearly 70% are homeless and thousands of the children are malnourished. The area has the highest arrest rates for juveniles and adults in Western Australia and young aboriginal offenders steal food and money for food.

CEO of 'Feed the Little Children', Clint Durham was aware of the young people's extreme poverty, criminality, incarceration levels and broken lives so developed the program. Clint and his wife Deb, started cooking in their own home and, before long, volunteers helped with the cooking, delivery of meals and engaging with highly disadvantaged children and their families. The project's objective is to provide a daily food service and to extend operations to Derby, Kununurra, Port Hedland and Gascoyne.

The Rotary Club of Broome is involved in volunteering and assisting with the cooking and delivery of meals.

Contact: Alison Tolstrup (details in the District Directory)

2. Lindsay Cozens Aboriginal Education Trust

The late Lindsay Cozens created a trust to support Aboriginal literacy in Western Australia.

(a) The Trust supports Australian Rotary Health Scholarships for Nursing and Medical students, at a cost of \$2,500 per Scholarship. The Trust seeks a Rotary Club to take up one of the Scholarships.

(b) Strelley Community School – Kitchen Café;

With the kitchen situated in a classroom, the school wishes to create a semi-outdoor kitchen and café area at the school. Seed funds amounting to \$15,000 are needed to get this underway.

(c) Strelley Community School – Radio Station;

The Radio Station plans to broadcast live and pre-recorded programs that contain Healthy Living Statements in the form of short messages, raps, interviews etc., at a cost of \$8,000. It requires rotary support.

The Committee has partnered with the Lindsay Cozens Aboriginal Education Trust, a truly great partner.

Contact: Michael Jacobs (details in District Directory)

New South Wales

1. The Podmore Foundation

The Podmore Foundation raises funds for, and mentors, selected Indigenous boys and girls from rural and remote communities and towns who have received a scholarship to some of Australia's Independent Boarding Schools.

The cost of Scholarships is \$5,500 and assists in covering the financial gap between ABSTUDY and actual student fees and costs at the Schools. Parents and guardians are worked with to ensure that the recipients are not alone in meeting the challenges of a boarding school education.

Contact: Tel: 0403 495 118 or
www.podmorefoundation.org.au

Northern Territory

1. The Western Desert Aboriginal Corporation, Alice Springs 'Dialysis Project'.

The project involves renovating abandoned houses to provide Health Clinics and accommodation for dialysis patients from outback areas. 'The Purple House', part of the project, works to improve lives and reunite families. Rotary support can provide transport home after dialysis.

Contact: Sarah Brown by email to:
wdnwpt@bigpond.net.au

2. Timothy Demala's 'Food Garden Enterprise' at Galiwinku, Elcho Is.

The project in Arnhem Land is supported by Arnhem Human Enterprise Development (AHED); an Aboriginal organization focused on motivating its people to become trained and employed. It offers a future for its young people.

The project involves the expansion of two gardens, Dingu Farm and Banthula Farm, into two Yolngu owned and operated, self sufficient enterprises.

Dingu Farm:

Dingu Farm has a regular source of water and infrastructure, but requires access to cheap nutrients and produce storage facilities.

Banthula Farm:

Workers need training to elevate the garden to commercial level. Currently its produce is sold to the local homeland and school. It needs to expand the farm area, needs produce storage facilities and better transport.

The aim is to revive a local economy, increase skills and provide meaningful employment which Rotary can assist with.

Currently, AHED need funds for a Support Worker for the Dingu and Banthula Farms.

Contact: Timothy Trudgen by email:

Tim@whywarriors.com.au

3. Arnhem Human Enterprise Development 'Build a House'

The project is to assist Yolngu people in Arnhem Land. The Yolngu elders seek help to train remote Indigenous people to become skilled in house building. Sustainable housing is required using timber from the mainland as well as local stone. The houses will replace tents and containers and offer an affordable and realistic solution for future housing in the community. \$170,000 is required for materials and related costs.

Contact: Timothy Trudgen by email:

Tim@whywarriors.com.au

Victoria

1. 'Pathways to Womanhood'

Worawa College provides a holistic education and boarding experience for young Aboriginal women, in years 7 to 10, who come from regional and remote communities.

'Pathways to Womanhood' focuses on building a culture of respect and making a healthy transition to adulthood. The program involves nurturing self

esteem, pride in Aboriginal identity and the ability to 'walk in both worlds'. The program aims to prepare young women for future leadership. The project cost is \$10,000.

Contact: Lois Peeler, Worawa College. Tel: 5962 3019 or, by email: executivedirector@worawa.vic.edu.au

2. 'Melbourne Indigenous Transitional School' (MITS)

The MITS campus is in Richmond and the project is to develop a Residential Transitional School for talented year 7 students from the Northern Territory. With the help of Philanthropic Trusts construction has commenced and the first group is due to commence in February 2016. It is intended that 20 students will participate each year and the following year will move into 'scholarship positions' at Melbourne 'Independent' Schools. While having the ability to win a scholarship the participants do need transitional support to bridge the educational gap. Five schools in District 9810 are partnering with this project.

Rotary can link the students to its youth programs to round out their experience.

Contact: Paul Munday, Teaching Principal. email:

paul.munday@mitschool.org.au

The District 9810 Australian Aboriginal Community Support Committee suggests that;

You recognize that every Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander person is connected to the land through their Totem (bloodline connection) which can be traced back many thousands of years.

Tribal elders are still respected and must be consulted with in regard to decisions involving change and development within an aboriginal community.

Health and Education are a major focus in enabling Australian Aboriginals to achieve their goals and assisting them to live longer.

Rotary clubs should consider assisting indigenous young people by providing them with the opportunity to participate in Rotary's Youth Services Programs. Rotary clubs should also consider assisting indigenous young people by providing them with financial assistance to participate in school programs such as camps and excursions where family resources are inadequate. The Australian Aboriginal Community Support Committee is there to support you and, if you would like to attend a Committee Meeting, or would like to discuss an issue or project, then contact the Committee.

PP Liz Guiver, Chair

Australian Aboriginal Community Support Committee

Project Owairtilla - Rotary Club of Box Hill Central

The partnership with the Owairtilla community arose from a combination of interest amongst club members for greater engagement with Aboriginal communities and personal connections with a health worker at the Canteen Creek (Owairtilla) community in NT. Canteen Creek is a remote community located approximately 600km NE of Alice Springs and 270km SE of Tennant Creek. Of the 200 residents, 26 are 40+ and over 100 are under 15 years. This 'dry' community has a health clinic, school with approx. 90 students from preschool to year 9, a store, a church and an art workshop.

Four Rotarians from Rotary Club of Box Hill Central visited the community for four days in October 2014, and consulted with community members and leaders, and school and other community staff, to identify the community's goals and aspirations for a future partnership with the club. On their return, a set of guidelines were established for ongoing engagement with the Owairtilla community, namely that any project should be aimed at addressing as many as possible of the following parameters:

- Raising awareness of Aboriginal issues
- Fitting in with the Owairtilla community's culture
- Improving the health and/or welfare of community members
- Advancing education
- Providing entertainment
- Supporting sport in the community; and
- Improving social aspects of the community

Working through the project team, the club has so far assisted the community with a disco sound system used by the school to encourage and reward school attendance; clothes and other items for the community op-shop; and uniforms for a 'Storm' youth footy team.

The supply of clothes has become a major part of the project so far. It is important to note that this has not involved the "dumping" of unwanted clothes but providing clothes and other items that have been specifically requested by the Canteen Creek community.

The RC of Box Hill Central has a very active Rotary Recycle shop in the local community in Wattle Park and the shop coordinator and club member Sandy, puts aside suitable clothes on an ongoing basis. These are then packed up in tea chest size boxes and shipped in groups of eight boxes to the Northern Territory. So far 24 tea chest sized boxes of clothes have been shipped



Aboriginal Projects

Owairtilla Community Canteen Creek, NT

- 7 hrs north of Alice Springs by 4WD
- 200 community members
- Significant hardships through remoteness and inaccessibility
- Alcohol banned in the community
- Strong educational support

What Rotary is doing:

- Working with the elders of the community
- Improving school experience for children
- Exploring opportunities for retail enterprise on the community
- Focusing on sustainable change



to Canteen Creek by K&S Transport at no charge. The generous ongoing support of K&S Transport is greatly appreciated by the Canteen Creek Community and the Rotary club.

The key element of the Owairtilla project is to ensure that the needs of the community are constantly met.

Future partnership initiatives with the community include strengthening of the Women's Centre with a focus on training to support future enterprises such as childcare and a new secondhand shop that is currently under construction, and also the establishment of a Men's Shed.

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There is another trip planned for April 2016 where members of the Owairtilla Committee will visit Canteen Creek to meet with the local community to discuss progress of the project.

As well as working with the Canteen Creek community in the NT, the committee has concurrently been developing links with local Victorian Aboriginal communities and is actively working on opportunities for further engagement with local groups and projects through the guidance of John Baxter who is a member of the club and also a leader in the local aboriginal community.

This work includes providing support with the organisation of indigenous information/activities days in the City of Whitehorse area (Blackburn & Nunawading) including assistance with catering and supervision of activities as directed by representatives of the local indigenous community.

The group is planning to invite the club to a meeting with local indigenous community members at Worawa Aboriginal College and Coranderk in the new year.

Rotary Club of Knox

Report of Mental Health Forum 2015

Understanding those with addictions – supporting those who care is complex – but achievable – was the message sent by three excellent speakers at the Rotary Club of Knox's recent Mental Health Forum.

Some 100 people leaned, among other things that:

- each person, with an addiction and their situation is different, so there is no one approach to improving matters
- if you want to help, because of the above, the first thing to do is to discuss it with a professional
- addiction is often a response to an underlying needs so addictive behaviours are unlikely to be changed unless these needs are met in other ways
- it is possible, with the right support, to conquer addiction
- supporters need support too.

The night, which was attended by local service providers who brought along printed materials, was judged very positively on evaluation forms.