



**ROTARY PROJECT**  
Districts 9650, 9670, , 9680, 9690,  
9700, 9710, 9750



**ROTARY FURNITURE  
GOODWILL PROGRAM**



**RAWCS**  
Eastern Region

## FINAL REPORT 1<sup>st</sup> April 2011

### OVERVIEW

The program was conceived as far back as September 2009. It was presented to a RAWCS meeting on November where it was endorsed with some reservations.

Negotiations commenced with Department of Education and Training in November 2009. A pilot program was started to prove the viability of the concept. This proved very successful! The final agreement was gained on July 2010.

The program was centred round Hansen Yuncken, a managing contractor (MC) for the Building Education Revolution (BER). I have gained great support from Hansen Yuncken which allowed the smooth and efficient processing of the furniture collection and transport. They have truly been the ideal corporate citizen in providing direction, impetus and resources to make this program happen.

It was difficult to engage other managing contractors as they were not able to see the enormous benefits and reduced costs that came from the program.

To date over 108 containers have been shipped to ten different countries. That represents over 1,080 classrooms and about half a million student years if the furniture lasts 20 years. The cost to Rotary for the shipment from Australia is NIL. There is a cost however, for the customs and port charges and the distribution of the furniture. Hansen Yuncken was able to send 97 containers which is quite an outstanding humanitarian effort.

The value of the furniture sent is estimated at \$11 million however the benefit to the young students around the world is immeasurable.

The containers have been sent to ten countries – Papua New Guinea, Solomon Islands, Philippines, Vanuatu, Fiji, Samoa, Timor L'este, Chile, India and Sierra Leone.

The second phase of the program has been the Goodwill component which the matching of schools at each end of the furniture line – senders and receivers. Schools are being matched and the exchange of letters has commenced creating a cultural and social relationship. It is hoped that this will gain momentum as schools return from holidays.

The method used to effectively pack and send containers was to take a twenty foot container on a rigid truck directly to the school, pack the container while still on the truck and take to the wharf. This was found to be the most cost effective and easily managed process. We rented a small transit depot where the odd furniture was taken and packed into the next available container.

We used Big League Removals for the packing – they were very obliging and understood our needs. The road transport company and also the depot provider was R A Campbell Transport who provided the logistics of picking up the containers, taking them to the school, storing them when required and taking them to the wharf at the appropriate time. They were a key to our success offering lots of assistance and meshing nicely with Big League. We used Bollinger Shipping Agents as the freight forwarding company and here we again were on a winner as they gave much advice, understood our peculiar needs and were always on top of issues when they arose.

---

**Program Sponsor: Department of Education and Training**

**Program Creator and Supporter: Hansen Yuncken Pty Ltd**



RAWCS (Project No. 8/2010-11) Project Sponsor - Rotary Club of Sutherland

The volume of containers being packed reached 10 per week. This is quite a task to co-ordinate schools, MCs and the packing team to pack 100 classrooms. It is also a challenge to gain the support of the shipping companies as we met many obstacles of shipping containers to various ports.

The distribution has been an exercise in complex logistics. Although we hand over the responsibility to others at the wharf there are many issues to deal with to complete the arrangement. Here we relied on operatives in Australia and people on the ground in the destination country. Our Australian operatives proved to be wonderful, dedicated people who are trying to help others.

## **DESTINATION COUNTRIES**

### **Papua New Guinea**

In Papua New Guinea the Kokoda Track Foundation is doing great work and we were only too happy to give some assistance their great work. Dr. Genevieve Nelson does much more than focus on the “track” she does a brilliant job in assisting the whole of Oro Province in many different ways from health and education into small business and scholarships. Genevieve gained support from the Higaturu Palm Oil Company. They have given wonderful assistance in the deliveries to schools. Additionally, 97 beds were also delivered to three hospitals in the province Kokoda Hospital, Popondetta Hospital and St Margarets Hospital, Oro Bay.

Jacqui Wood, from Williamstown Rotary Club is a committed and dedicated person who is working with people the Lufa District in the Eastern Highlands of PNG. She has taken a very personal interest in providing the furniture, teaching the people to care for it and she has provided many books. A new library will be built at Hairo Primary School to house some of these books. After seeing the work of Jacqui and the receiving of the furniture a senior education official committed to building the library. This is just one of many tangible benefits from the RFGP. Many schools gain from Jacqui’s attention and dedication.

Christine McCormack, from Dee Why Rotary Club had containers delivered to Western Highlands Province and was supported by a mining company. There are 42 schools in the region to which Christine continues to help. Christine has delivered much to the area and the furniture augments what she has been doing.

Wendy Stein, from Salamander Rotary Club provided furniture to schools in the Eastern Highlands Province and particularly to Mando Primary School. This school has been “adopted” by Wendy and has received much needed assistance.

Adrian Roach, from East Maitland Rotary Club has sent containers to the northern area of the Eastern Highlands Province to great effect.

Ernie Lohberger from Port Moresby Rotary Club has provided very valuable support to the program by being the importer of many containers. Carl van den Haspel has been instrumental in the distribution of the furniture to schools throughout the region. Ernie is heavily involved in building a much needed, new maternity ward in Port Moresby Hospital. This requires beds in the very near future that I hope we can provide.

### **Solomon Islands**

The Rotary Club of Honiara has been the mainstay in getting containers to the Solomons. They have a well organised team under President Roy Hall. Phil Bradford also from Honiara RC is a wonderful long term supporter of RAWCS and the program and PDG Wayne Morris added the administrative influence.

Gold Ridge Mining has taken on the responsibility of delivering furniture in the Gold Ridge area. They have nominated some seven schools which will receive furniture as a result of their efforts. Ellen Davis-Meehan has done a brilliant job of bringing together a business, Rotary and the community to produce a very worthwhile result. Mary Faye Maeni is a great support on the ground at Gold Ridge. A nice touch is Neil Bruce from Griffith Avanti RC is working on a project in Tinaghulu Health Clinic at that village. By coincidence Gold Ridge Mining is also about to assist Alex Sanosaia at that clinic with some furniture.

---

**Program Sponsor: Department of Education and Training**

**Program Creator and Supporter: Hansen Yuncken Pty Ltd**



RAWCS (Project No. 8/2010-11) Project Sponsor - Rotary Club of Sutherland

## **Philippines**

Dr Grace Maano of Penrith RC has very ably organised several containers into the Philippines. Her enthusiasm brings great results. Containers have been sent to Cagayan de Oro and Manila. Also added to the list is Walter Bock from Burwood RC who is a past master at the export of goods. PDG Danny Low of Mosman RC has also been another person eager to help in the Philippines and several containers have been sent under his name. Support in the Philippines is well organised with a high level of skill and commitment which makes it much easier when sending many containers in a short period of time.

## **FIJI**

Chris Watt from Toowoomba City RC had a village project which needed support of furniture. This was achieved in good time. Terry Lobban from Tasmania is helping a village in Lautoka and is receiving a container of furniture. Likewise Lynn Gray from Charlestown RC has provided much needed furniture to a school on the brink of closure through of support. Let's hope that the new furniture gives the necessary lift for that school. Monsignor Brain Rayner of the Catholic Church has augmented his own program with furniture from RFGP into Suva. This will find its way into schools in great need.

## **Timor L'este**

Daryl Mills is a committed Rotarian and humanitarian who provides a wonderful service into Dili for RAWCS goods. He has been diligent in getting the container off the wharf and furniture distributed to needy schools.

## **Vanuatu**

Miriam Jacka has organised delivery of many containers for Vanuatu. She continues to provide an enormous service to Donations in Kind (DIK). These are sent to outlying island as well as Port Vila and Port Santo. Sid Kelly from Windsor RC also played an active role in getting containers to the islands.

## **Samoa**

Samoa had a disastrous cyclone that destroyed much of the schools in the region. Apia RC has commenced a program of improving the schools and the furniture has fitted nicely into that program. Louise Main has been a superb co-ordinator in getting the furniture to the country and distributed in an orderly fashion. No operator has done a better job than Louise.

Bob Armessen of West Wollongong RC has been very supportive of the country and the club is taking a positive and active role in getting furniture there. Kogarah RC through Faye Hunt, Ken Sutherland and Peter Hunt has collected computers which will also form part of the program of advancement for the Samoan children.

## **Chile**

Russell Paine, President of Bondi RC has shown great keenness in helping the earthquake torn country of Chile. Several containers were sent to Chile in an endeavour to help the people. The costs are high and the available funds limited the number of containers we could send.

## **India**

Walter Bock of Burwood RC organised containers to Tuticorin, India which was well received.

## **Sierra Leone**

One of the poorest countries in the world is being helped by committed Australians. Barbie Davis heads up a team called Kanga Schools where she provides much for the schools of Sierra Leone. This truly marvelous

---

**Program Sponsor: Department of Education and Training**

**Program Creator and Supporter: Hansen Yuncken Pty Ltd**



RAWCS (Project No. 8/2010-11) Project Sponsor - Rotary Club of Sutherland

lady has sent many containers under her own steam and against considerable difficulty in the country. They will benefit a great deal from her commitment and energy.

### **SYDNEY REPORT**

A total of 108 containers have been packed and sent. There only remains a limited amount of furniture to pack as the BER Program is winding up. Hansen Yuncken has officially completed its region. Most school construction in other regions has been completed and handed over by the Managing Contractors to the schools.

Hansen Yuncken has sent 97 containers from its region – South West Sydney. This includes 3 containers of beds from Liverpool Hospital. Bovis Lend Lease has sent 4 containers of school furniture and Reed Constructions have sent 3 containers so far. Abigroup has sent 2 containers.

This is a wonderful result as there are 1,080 classrooms of furniture which equates to \$11 million replacement value or 27,000 student places. It also amounts to more than a half a million student years if the furniture lasts for 20 years – that is a remarkable statistic!

Big League Removals have worked tirelessly to pack the containers, sometimes filling as many as 10 in one week. They have been flexible and adaptable to meet the many challenges that confront such an operation. In most cases we have taken the 20 foot containers to the school on a rigid tabletop truck and packed the furniture directly into the container to reduce handling.

The containers were delivered to the school and to the wharf by RA Campbell Transport Road Transport who also provided a depot as a transit station for the surplus furniture that gathers from time to time. They also have been very accommodating and resolved lots of issues before they presented a problem.

Our shipping agent was Bollinger Shipping Agents with Peter Willars at the helm. He has great experience and does a wonderful job. He has been supported very ably by Kennes Xue when he was away overseas. It is so important to get the shipping right as costs are quickly incurred if the Bill of Lading isn't at hand or the payment for the shipping isn't complete before docking the foreign port.

### **FOREIGN PORTS REPORT**

The containers take varying lengths of times to arrive at the destination port. Some take as short as one week while Sierra Leone is 51 days. The challenge has been to get the containers off the wharf in as short a time as possible. Delays have been considerable in Papua New Guinea. It seems that they are undermanned in the Customs Department.

Many containers have been cleared and furniture delivered to schools. There are many stories of delivery. One such story is of kids and parents carrying the furniture some 14 kilometres to the school through bush tracks or in Apia furniture is loaded onto boats for a sea voyage to the school.

I have traveled to Solomon Islands and also Papua New Guinea to see, first hand, what was the effect of the furniture delivery. In all cases the furniture was much appreciated. Students were very comfortable using the new furniture. I have found that the furniture encourages parents to send their children to school (and pay for the privilege). In Hairo, PNG the primary school gained a school classification upgrade and as a consequence has been promised a new library which will be constructed, starting in February. This is a marvelous consequence and heartening for the many people who have contributed to making the program work.

There are 10 countries that have received furniture so far and 17 different destination ports.

Please provide me with your special story of success and comments from people so that I can tell others of the success of this program.

---

**Program Sponsor: Department of Education and Training**

**Program Creator and Supporter: Hansen Yuncken Pty Ltd**



RAWCS (Project No. 8/2010-11) Project Sponsor - Rotary Club of Sutherland

## ALLIANCES

One of the great successes and personal joys has been alliances with several groups and companies. Kokoda Track Foundation, Kanga Schools, Gold Ridge Mining Limited, Ethica Coffee, Higaturu Palm Oil Company, the Catholic Church and Intercontinental Fiji Golf Resort have all volunteered and played a wonderful role in getting the furniture to the destination schools. The greatest alliance of all has been with Hansen Yuncken with their totally committed support.

## THANK YOU!

To the many people who have participated in this program, both in Australia and overseas, I thank you and congratulate you for your support, dedication and success. I give thanks to PDG Elaine Lytle for her encouragement at the beginning and ongoing support throughout the program. I also give thanks to Dept. of Education and Training for their whole hearted support for the program.

And a special thanks to David Beslich, Director, Hansen Yuncken. His vision, counsel and continued support has made this project. It is hoped that from this program will spring further opportunities to deliver much needed aid to developing countries.

There is a way – we just have to find it and convince others that it is worthwhile.

“The journey is enjoyable and exciting knowing that success is the final objective.”

Kind Regards

Graeme Boler

Co-ordinator of the Rotary Furniture Goodwill Program

---

**Program Sponsor: Department of Education and Training**

**Program Creator and Supporter: Hansen Yuncken Pty Ltd**



RAWCS (Project No. 8/2010-11) Project Sponsor - Rotary Club of Sutherland

APPENDIX

Con Note No.	Port of Discharge	Country	Australian Person	Organisation	Overseas Person	Date of Arrival
1	Port Vila	Vanuatu	Miriam Jacka	DIK Eastern		5/05/2010
2	Port Vila	Vanuatu	Miriam Jacka	DIK Eastern		22/05/2010
3	Port Vila	Vanuatu	Miriam Jacka	DIK Eastern		22/05/2010
4	Port Vila	Vanuatu	Miriam Jacka	DIK Eastern		22/05/2010
5	Port Vila	Vanuatu	Miriam Jacka	DIK Eastern		2/05/2010
6	Port Vila	Vanuatu	Miriam Jacka	DIK Eastern		11/07/2010
7	Lae	PNG	Wendy Stein	Salamander RC		21/07/2010
8	Lae	PNG	Jacqui Wood	Williamstown Rc		8/07/2010
9	Port Vila	Vanuatu	Miriam Jacka	DIK Eastern		1/08/2010
10	Port Santo	Vanuatu	Sid Kelly	Windsor RC		1/08/2010
11	Lae	PNG	Jacqui Wood	Williamstown RC		26/07/2010
12	Lae	PNG	Wendy Stein	Salamander RC		26/07/2010
13	Lae	PNG	Christine McCormack	Dee Why Manly RC		3/08/2010
14	Lae	PNG	Christine McCormack	Dee Why Manly RC		3/08/2010
15	Port Vila	Vanuatu	Miriam Jacka	DIK Eastern		1/08/2010
16	Arica	Chile	Russell Paine	Bondi Junction RC		29/08/2010
17	Arica	Chile	Russell Paine	Bondi Junction RC		29/08/2010
18	Arica	Chile	Russell Paine	Bondi Junction RC		29/08/2010
19	Lae	PNG	Jacqui Wood	Williamstown RC		26/07/2010
20	Oro Bay	PNG	Dr Gen Nelson	Kokoda Track Fdn		26/08/2010
21	Port Moresby	PNG	Dr Gen Nelson	Kokoda Track Fdn		26/08/2010
22	Port Moresby	PNG	Graeme Boler	Sutherkand RC	Ernie Lohberger	26/08/2010
23	Cagayan De Oro	Philippines	Grace Maano	Penrith RC		10/09/2010
24	Cagayan De Oro	Philippines	Grace Maano	Penrith RC		10/09/2010
25	Port Moresby	PNG	Graeme Boler	Sutherkand RC	Ernie Lohberger	26/08/2010
26	Port Moresby	PNG	Graeme Boler	Sutherkand RC	Ernie Lohberger	26/08/2010
27	Dili	Timor L'este	Richard Mason	Caringbah RC	Daryl Mills	1/10/2010
28	Dili	Timor L'este	Richard Mason	Caringbah RC	Daryl Mills	1/10/2010
29	Port Moresby	PNG	Graeme Boler	Sutherkand RC	Ernie Lohberger	26/08/2010
30	Port Moresby	PNG	Graeme Boler	Sutherkand RC	Ernie Lohberger	26/08/2010
31	Port Moresby	PNG	Graeme Boler	Sutherkand RC	Ernie Lohberger	30/08/2010
32	Port Moresby	PNG	Graeme Boler	Sutherkand RC	Ernie Lohberger	30/08/2010
33	Cagayan De Oro	Philippines	Walter Bock	Burwood RC		11/10/2010
34	Cagayan De Oro	Philippines	Walter Bock	Burwood RC		11/10/2010
35	Honiara	Solomon Islands	Graeme Boler	Sutherkand RC	Phil Bradford	25/09/2010
36	Honiara	Solomon Islands	Graeme Boler	Sutherkand RC	Phil Bradford	25/09/2010
37	Honiara	Solomon Islands	Graeme Boler	Sutherkand RC	Phil Bradford	25/09/2010
38	APIA	Samoa	Graeme Boler	Sutherkand RC	Louise Main	16/10/2010
39	APIA	Samoa	Graeme Boler	Sutherkand RC	Louise Main	16/10/2010
40	APIA	Samoa	Graeme Boler	Sutherkand RC	Louise Main	16/10/2010
41	Oro Bay	PNG	Dr Gen Nelson	Kokoda Track Fdn		18/10/2010

Program Sponsor: Department of Education and Training

Program Creator and Supporter: Hansen Yuncken Pty Ltd



RAWCS (Project No. 8/2010-11) Project Sponsor - Rotary Club of Sutherland

42	Oro Bay	PNG	Dr Gen Nelson	Kokoda Track Fdn		18/10/2010
43	Oro Bay	PNG	Dr Gen Nelson	Kokoda Track Fdn		18/10/2010
44	Cagayan De Oro	Philippines	Grace Maano	Penrith RC		3/11/2010
45	Cagayan De Oro	Philippines	Grace Maano	Penrith RC		3/11/2010
46	Cagayan De Oro	Philippines	Grace Maano	Penrith RC		3/11/2010
47	Valparaiso	Chile	Russell Paine	Bondi Junction RC		6/11/2010
48	Valparaiso	Chile	Russell Paine	Bondi Junction RC		6/11/2010
49	Valparaiso	Chile	Russell Paine	Bondi Junction RC		6/11/2010
50	Freetown	Sierra Leone	Barbie Davis	Kanga Schools		28/11/2010
51	Freetown	Sierra Leone	Barbie Davis	Kanga Schools		28/11/2010
52	Freetown	Sierra Leone	Barbie Davis	Kanga Schools		28/11/2010
53	Suva	Fiji	Chris Watt	Toowoomba City RC		11/10/2010
54	Lae	PNG	Rod Ingersoll	Warners Bay RC		24/10/2010
55	Lae	PNG	Rod Ingersoll	Warners Bay RC		24/10/2010
56	Lae	PNG	Jacqui Wood	Williamstown RC		24/10/2010
57	Lae	PNG	Jacqui Wood	Williamstown RC		24/10/2010
58	Lae	PNG	Jacqui Wood	Williamstown RC		24/10/2010
59	Dili	Timor L'este	Richard Mason	Caringbah RC	Daryl Mills	TBA
60	Dili	Timor L'este	Richard Mason	Caringbah RC	Daryl Mills	TBA
61	Dili	Timor L'este	Richard Mason	Caringbah RC	Daryl Mills	TBA
62	Oro Bay	PNG	Dr Gen Nelson	Kokoda Track Fdn		2/11/2010
63	Oro Bay	PNG	Dr Gen Nelson	Kokoda Track Fdn		12/11/2010
64	Tuticorin – Tamil Nadu	India	Walter Bock	Burwood RC		13/11/2010
65	Tuticorin – Tamil Nadu	India	Walter Bock	Burwood RC		13/11/2010
66	Tuticorin – Tamil Nadu	India	Walter Bock	Burwood RC		13/11/2010
67	Manilla	Philippines	Grace Maano	Penrith RC		3/11/2010
68	Manilla	Philippines	Grace Maano	Penrith RC		3/11/2010
69	Manilla	Philippines	Grace Maano	Penrith RC		3/11/2010
70	Oro Bay	PNG	Dr Gen Nelson	Kokoda Track Fdn		12/11/2010
71	Oro Bay	PNG	Dr Gen Nelson	Kokoda Track Fdn		12/11/2010
72	Alotau, Milne Bay	PNG	Graeme Boler	Sutherkand RC	Ernie Lohberger	9/11/2010
73	Alotau, Milne Bay	PNG	Graeme Boler	Sutherkand RC	Ernie Lohberger	9/11/2010
74						
75	Honiara	Solomon Islands	Graeme Boler	Sutherkand RC	Phil Bradford	17/11/2010
76	Honiara	Solomon Islands	Graeme Boler	Gold Ridge Mining	Ellen Davis Meehen	24/12/2010
77	Honiara	Solomon Islands	Graeme Boler	Gold Ridge Mining	Ellen Davis Meehen	24/12/2010
78	APIA	Samoa	Bob Armessen	West Wollongong RC	Louise Main	18/11/2010
79	APIA	Samoa	Bob Armessen	West Wollongong RC	Louise Main	18/11/2010
80	APIA	Samoa	Bob Armessen	West Wollongong RC	Louise Main	18/11/2010
81	Lae	PNG	Adrian Roach	East Maitland RC		9/11/2010
82	Lae	PNG	Adrian Roach	East Maitland RC		17/11/2010
83	Oro Bay	PNG	Dr Gen Nelson	Kokoda Track Fdn		12/11/2010
84	Oro Bay	PNG	Dr Gen Nelson	Kokoda Track Fdn		12/11/2010
85	Lae	PNG	Ron Sommers	Kundiawa RC	Karo Kuma	27/11/2010
86	Lae	PNG	Ron Sommers	Kundiawa RC	Karo Kuma	27/11/2010
87	Lae	PNG	Ron Sommers	Kundiawa RC	Karo Kuma	27/11/2010
88	APIA	Samoa	Bob Armessen	West Wollongong RC	Louise Main	1/01/2011

Program Sponsor: Department of Education and Training

Program Creator and Supporter: Hansen Yuncken Pty Ltd



RAWCS (Project No. 8/2010-11) Project Sponsor - Rotary Club of Sutherland

89	APIA	Samoa	Bob Armessen	West Wollongong RC	Louise Main	1/01/2011
90	APIA	Samoa	Bob Armessen	West Wollongong RC	Louise Main	1/01/2011
91	Suva	Fiji	Mons Brian Rayner	St Catherines Gynea		26/12/2010
92	Suva	Fiji	Mons Brian Rayner	St Catherines Gynea		12/01/2011
93	Suva	Fiji	Mons Brian Rayner	St Catherines Gynea		12/01/2011
94	Manilla	Philippines	Dr Grace Maano	Penrith RC		15/01/2011
95	Manilla	Philippines	Dr Grace Maano	Penrith RC		15/01/2011
96	Manilla	Philippines	Dr Grace Maano	Penrith RC		17/01/2011
97	Manilla	Philippines	Dr Grace Maano	Penrith RC		17/01/2011
98	Tuticorin – Tamil Nadu	India	Walter Bock	Burwood RC		23/01/2011
99	Tuticorin – Tamil Nadu	India	Walter Bock	Burwood RC		23/01/2011
100	Tuticorin – Tamil Nadu	India	Walter Bock	Burwood RC		23/01/2011
101	APIA	Samoa	Graeme Boler	Sutherkand RC	Louise Main	28/01/2011
102	Suva	Fiji	Sam Saliba	Crippled Children - Fiji		24/01/2011
103	Lautoka	Fiji	Lynn Gray	Charlestown RC		24/02/2011
104	Cagayan De Oro	Philippines	Danny Low	Mosman RC		11/02/2011
105	Cagayan De Oro	Philippines	Danny Low	Mosman RC		27/02/2011
106	Cagayan De Oro	Philippines	Danny Low	Mosman RC		12/03/2011
107	APIA	Samoa	Bob Armessen	West Wollongong RC	Louise Main	
108	APIA	Samoa	Bob Armessen, Faye	W Woll & Kograh	Louise Main	25/03/2011
109	Lae	PNG	Jacqui Wood	Williamstown RC	Jacqui Wood	4/04/2011
110	APIA	Samoa	Bob Armessen	West Wollongong RC	Louise Main	
111						
112	APIA	Samoa	GKB	Sutherkand RC	Louise Main	
113	Port Moresby	PNG	GKB		Ernie Lohberger	24/03/2011
114	Lae	PNG	Ron Sommers		Karo Kuma	24/03/2011

Program Sponsor: Department of Education and Training

Program Creator and Supporter: Hansen Yuncken Pty Ltd



RAWCS (Project No. 8/2010-11) Project Sponsor - Rotary Club of Sutherland