



RAWCS ROVER

Rotary
Australia
World
Community
Service

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

May.2010

EASTERN REGION EXECUTIVE COMM

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

JOHN'S JOTTINGS

National Chairman Lou has advised us that tax deductibility for funds coming into the OAF, can only be given when those funds will be used in overseas countries which are "Approved Developing Countries". [It was also noted that the money may be spent in Australia for the relief of persons overseas eg. bringing a nurse to Australia to train and then return to her own country].

The Australian branch of Shelter Box has been disbanded. Funds raised for this project can be sent to RAWCS OAF for tax consideration then directed on to Shelter Box UK to be used in countries approved by AUSAID.

Just how widely does our information flow? The introduction of the **Rover** all those nine years ago was intended to be a vehicle for club members to hear about the successes and to encourage others to become involved.

But how effective it is today is a point of some concern.

At a recent Management meeting the question was asked just how widely the newsletter is being distributed. The response was not encouraging.

The flow through to members using electronic technology has been accepted as the mode of communication for most organisations.

The **Rover** follows a similar pathway; from editor to secretary to district chairs and on to clubs. We cannot guarantee what happens after the newsletter arrives in the club mailbox but the assumption has been that at least a copy is passed around the meeting for all see and select anything of interest.

Maybe we can all carry out a simple survey of how widely the **Rover** is being recognised as a useful club resource.

How about asking a fellow Rotarian "Have you seen a **RAWCS Rover** lately?" and check out the response.

ENVIRONMENTAL PROJECTS

Has your club any involvement with RAWCS projects of an environmental nature? Would you like some international exposure to promote your endeavours?

Elaine Lytle is managing a stall at the International Convention in Montreal and is looking for projects worthy of promotion. Elaine is sharing time with her club at Como - Janali and working with an orphanage organisation in the US caring for children from the Haiti earthquake disaster.

TRAINING MANUALS

At the recent Management Meeting a comment was made about the status of our three training documents. It seems as though these had been adopted at national level and had been placed on the web for other regions to utilise. Unfortunately they had used the early versions of the documents and not the updated ones.

Alerted to this situation John Roberson, in his up and coming role as National Project Director, has reviewed and updated all three documents and added a Regional Coordinators Manual. These are now being reviewed by National and should be available on their website in the near future.

GET ON A HIGH

Looking for a new experience with a purpose? John Glassman, Coolamon Club has an answer.

How about joining the Mountains of the Moon (Uganda) Adventure and supporting the Rotarians For Fighting AIDS. John comments:

"It is early days in the planning process for this adventure, however I need to get a feel for what we are up for in Uganda in July 2011. My advice is to trek/climb in July around full moon time July 15 for summit. There are two ways to do this adventure one as an experienced grade 2 climber and the other as a trekker. Moses our wonderful guide on Kilimanjaro will be joining us and being involved. My personal goal is to reach the glaciers on the Stanley Plateau, touch the ice and return!!!!"

For details go to the web site. Mountains of the Moon 2011: <http://www.mountainsofthemoon.org>

Management Decisions

1. The OH&S document covering DIK operations is a work in progress. In its third draft awaiting further feedback from interested parties, it should be ready for presentation at the up coming ER meeting.

2. Discussion arose on the responsibility of the Team Leader on OS projects. He/she is ultimately responsible for the wellbeing of team members and should be alerted to risk assessment procedures on site rather than rely on predetermined criteria.

3. Oro Province in PNG is still suffering from the destruction of flooding many months ago. There are still some 60 schools not operating and food supplies are not reliable due to transport difficulties and devastated garden plots.

4. The DET Desk Program is to be introduced through a pilot program of 10 containers Vanuatu and possibly PNG. Equipment is being stored on site awaiting final OK from DET to proceed. RAWCS will be responsible for the distribution from port to destination. Loading and transport to terminals will be carried out through contractors.

5. Funding flowing through to Ranfurly is slowing down thus delaying the distribution of books to OS locations. A request to check the state and appropriateness of books before sending to the depot has been made as tipping costs are placing greater demands on resources.

6. Howard Grigor reported on his three trips to western NSW visiting Tibooburra, Wanaaring and White Cliffs. His missions were to deliver hospital beds to the local communities. He notched up a massive 8160km for his efforts.

7. Treasurer Jack Elliott has requested that all donations, cheques etc. are accompanied by full documentation. Names, addresses and specific allocations are necessary for receipts and possible taxation deductions.

FOMU HEALTH & EDUCATION PROJECT

From Sue O'Neill comes a report of progress in the Eastern Highlands of PNG.

Our school in Fomu is in its 2nd year. In 2009 we had 250 students in 2 x grade 3, 2 x grade 4 & 1 x grade 5, classes, 1 government teacher & 4 village volunteer teachers. This year 2010 we have 415 students in 2 x grade 3, 2 x grade 4, 2 x grade 5 & 1 x grade 6, classes. Fortunately we have 7 government teachers with support from village volunteer teachers. (our class sizes are huge 52 to 67 students. We do anticipate this number reducing a little as the year continues).

Extra students are now attending the elementary feeder schools (in anticipation of attending the now established only Primary School in the area at Fomu). In 2011 we expect 200+ more students to enroll at the Fomu School.

During December 09/January 10 we brought 4 young men from Fomu village to Australia to participate in RYLA. This was a hugely successful exercise. 3 were volunteer teachers and were able to do school visits and personally thank schools and Rotary Clubs in Australia that had donated to the project. They grew enormously and RYLA was an amazing experience for them. We will explore the possibility of bringing 2 other potential leaders to Australia to attend RYLA 2011.

D.9700 PROFILE

John Roberson Reports

The district team has met three times during the years and has rekindled much interest in RAWCS.

Four teams have taken on projects

Leeton in Luro, East Timor

Sth. Wagga Wagga in School Survey work in Nepal

Wagga Murrumbidgee in Tafea, Vanuatu

Parkes in Rotahomes, Fiji.

Bathurst Daybreak, Murrumbidgee Wagga and Wagga Wagga Koorinal have also donated funds through Project Funding

FUNDING THE PROGRAM

A great program requires considerable funding. Only two districts contribute to annual funding. Is yours one ?

SHARING IT ROUND

When it becomes a little difficult to mount a project individually why not try the District 9650 idea of sharing the load with neighbouring clubs. You too, can get a great result.

Called the Pacific Trading Aid program, the clubs bring in nurses from selected o/seas hospitals for further medical training.

Recently two nurses from Honiara spent a month at Port Macquarie Base Hospital funded and hosted by local Rotarians from the Port Macquarie/ Hastings cluster of clubs.

So successful has been the project that another such program will be undertaken by the Northern Tablelands cluster in September. This time they will be receiving a male nurse from Kiluufi Hospital in the Malaita Province of the Solomons.

FROM THE NATIONAL BOARD

1. All Regions are being asked to use the same Auditor to review their annual statements in an attempt to consolidate national reporting.
2. Regions are asked to standardise computer accounting systems with MYOB being the standard.
3. It is suggested that all Regions become sub agencies for GST purposes and forward their individual reports for tax purposes.
4. Recognised that Daryl Mills is an accredited officer in Timor Leste though not officially funded.

WANT a NEW PROJECT ?

Sect. Ted recently sent out full listings of projects available to clubs across Australia. Some are "hands on" whilst others are for funding assistance. Hence everyone can help. Check with your club president or call Ted.

RANFURLY READINGS

New accommodation at Building 501 Callan Park off Glover St. in Leichhardt is proving advantageous though a little restrictive. Book deliveries should be notified by phone on 9692 8460. Please cull stocks before delivery as disposal is a costly item. Much of the running costs for Ranfurly are carried by D. 9750. Your help in funding would be greatly appreciated.

LET'S RAM IT HOME !

Bill Walker speaks with great enthusiasm over the continuing success of the bednet program. Over 1/3 of PNG and across the Solomons the ongoing results have been most heartening. More than 400 clubs have contributed over \$750,000 to RAM which along with matching grants has provided \$3M for malaria eradication.

Global money is now being directed to the malaria battlefield so that Rotarian funds to be channelled to education, prevention and research.

Australian malaria researchers are among the best in the world according to Bill. Prof. Michael Good has come up with a proposal for a vaccine trial to be carried out in the coming years. There is a new OZ tab and a three day treatment program that looks promising.

PRAISE FROM THE PROJECT COORDINATOR

It hasn't always been thus but Len Bolden is quite chuffed about the standard of Project Application Form submissions. Signatures are there, information is relevant and substantive and he hasn't had to waste his time in returning forms for omissions.

Maybe he will volunteer for the same job in the coming Rotary year.

He notes that projects undertaken have been wide ranging and well scattered around the world in such places as Timor Leste, Mongolia, Egypt, Philippines, Cambodia, PNG, New Britain, Samoa, Nepal, Trobrian Is., Bangladesh, South Africa, Indonesian, Fiji and Vietnam.

And what a year we have in front of us. There is much still to be done.