



# RAWCS ROVER

**Rotary  
Australia  
World  
Community  
Service**

*May 2009*

**LINKING EASTERN REGION CLUBS IN  
9650, 9670, 9680, 9690, 9700, 9710, 9750**

## CAN'T TRAVEL - CAN HELP !

**So travelling overseas to join a Volunteers Project is not possible at the moment so what can our club do to be a part of the RAWCS program?**

### EASTERN REGION EXECUTIVE COMM

<b>Chairman</b> John Glass	9670
<b>Dep. Chairman</b> Harry Durey	9650
<b>Secretary</b> Ted Lewis	9670
<b>Treasurer</b> Jack Elliott	9690
<b>DIK: Co-Ord.</b> Miriam Jacka	9680
<b>Project Regist.</b> Len Bolden	9710
<b>Vol.Proj.Co-ord.</b> John Roberson	9700
<b>RAM Co-Ord</b> Bill Walker	9670
<b>Newsletter</b> Barry McConville	9690

### JOHN'S JOTTINGS

It costs \$25,000 a year to administer Eastern Region. From this total we direct \$14,000 to the national body. Add to that the considerable cost of DIK maintenance and funding becomes a major concern. With only two of our districts contributing the levy funding of \$2 per head Treasurer Jack Elliott is looking for alternatives ways of remaining viable.

He suggests that we direct 1%, or less as the case may be, from all donations to the Overseas Aid Fund towards administrative costs. This, he notes, is far less than the AusAID prescribed amount of 10%.

Looking for downloads of ER forms, then look no further than our website. There you will also find listings of current projects requiring Volunteers or Funding.

Try [rotary.org.au/rawceastern](http://rotary.org.au/rawceastern)

With so many challenging programs open to Rotarians it is not always possible to enthuse members about undertaking an overseas Volunteers project. Well not at the present time.

Yet the club wants to support an interesting international program where members can see benefits flowing from their efforts.

RAWCS offers a whole raft of fascinating avenues to explore from hands on involvement to cheque book solutions.

With the end of the Rotary year bearing down on us, boards may wish to consider supporting their International commitments through contributions to an approved Project Funding venture.

These are programs that have been granted official status for financial support and are listed as worthy of additional funding from interested clubs.

An example of such a project comes from Sandra Meihubers from the Dee Why Warringah Club where, along with other agencies, funding for a sanitation project in Nepal has been initiated.

Bhattedande village is a rural community of some 400 people in the mountains of Nepal.

Underway already is the construction of toilets into 70 homes, the improvement of quality drinking water and an education program on sanitation and hygiene.

Work started in 2007 with an anticipated completion date of 2011. This month it is expected

that 32 toilets will have been completed using local expertise and labour.

Donors to the Nepal project are "matched" to a recipient family and will receive project reports and newsletters.

The estimated overall cost for the project is AUD 150,000.

Clubs or individuals interested in supporting this or other similar projects on the approved listing can forward donations to The Treasurer, RAWCS Eastern Region Overseas Aid Fund noting their preferred project. All donations are tax deductible.

### NATIONAL WEBSITE

With only Eastern and Western Regions maintaining their own websites, it has been long over due that the peak body be represented across the nation.

News of the reappearance of the site suggests that it will be up and running by July 2009 at a cost of \$8000 plus a monthly fee of \$95.00.

It will be accessed through "rotary.org.au" with clicks through the multidistrict activities onto the National RAWCS page.

The newly formed National Promotional and Development Committee will be responsible for the content to be presented with each Region updating their appropriate sections.

Our current site will remain accessible through the same site as well as that of the national body.

### Management Decisions

1. Peter Willars of the Bollinger Shipping Agency, the company responsible for shipping arrangements for DIK containers, is to be presented with a suitable plaque in acknowledgement of his long standing relationship with RAWCS.

2. The new Volunteer Medical and the Waiver and Release of Liability Forms have been approved pending some minor reformatting. They will be placed on the website for general use. These will retain the usual PDF format.

3. Miriam Jacka is to provide a "Standard Letter" covering procedures for Volunteers travelling to Vanuatu.

4. The matter of non Rotarian teams travelling under the RAWCS banner and insurance cover was again discussed. There is still some difference between the National and ER interpretations. Management has decided to overcome differences by appointing one of its members to the controlling body of the partner organisation. Hence Jack Elliott has volunteered to represent Rotary on the United Future Foundation in Uganda.

5. A representative of Shelter Box is to be invited to the next Management meeting to respond to some of the concerns expressed to members.

6. A review of the effectiveness of the forklift at DIK is to be undertaken by Howard Grigor. Consideration is to be given to upgrading equipment.

7. Valuable service has been given to RAWCS by the Crown Forklift Company. Recognition of this service is to be made through a formal presentation to the company.

### NEW NATIONAL COMMITTEES ESTABLISHED

*Promotion and Development* and *Governance and Risk Management* committees have both been added to the national management scene. Our PR coordinator, Ian Dyball has been appointed to the former and John Glass to the latter. Greater regional representation is sound.

## NEWS OF OUR NORTHERN NEIGHBOUR

### Several reports have received from challenging projects in PNG.

**Bob Young & Hugh Ritchie:** 54 new pre-cut classrooms have been approved for the Oro Province disaster appeal. RAWCS will be asked to carry out the building. Kokoda Hospital is in urgent need of maintenance generally. Approval for the SDA to use the hospital for training purposes is still awaited. The maternity wing at Port Moresby Hospital, whilst fully funded, may need volunteers.

**Sue O'Neill:** Tropical summer rains have collapsed much of the mountain roads into Fomu causing disruption to school and village life. Crops were deluged and food became scarce. Work recommenced straight after the rains with re-cropping and building. 350 students turned up for the 225 places the school could offer. Teaching posting was delayed so 15 volunteers were appointed to get things on track. In just 8 months a school has been built, teacher accommodation commenced and village life has settled into a regular routine.

**Christine McCormack:** Reports on her visit to Fomu then continues on with an account of her journey on to Porgora and Barrick Gold Mine. She notes great tension in the explosive mining community with inter tribal fighting and paybacks high on the agenda. *"The hope of the people of Porgera lies in the schools, hospital and HIV Aids centre. Should this community lose any of these services it would be devastating. I believe we would see unrest unlike anything previously seen as all hope would be lost and the blame would most likely be aimed at the Gold Mine."*

### Monster Claims Victim in Jousting Tournament

In but a fleeting second the mechanical monster drew blood then faltered to a halt. DIK Coord. Miriam Jacka bravely stood her ground though viciously wounded. Five hospital weeks later Miriam is back on duty ready to consider forklift replacement.

#### MIRIAM'S MUSINGS

New racking in the DIK depot has appeared through the highly valued skills of Alan Grady. Loading and unloading with the forklift will be much easier from now on.

DIK is a service rather than a business. We store equipment and organise shipments but we do not provide financing. Clubs wishing to support projects overseas with stored items must first consider the cost of containers and shipping. DIK will organise but the club must locate funding.

Volunteers are the mainstay of the program. If you haven't volunteered a Day at DIK then contact us and bring along a number of your members for a profitable social get together. Bring along a picnic and share a cuppa with us.

Cardboard cartons are always scarce properties in the depot. Does anyone know of a regular source of cartons that we can use for shipping?

WHY DON'T YOU TRY

A

DAY AT DIK

### DID YOU GO MAD?

We changed the day to follow on from ANZAC Day so you had a week to get up a head of steam and rant about MALARIA.

If you didn't go MAD on 30<sup>th</sup> April then start planning a campaign for the next Malaria Awareness Day.

### DISTRICT 9650 IN VANUATU

Much of the work planned for Vanuatu in the coming year will be directed towards schools. Chairman Don McLeod notes the following program.

Equipment and materials transportation and handling will be a local responsibility. Where additional items are requested then payment is expected for individual projects with money being reimbursed to Rotary for materials purchased elsewhere. The list of proposed work is impressive.

Installation of louvre windows, re-guttering, painting, ceiling replacements, adjusting of storm shutters, installation of water tanks just to mention a few.

On a recent trip to Vanuatu, Ray White met with several government officials to discuss the year ahead. The result was a full exemption of VAT for items purchase over the next twelve months.

### ROTARIAN vs NON ROTARIAN TEAMS

Where do you stand in relations as to whether Volunteer teams should always contain one or more Rotarians? ER and RAWCS Ltd. are not necessarily in agreement.

**FOR:** It's a Rotary program and should only accept Rotary members. Only Rotarians know what is expected of them. Rotary will have to wear problems that others may create. Non Rotarian teams may not have the accepted level of training. Why should Rotarians offer insurance/tax breaks to others.

**AGAINST:** Previous non Rotarians teams have proved very acceptable. They can bring skills not available to Rotary teams. They can be covered with appropriate insurance/ tax deductibility. They can be asked to take out their own insurance covers if necessary. Can be a lead into Rotary membership.

### D.9690 PROFILE

#### Veronica Necyporuk Reports

A raffle at the Dist. Conference raised \$500 for DIK. The RAWCS team received good exposure as well with stage appearances.

A Dist. Gift Giving Day is being planned when Rotarians can donate a gift to a RAWCS program in a club's or someone's name.

A challenge has been thrown to all clubs to write a poem about malaria for MAD. A prize will be presented on Dist. Changeover. Blacktown: water projects in Monrovia and Liberia and building an orphanage in Sri Lanka.

Burwood: a tour to St Judes in Kenya, purchasing a truck for coconut collections and a refrigerated truck for dressed chicken distribution.

Cabramatta: computers, desks chairs, sporting equipment for indigenous children in Walgett. Community service incentives.