



# District 9810 News

Issue 4 February 2016

District Governor 2015-16 David Tolstrup

## District Governor David's Report

Where has the year gone? An oft quoted phrase, but very appropriate in the context of a Rotary Year.

All those plans so eagerly agreed upon back in May now need to be reviewed to ensure that expectations are realised. If we are to be a real gift to the world this Rotary year we do not want to short change the beneficiaries of those gifts.

The New Year got off to a great start with the wonderful news that PDG Tony Monley had his considerable areas of community service recognised by being named in the New Year's Honours Awards. Congratulations Tony!

So far this Rotary year there has been some significant action in hosting community forums and events dealing with issues of domestic violence, men's health, and mental health. There are other such projects in the pipeline, we must deliver these vital programs. Importantly we must follow up these events with positive outcomes, be they support projects for the victims of domestic or family violence or further awareness projects.

It has been most heartening to see the large number and range of projects undertaken by clubs utilizing Rotary Foundation District Grants. These grants have enabled a vast variety of needy folk to benefit from the generosity of the Rotary family. Looking forward we need to ensure that similar projects are able to be funded from Foundation funds raised this year, so I encourage all clubs, and individuals, to be generous in their support of the Foundation. We must not forget the importance of our continuing commitment to the End Polio Now campaign. Remember, RI President Ravi has said that polio eradication can be Rotary's gift to the children of the world. It is vital therefore that financial support for this program is maintained.

You will all remember that one of my special areas of focus this year is Interplast. I issued a challenge to clubs and individuals within our District to make a special



effort to raise \$45k to fully fund an Interplast Team to enable that great organisation to carry out its most wonderful work. Have a look at their website for an indication of the good they are doing in the world. They are certainly delivering their gifts to the world.

There is of course a plethora of worthy Rotary programs and projects all competing for the scarce dollars that clubs and individual Rotarians can contribute. The work of ROMAC – Rotary Oceanic Medical Aid for Children, is another fine example of Rotary being a gift to the world. ROMAC has been very busy within our District in recent months with two patients under management and a third about to arrive. This is another program worthy of support.

The New Year also brings with it one of the most exciting events in the Rotary calendar: The District Conference. This year, held in Shepparton from March 18<sup>th</sup> to 20<sup>th</sup> the program would suggest that it is an event not to be missed. For those that have not previously attended a District Conference, this is an opportunity to share a fellowship weekend and experience the broader picture of Rotary events.

*(Continued on P 2)*

## Continued from P 1

I encourage all Rotarians and partners to attend. I also remind you of the International Convention in Seoul from May 28<sup>th</sup> to June 1<sup>st</sup>. International Conventions are eye opening events.

District Governor Elect Carol Lawton has safely arrived home from San Diego where she attended the International Assembly, the final leg in her preparation to be our District Governor in 2016-17. Inspired by the theme, *Rotary Serving Humanity*, Carol will be presenting a variety of training and preparation programs relevant to 2016-17. These events are crucial for those involved in leadership roles within their clubs.

This Rotary Year still has lots to offer, so let's continue our commitment and ***Be a Gift to the World!***

**DAVID TOLSTRUP—DISTRICT GOVERNOR**

## ARH—LEADING A HEALTHIER AUSTRALIA

Australian Rotary Health (ARH) celebrated the service of hardworking individuals and Clubs at their Annual General Meeting, held just before the Zone 8 Institute in November. On behalf of ARH, thank you to all of our friends and supporters.

There were a few highlights from 2015:

- Our 200th Indigenous Doctor graduated
- Over \$1 million donated through Bequests
- The most Mental Health Research Project Grants funded in one year - 20 Grants
- New PhD Scholarship celebrating the ANZAC Centenary, for PTSD in veterans and families

### New Board

New Director appointed to the ARH Board was PDG Des Lawson of District 9630, who will replace PDG Russ O'Malley of District 9600. Russ served wonderfully as Vice Chairman 2014-2015 for which we thank him greatly. PDG Greg Ross, District 9820, has taken the role of Vice Chairman for the coming year.

### ARH Medal

The ARH Medal for 2015 was awarded jointly to David and Karen Brown. David & Karen Brown were an integral part of the Great Australian Bike Ride (March-October, 2009). Since then David and Karen have

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PICTURED DAVID AND KAREN BROWN

remained involved in numerous bike rides – some supporting ARH – and David is now holding a committee membership in the District 9810 Ride to Conference. The 2016 fundraising from this ride, will reach \$1 million in total donations since it started.

### District Achievement Award

The Dick White District Achievement Award was presented to District 9650. We acknowledged the support of District 9650 Governors and, in particular, their partners for naming ARH as the "Partner Project" in each consecutive year from 2011/12 to 2015/16 and before that in 2008/2009 and 2006/2007.

The support from this fundraising has supported multiple research and scholarship projects and has made a significant contribution to donations not only in the District but also in Australia.

## District 9810 Salutes a Great Rotarian

The Rotary Community was saddened by the loss of PP Stan Harper of the Rotary Club of Forest Hill on the 29th November 2015.

Stan was a Rotarian... in the truest sense of the word. He honored the badge for 39 years. He helped many people without fuss. He was a meticulous keeper of records but much more than that. His warm heart and creative intellect was dedicated to the essence of Rotary. He was the recipient of a Paul Harris Fellowship and three sapphires, a committed centurion and a benefactor. The latter means that his contribution to the Rotary Foundation will continue to aid people around the world after his death.

Stan fulfilled with distinction many positions at the Rotary Club of Forest Hill including being a much-loved president in 1986/1987. Mentor of many of us, alert to the needs of visitors and new members he was Mr Reliable. He was active at the peach orchard, the air show, the golf days, the fun runs, the Blackburn market, Schwerkoldt Cottage and many others-tirelessly working alongside others- a great team player. Stan and his wife Joan generously hosted exchange students including a student from China.

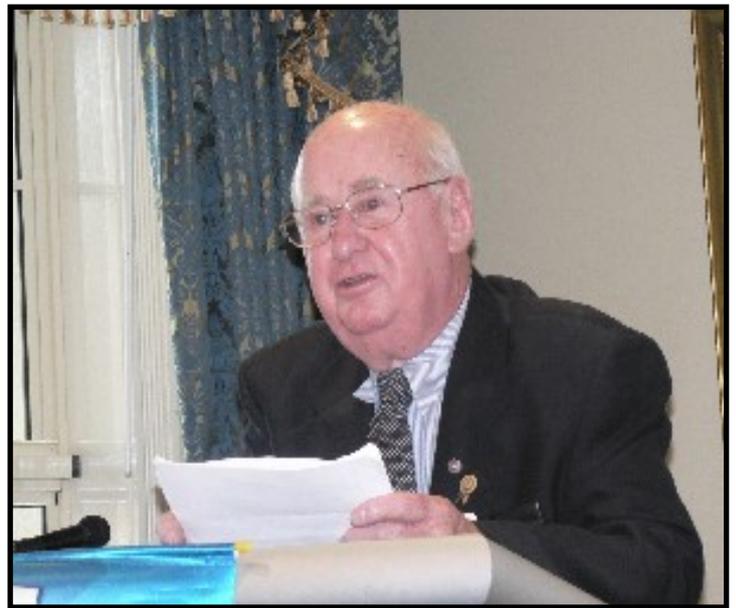
A conscientious DG's representative, a clear-thinking secretary for a 1300 -strong district conference, Stan the man endeared himself to many other clubs, Rotarians and fellow -citizens. He served with honour on District membership and Foundation committees.

His delight was founding Probus clubs- no less than 12 clubs in the Whitehorse area. He thoroughly deserved the nickname Mr Probus as he coordinated the growth of this extremely valuable program throughout the district.

He and Joan generously set up the Harper Family bequest, which has been used to support community service projects for

- The young in sporting and education fields
- Handicapped and disadvantaged people
- The aged

Stan's outstanding service to the local community was recognized by the City of Whitehorse with a Citizenship Award.



In celebration of his long and distinguished Rotary career and his 90<sup>th</sup> birthday the Rotary Club of Forest Hill enjoyed a delightful evening with Stan, Joan and the family on 28 September.

One of nature's gentlemen, he has left wife Joan, and his family as well as so many Rotary friends with a fountain of memories.

Stan Harper you have indeed been a gift to the world and you have inspired many-we salute you.

### Editor's Note:

On any occasion that I met Stan he was always warm and friendly.

When doing a make up at Forest Hill Stan would do "hand stands" to get to you and make you feel so welcome,

## Did You Know?

The Rotary Foundation is ranked in the Top 10 charities in the world.

The scores — ranked on a scale of 1 to 100 — are based on financial health, accountability and the transparency of reporting.

TRF is ranked at Number 5 in the world.

## District Conference Shepparton

### 18th to 20th March 2016

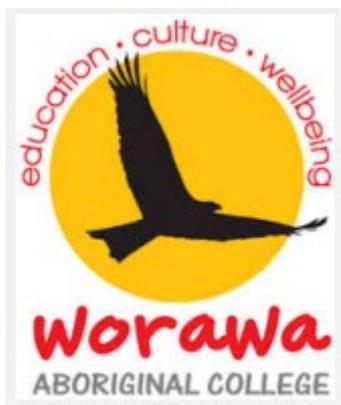
## AUSTRALIAN INDIGENOUS COMMUNITY SUPPORT



PP Liz Guiver and District 9810 have a mission to support the Australian Indigenous Community. Assistance is needed beyond what Governments can provide. Their mission is to give financial assistance in the form of scholarships for aboriginal students in the academic and sporting fields. They also wish to guide young aboriginals to be leaders of their community.

They will also give assistance to health service organizations for aboriginal communities to sustain good health care. The committee will be in contact with Elders and Indigenous Workers and relevant Government and Non-Government Agencies.

### VICTORIAN PROJECTS FOR THE 2015 – 2016 ROTARY YEAR



#### 1. Pathways to Womanhood

Worawa College is a boarding school for young Aboriginal women, who come from regional and remote communities. (Year 7 to 10,)

'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.

#### 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.

#### The D9810 Australian Aboriginal Community Support Committee encourages clubs to:

- Recognize that every Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander person is connected to the land.
- Tribal elders are respected and must be consulted with in regard to decisions.
- Health and Education are a major focus in enabling Australian Aboriginals to achieve their goals and assisting them to live longer.
- Consider assisting indigenous young people by providing them with the opportunity to participate in Rotary's Youth Service Programs such as Camp Awakenings, ConocoPhillips Science Experience, MUNA, NYSF, RYPEN, RYLA, 4-Way Test Speech Contest and YEP.
- 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 clubs.

If you would like to attend a Committee Meeting, or would like to discuss an issue or project, then contact the committee Chair:

PP Liz Guiver at [eliza.g@optusnet.com.au](mailto:eliza.g@optusnet.com.au)

## DG Partner Project Update

### Feed the Little Children - Training program

Purnululu Independent Aboriginal Community School  
– School and Community Garden



David and I have now completed what we found to be a very rewarding experience, the official DG club visits. I thoroughly enjoyed the opportunity of meeting new Rotarians and partners and catching up with many familiar faces. It was so interesting to see such variety in club meetings and activities, yet each working towards the same aim of Rotary service, and all offering us a very warm welcome.

These visits have traditionally become the occasion for clubs to donate to the DG Partner Project in lieu of a gift recognising the Partner's attendance. Every club made such a donation, and I thank you all again for your contributions which together with some personal donations, totals approx. \$20,000 so far!

This very grand amount has allowed me to commit \$15,000 to fund the part time worker at the Purnululu School Community Garden. Further wonderful support has come from the Lindsay Cousens Trust. Trustee Michael Jacobs, R.C. Boronia, and his wife Julie have committed the Trust to continue the funding of the part time garden worker for the 2<sup>nd</sup> year, and I thank them for this great decision. The school is waiting until the wet season passes before starting the garden, hopefully in April.

This leaves the balance collected to go to the Feed the Little Kids training program in Broome where the training package and pilot program for 5 to 7 children has now been fully funded, and ready to go as soon as the training package has been finalised. Our contributions will go to the ongoing costs of this training.

On behalf of all of the children who will benefit from our donations, I thank you most sincerely.

I look forward to seeing you again as we move around the District,

Alison

## Club Membership

Membership's two main factors are retention and new members.

All clubs will lose members by various means:

1. Death
2. Illness
3. Relocation
4. Loss of interest and desire

Clubs are powerless to control 1, 2 and 3, however 4 Loss of interest and desire is something that clubs can monitor and take action to minimize it from happening.

A good and effective board and club officials will be watching their members closely to ensure that boredom, lack of involvement and all the factors that underline a loss of interest and desire are monitored closely.

When clubs start losing members it is easy for that trend to permeate the club and what starts out as an isolated incident can become a major destructive force.

Perusal of our district's membership data over the last 10 years will disclose that some clubs that had 50 plus members 10 years ago only have 20 – 25 members today.

On the other hand there are some success stories where clubs that held 10 or 12 members 10 years ago, today have 25 or thereabouts.

On page 7 of this issue President David Winter of the RC Mont Albert and Surrey Hills has submitted an excellent article on how to address some of these issues.

### Rotarians against Malaria (RAM)

Rotarians Against Malaria is a program dedicated to the fight against Malaria, one of the major health threats in the world today.

With more than 500 million infected with the parasite, 2 to 3 million people die of the disease each year.

RAM's current programs are focused on the Pacific region, particularly the Solomon Islands, Papua-New Guinea and Timor Leste.

District clubs are encouraged to consider supporting RAM.

Interested clubs should contact RAM's Chair:  
Contact PP Gloria Hargreaves at:

[egharg@netspace.net.au](mailto:egharg@netspace.net.au) or Tel: 0419 140 090

# Your TRASH becomes someone's TREASURE.

## How can this happen?

The Rotary Club of Wheelers Hill has recently inducted a new member, Amin Rahman. Besides becoming an active member of the Club he also brings with him a Project of his own.

Amin is interested in collecting your old computers, laptops and printers - items you no longer need (trash) where he takes them to Bangladesh, and donated to poor and needy students there who treat them as treasure..

Items that have proved to be very popular and helpful to these students in Bangladesh are computing equipment desktops, laptops, printers and monitors etc. It started when Zobeda and I carried the laptops as part of our luggage. The present Rotary Governor in Dhaka District heard about his project and approached him to donate one laptop to a brilliant medical student who was the son of a poor barber in a rural area.



Recently, Amin's dental clinic in Mulgrave donated all their old desk top computers plus other accessories to this project.

"I am organising to send them all together by sea freight. Another friend of ours is packing them for shipment in his warehouse. So, when you are considering updating your home or work I.T equipment - please think of this project. They can be in working or non-working order. I am happy to take them and find loving homes for them". Amin said.

Non-working laptops are repaired by a large computer store in Dhaka free of charge for this project. Amin said he only pays for the cost of replacement parts, when needed.

Amin can collect your donated equipment from your place at a convenient time.

Anyone interested in assisting can contact Amin at:

[aminrahman43@gmail.com](mailto:aminrahman43@gmail.com)

**Rotary Foundation is  
ranked in the Top 10  
Charities in the world.**

**DISTRICT CONFERENCE  
SHEPPARTON  
18th to 20th MARCH 2016**

# Club Member Development

President David Winter of the Rotary Club of Mont Albert and Surrey Hills has forward some very interesting and educational material, which has recently appeared in Club Runner.

## Rotary fundraising and volunteering. Do you have volunteer fatigue in your club?

Did you ever notice that the same people seem to volunteer for things, over and over again? Or that another and larger group of people only volunteer when they really have no choice? This isn't an illusion,



it's a growing issue. There's a popular belief that in any given organization, 80% of the work is done by 20% of the people.

### How do we recognize volunteer fatigue?

A member might suddenly become cynical, question roles and duties or their work becomes sloppy. Once this problem is recognized what can we do to eliminate it?

**1. Appreciate them** - acknowledge the work of your volunteers in a concrete way. Presentations of a certificate, a donation to a charity or Rotary project in their name would show appreciation. Clubs could express appreciation for all your volunteers at a special dinner or outing, and be sure to thank them publicly.

**2. Give them a break.** If one of your helpers is experiencing volunteer burnout, suggest a volunteering vacation. Offer them a few weeks or a few months, whatever is needed. It's better to lose their services for a short time and get them back refreshed and recharged, than to lose their help permanently.

**3. Delegate and Spread the Load.** Most organizations have an untapped well of volunteers. To take some of the load off your volunteer workhorses, invite others to take on specific tasks that would

otherwise fall automatically to your old standbys. One way to help delegate volunteer tasks on an ongoing basis is through the creation of an ongoing volunteer signup 'event'. Simply create an event that lasts for a given period of time and call it something like "Ongoing Volunteer Tasks".

There are many small changes we can make to further support Rotary and their projects. One of these changes would be for us to deal with the problem of volunteer fatigue.

<http://site.clubrunner.ca/page/too-tired-to-care>



## Run your club as a business – we are all volunteers.

### Why do we volunteer?

We volunteer for many reasons



Firstly we identify our goal clearly.

*(Continued on P 8)*



### 3. Take roles & responsibilities seriously.



Businesses value the power of a dedicated sales team or account managers to communicate with clients and visitors. Imagine you wanted to buy a car and the manufacturer put you in touch with the welder - that probably would not make the sale! Businesses rely on their sales team to build relationships, make sales and promote its products. Similarly, **non-profits need to appoint dedicated members who act as representatives to "sell" your vision.** If you were in an elevator and had only 30 seconds to describe your organization, think about what you would say. I often ask people I meet for their 30 second "pitch" and it's quite funny how often it catches people off guard. This is why it is important for each and every member in your organization to know your organization's mission and how to articulate it in a concise and exciting way.

### 4. Eliminate excuses

You do not have to spend a lot of money to promote your organization effectively nor do you need a big budget to reach your goals. You need a constant commitment to stay focused and on course all while adapting smartly in a nimble and agile way that fits with the culture of your non-profit.

What you need to do is simple – think like a business.

#### Divya Tandan

[https://www.linkedin.com/pulse/20140627221927-76937503-run-your-non-profit-as-a-business-not-a-hobby?trk=nmp\\_rec\\_act\\_article\\_detail](https://www.linkedin.com/pulse/20140627221927-76937503-run-your-non-profit-as-a-business-not-a-hobby?trk=nmp_rec_act_article_detail)

### District 9810 Congratulates PDG Tony Monley OAM

PDG Tony Monley was awarded with a Medal of the Order of Australia General Division in the Australia Day Honors List.

The award was granted for service to the community through a range of organisations including:

#### Rotary International:

District Governor, District 9810, 2014-2015; Assistant Governor, 2011-2013;  
Club Vision Coordinator, 2008-2010; Conference Secretary, 2008-2010;  
Foundation Scholarships Committee; Foundation Group Study Exchange  
President, Rotary Club Templestowe, 2010-2011;  
Member of Rotary Club of Templestowe, since 1995.  
Home Host, 11 students, Youth Exchange, 'for many years'.  
Member, Rotary Foundation Alumni.  
Member, Rotary e-Club 3310 (Singapore), 2006-2007.  
Team Leader, Group Study Exchange, Turkey, 2010;  
Team member Italy 1989.  
Club President and District Treasurer, Rotaract Perth; Member, 1976-1985.

#### Apex Australia:

State Treasurer, Apex Western Australia.  
Secretary/Treasurer, National Convention Committee, 1990 and Member, 1985-1994.

#### Other:

President and Chairman, Doncare Community Services, since 2008.  
Treasurer, Eastern Community Legal Centre, since 2008.  
Director, Art Building Children's Dreams Australia, since 2009; Treasurer, 2009-2013;  
Public Officer, 2009-2013.  
Member, Arts Advisory Panel, Arts Victoria, 2012-14.  
Ambassador, White Ribbon Foundation, since 2013.  
Non-Executive Director, South East Housing Cooperative, 2003-2005.  
Non-Executive Director, North Melbourne Institute of TAFE, 2011-2014.

#### Awards and recognition include:

Recipient, Citizen of the Year, City of Manningham 2015.  
Recipient, Menzies Community Australia Day Award, 2011.  
Fellow, CPA Australia, 1994.  
Recipient, Youth Leadership Award, Rotary International, 1976

# 2016 CONFERENCE REPORT

**District 9810's Conference Chairman PP Robert Leach is excited about his efforts in planning for the Conference to be held in March 2016.**

**In this article you will see that he has good reason to be proud and excited.**



The Welcome signs will shortly be erected in Shepparton in anticipation of the “Heart of the Goulburn Valley” greeting the Rotarians and Partners of District 9810 to our 2016 District Conference between 18<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> March.

The Organising Committee report that all arrangements for the Conference are well advanced with an interesting, informative and entertaining array of Guest Speakers and Presenters.

With our Conference Theme “Power of the Past – Force of the Future” we are looking forward to hearing from such well-known and prominent Guest Speakers including Paul Sheahan, Caroline Overington, Brendon Nottle, Kate Carnell, Janine Mahoney, Mariam Issa and Wayne Leslie.

It will be interesting to hear from Professor Gordon Wallace who will explain and demonstrate the latest advances in 3D printing whilst it will be a pleasure to welcome back to our Conference Gemma Sisia from the School of St Jude in Tanzania who will be accompanied by one of the schools’ first graduates, Dorice Livingstone-Abel.

Terry Grant, Past Chairman of Australian Rotary Health will be on hand to welcome the “Ride for Rotary Dollars” cyclists who, this year, will achieve the outstanding total of \$1 million raised for ARH and we expect the message from Rotary International President Nominee Ian Risely to be inspiring.

We will also hear from Gordon Coote on the history of the Australian National Piano Award with the current ANPA Winner, Alex Raineri, giving a short recital during the Opening Session.

The Saturday Night Gala features the theme, “My Favourite television Show” and, from what we have already heard, there will be some amazing outfits on display by some District 9810 clubs during the Gala.

Registration Forms for the 2016 Shepparton Conference are available from the Conference website, <http://www.9810rotaryconference.org.au/> and registration can either be completed on-line or completed and posted to the Registration Coordinator, Tim Lynn, at the Rotary Club of Box Hill, PO Box 59, Box Hill 3128.

The Conference Committee is also inviting all clubs in the District to submit details of Club Members who may have passed away since the 2015 Conference which will then be incorporated into the “In Memoriam” segment at the forthcoming Shepparton Conference.

Relevant details for inclusion in the Segment, together with a photograph, can be submitted to Conference Committee Member, Lynn Whelan, at [lynnwhelanevents@hotmail.com](mailto:lynnwhelanevents@hotmail.com)

Further enquiries concerning Conference arrangements can be addressed to Conference Chairman, Robert Leach, at [jenandrob@bigpond.com](mailto:jenandrob@bigpond.com) or on 0439 938 833.



## DGE Carol Lawton reports on her attendance at San Diego

*District Governor Elect Carol Lawton has just returned from her final training Session in San Diego.*

*I asked Carol if she could tell us a little of her experience and she has gladly responded with her story which is below.*

The 2016 International Assembly (17 – 22<sup>nd</sup> January) was held at the Manchester Hyatt Hotel overlooking the San Diego harbour.

This was the final training (or Learning and Development) session for the 2016-17 Governors from the more than 500 districts around the world and it's something of an understatement to say that it was an amazing experience.

It's hard to do justice to an event that was organised with almost military precision and impressive attention to detail. The process of being able to feed in my estimation of 1100-1200 people present in 60 – 90 minutes had to be seen to be believed.

I really enjoyed meeting other Rotarians and their partners from around the world and being reminded of just how much we have in common.

I admit that hearing partners being referred to as 'spouses' took some getting used to. As others before me have said, in San Diego there was a great sense of the 'internationality' of Rotary – having so many of us all in the one hotel really reinforced that impression quite dramatically.

Our opening session began on the evening of Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> but we had to wait for the launch of the theme for 2016-17 "Rotary Serving Humanity" until Monday morning. As you can imagine, the response to that announcement was very enthusiastic – it connects with all the themes of the past and particularly with 'Service above Self'.

The days were full of inspirational speakers and great ideas for us to share with our districts which we heard about in General Sessions.

Some of my favourite sessions followed the General Sessions and were called "Ideas Exchange" where we had the opportunity to work in different groups of 20 people sharing ideas and experiences – that was absolutely invaluable and a very exciting opportunity to meet and work with inspirational people.



Another highlight was hearing that the experts believe we will see the last case of Polio in June this year and I really do hope their prediction is correct. That doesn't mean we can forget about Polio, in fact we need to ensure that we raise sufficient funds in order that we can keep up the immunisation programs for a further three years after that last case is declared. We are getting closer every day and President Elect John Germ is absolutely passionate that we get this done once and for ever.

As ever, there was exceptional support from, and discussions about possibilities, with Australian and New Zealand colleagues. Their presence enriched the experience in so many ways because it was like catching up with favourite family members.

I also really enjoyed hearing more from our Rotary International leaders about a range of topics and seeing their passions shine through their words.

I believe that it was the most humbling privilege to be present with such a group and I will treasure, remember and be inspired by the experience for many years to come. I'm looking forward to working with you all in the 2016-17 Rotary year.

## KIRIWINA AID PROJECT

The Rotary Club of Rowville – Lysterfield has an excellent Project called the Kiriwina Aid Project.

This project addresses issues relating to water and sanitation on the Island of Kiriwina - Papua New Guinea (District 9600). The project concentrates on the Local School and Hospital. Full details of this project in the attached document.

The RC Rowville – Lysterfield would welcome support and assistance in this very worthwhile Project which is just off the coast of Northern Australia. For further information contact Alan Lunghusen at: [alan@lunghusen.com](mailto:alan@lunghusen.com)

# Kiriwina Aid Project

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# Kiriwina Aid Project

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## International Club Committee

The Rotary Club of Rowville – Lysterfield (District 9810)

Alan Lunghusen (Primary Contact)

email: alan@lunghusen.com mobile: 0488 033 133

Neil White – International Chair - PP

Murray Wilson - PP

## Host Club Committee

The Boroko Rotary Club of Papua New Guinea (District 9600)

John Sweet (Primary Contact) - IPP

Lionel Melville – PP, ADG

Graeme Hills – President 2015-16

Togaro Asiba – President Elect 2016-17



## Community Needs

### The Island of Kiriwina – Background Information

Kiriwina Island, part of the Trobriand Island Group lays off the east coast of Papua New Guinea in Milne Bay Province. There were American and Australian air force bases on the island during WWII. This was probably the first time many of the natives had contact with the western world. Kiriwina Island is composed of ancient coral pushed up from the sea bed over millions of years. Topsoil has then accumulated on the coral base and vegetation has establish. The island is very flat with no mountains or rivers. Fresh water accumulates in caves within the coral and in the water table accessed by wells from 3 – 8 meters in depth. The island population is estimated at 26,000. The inhabitants live mainly in approximately 80 villages spread across the island and some live in the Government Station, Lousia. Individuals or villages cultivate their own gardens where they grow Yams, Sweet Potato, Taro, Small Tomatoes, Bananas, Pineapples and Pawpaw. Their main source of protein is fish. Many of the population live almost in Stone Age conditions. There is a medical compound in the Government Station area and there are some Elementary, Primary and a single Secondary School. Education is not compulsory but many of the people see it as vital to their future. The Trobriand Islanders have their own language but English is spoken in school.

### Community Needs Assessment

A Community Needs Assessment was carried out in March 2015. The Assessment was based on the possibility of our Rotary Club being able to improve the conditions on the island without interfering with their way of life. It was decided that due to the wide range of challenges over the whole island especially regarding water and sanitation a more centralized Aid Program would achieve realistic goals. The Hospital and Primary School were identified as manageable projects for this Aid Program.

# Kiriwina Aid Project

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## Rotary Areas of Focus

### **Water and Sanitation.**

Open defecation is practiced across the island. There are a few septic tank systems but many of them have failed due to the lack of flushing water and have fallen into disrepair. Drinking water is available from three sources. Rainwater tanks, wells and caves within the coral substrata. It is the women who mainly gather water and carry it to their village on their heads. The water is limited and of reasonable quality however Westerners are advised to boil all drinking water. The Primary School at Kiabola Beach and the Hospital at Lousia were selected as targets for our Aid Program.

### **Supporting Education**

Most of the classrooms at the primary school had no desks and children were required to sit on the floor and write in their books on the floor. School desks were obviously needed to make the children more comfortable and be placed in a better learning environment. An opportunity to ship books for the school library will be taken when shipping goods to the island.

### **Growing Local Economies**

Industry on the island is almost non-existent. The capability of the locals to get access to hard cash to buy goods such as rice and sugar is only possible when a cruise ship may arrive for a 6 hour visit. This happens about 10 times per year. As part of the Primary School Desk Project, instead of shipping our discarded desks to the island it has been decided to set up a Woodworking Workshop at the rear of the Primary School to create a small business. Two locals have been selected to start this project. One is a Good People Manager who is very good with his hands and the other is a Scholarship Recipient who has not had the opportunity to put into action what he has learnt in a basic carpentry course since he returned from the mainland.

## Community Support for the Project

Community Support for the project extends from a Minister of Parliament down to the local population. A couple of small projects have been completed while we were investigating the requirements for this Major Project. They were the supply of a Medical Microscope for the Hospital and a Solar Power Supply for the computer and printer at the school. The locals were very enthusiastic to get involved to the extent that they did all of the labor to mount the solar panels using power tools for the first time.



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## Kiriwina Hospital

### Water and Sanitation Needs

#### Background

The Hospital is one of number of buildings in the Medical Compound. Other buildings include Administration, Outpatients, Dispensary, TB Ward and Kitchen. The hospital has no mains electrical power and has recently had Solar Power lighting installed. There are three existing sinks in Utility and Birthing Rooms with only one operational. There are two Western style toilets that are not usable due to lack of water for flushing. The Wards have no washing facilities at all. The doctor has requested that we install a total of five wash basins in the four Wards. This will give nursing staff and patients the ability to wash equipment and the patients themselves.

#### Rotary Project

The water tank is connected to the town water which is pumped on request to replenish the water level in the tank. We will install water pipes from the water tank outlet pipe which will run to the main hospital building.

A SkyHydrant filter will be installed on the side of the hospital building. We will install a wash basin in each ward to provide basic washing facilities for the nurses and patients. We will also repair the existing plumbing which is connected to sinks in utility rooms but are not functioning at the moment.

Fig 1. Hospital Compound



## Kiriwina Hospital

### Hospital Beds and Mattresses.

#### Background

There are four wards in the Hospital building. The Adult Ward the Children's Ward, the Antenatal Ward and the Post Natal ward. The Hospital currently has old iron or wooden beds, most without mattresses.

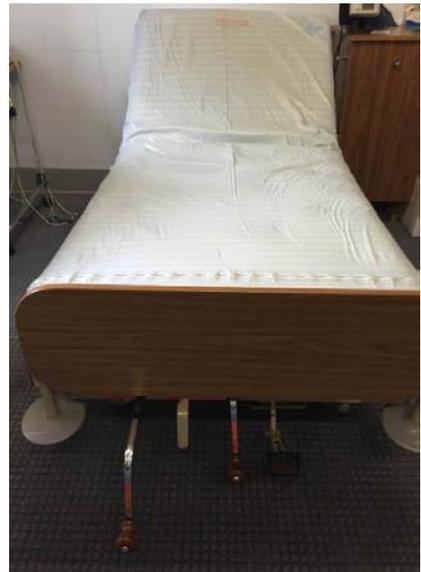
#### Rotary Project

We will be transporting hospital beds and mattresses already procured by The Marsh Foundation, the only cost will be transportation. 46 Hospital beds currently at the Reservoir Private Hospital have been sourced for this operation. These beds are not electric (There is no 240 volt electricity at the hospital) and have manual winders to raise and lower the beds and bed heads.

*Fig 2. One of four Hospital Wards*



*Fig 3. Proposed Hospital beds*



## The Kiabola Beach Primary School

### Primary School Toilets.

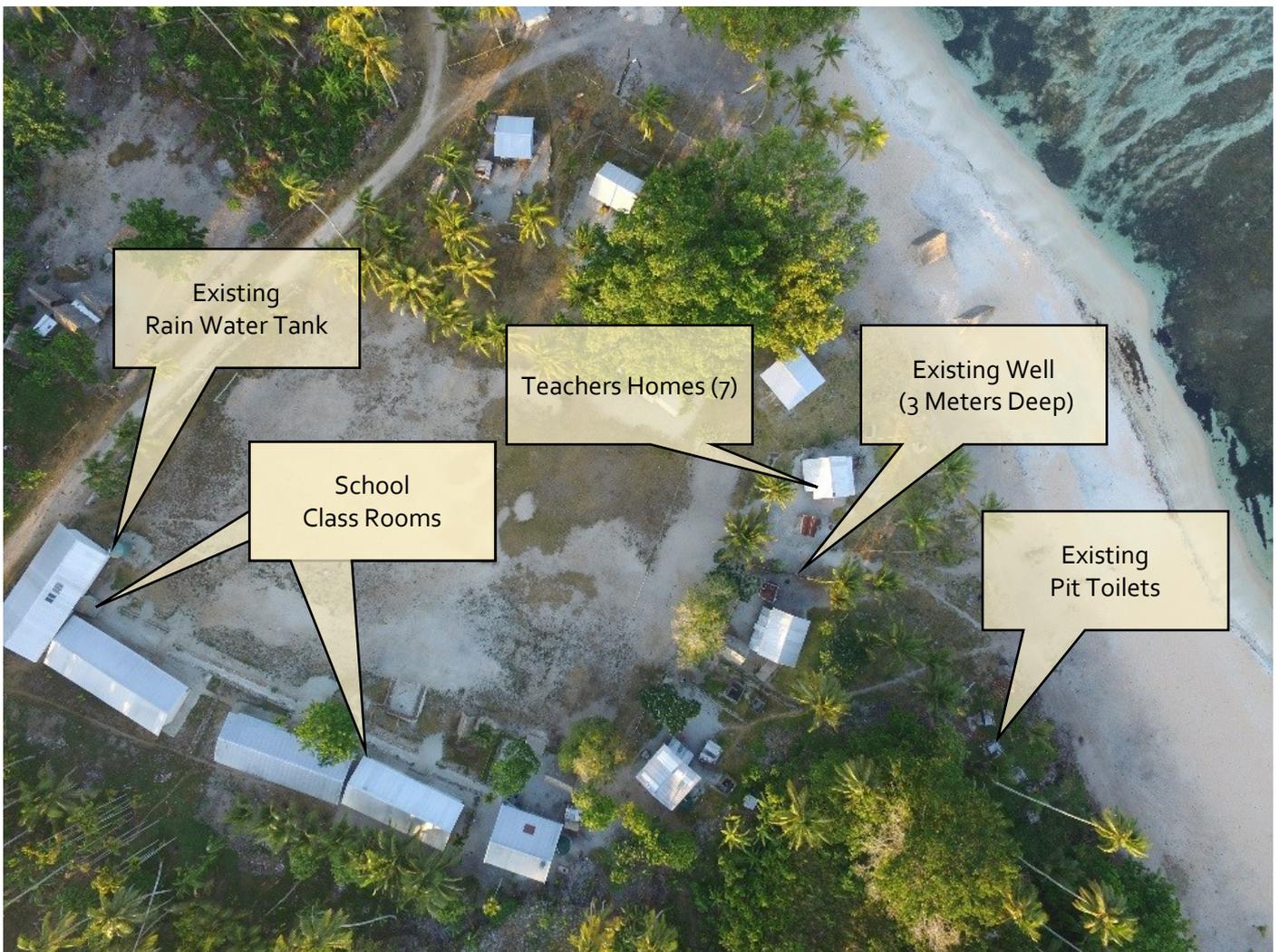
#### Background

The Primary School has ten pit toilets in poor repair and provide very poor sanitary conditions. When I asked the Headmaster "What is your main issue at the school?" he replied very quickly "SANITATION"

#### Rotary Project

We will install three Composting Toilets with two toilet bowls in each (Approved by Australian Health Authorities). These toilets operate with a fan operated by wind power and another by Solar Power. The locals on the island will be employed to build the huts housing the toilet systems. This will provide employment for the island, enable them to maintain the structures and will be familiar to them rather than introduce them to a western style building. We will supply hand water pumps to two existing Water Wells to enable pupils to wash their hands after going to the toilet. We will add one additional Rain Water Tank and spouting on a school building in order to increase the amount of rain water available for drinking.

Fig 4. Kiabola Beach Primary School



## Primary School Toilets

The compost from the new toilets can be used to fertilise the gardens.

Fig 5. Existing Pit Toilet



Fig 6. Inside of Pit Toilet



Fig 7. Composting Toilet Base



Fig 8. How it Works

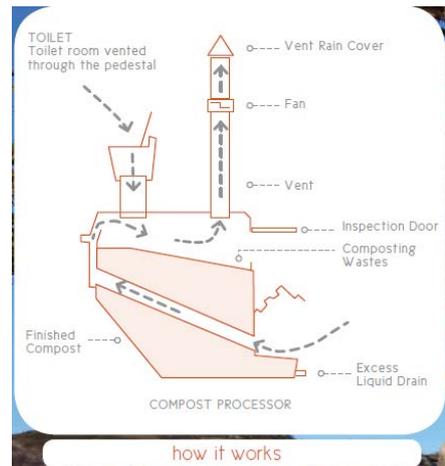
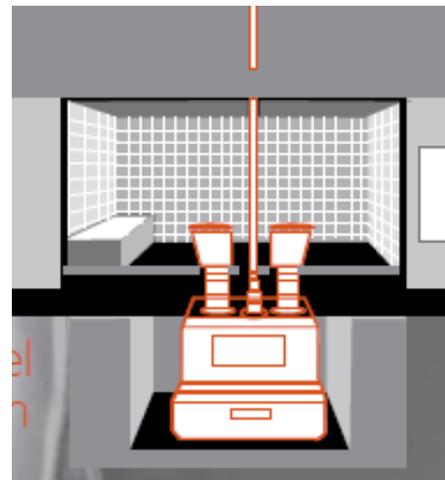


Fig 9. Basic diagram of pan Placement



## School Desks for the primary school – more than just supplying desks

### Background

The school children currently sit on the floor in most of the classrooms. The locals have attempted to build school desks using a local design but due to the poor materials used and lack of proper woodworking tools, the desks are expected to last only a year or so.

### Rotary Project

We will provide tools and materials and assist the locals to build their own school desks. We will use the design of desk that they prefer. This will generate employment on the island and establish a sense of ownership. A site has been selected to build a large hut as a Woodworking Workshop. The locals will build the hut. Rotary will supply a range of tools including hand tools, battery powered power tools and a larger compound saw with a generator and Materials. A Solar Power supply will be installed to charge the battery operated tools. An example desk has been built here in Melbourne to determine the materials required. We will create a small business for the locals to develop and supply desks to schools on surrounding islands after they complete the desks for the primary school.

A local has completed a PNG Government scholarship that involved sending him to Port Moresby and attending a Basic Carpentry Course of 20 weeks. Now he has returned to his Village with few hand tools and is unable to use the knowledge he has gained without our help.

*Fig 10. Classroom*



*Fig 11. Rotary School Desk*

