



ROTARY AUSTRALIA
WORLD COMMUNITY SERVICE LTD



Rotary Donations in Kind

Rear Shed 40, 400 Somerville Road West Footscray VIC 3012
(A Multi-District DIK Store)

Frequently Asked Questions 2014-15

What is Donations In Kind?

It's a recycling operation that specializes in reusable goods, that is run by volunteers. We gather the goods that organizations and the public no longer require and working with Rotary Clubs, give them to people in genuine need for free. *This part of the operation is probably 'Vocational's' largest project.*



What is the Store's Role?

It receives donated goods that volunteers sort and pack, ready for Rotary Club Projects. It can help Clubs with the planning of their projects and arrange for their goods to be shipped overseas. It is a source of Potential Projects for Clubs.

Who runs the Store?

The Store is run 100% by volunteers; Rotarians and members of the Public. Some work on projects, others have a passion for recycling and all share the joy of helping others and working with people who care. There are opportunities for everyone to be involved, with projects to match your skill, interest, location and time available. Many tasks can be done from home.

Who funds the Store?

Until we find a sponsor, individual Rotary Clubs have made the commitment to fund one month's rent and others contribute what they can. Without their help the Store would not exist. Contributions to the running costs come from the donations Clubs make when they use the Store to pack a container and Clubs who see this as a great International Project. At present only one District makes regular contributions. 2014-15 rent \$48,000 Running cost including collecting goods \$15,000

Where do the goods come from?

Over many years Rotarians, like you, have promoted DIK and established contacts who provide ongoing support. We often receive first choice of goods because of the way we have structured the business. The goods donated will be given to someone in need for free. There are no restrictions on who will receive them and any restrictions on distribution will be honoured. The Store is run by volunteers who find the money to run the operation.

It is your turn to be DIK salesperson in your area and it is a very easy sell. People have goods they want to get rid of and we provide them with the opportunity to put them to a good use. Your Club may also want to run one of the Domestic Donation projects where we ask the community for selected items. This is an ideal Friends of Rotary Project.

Who gathers the goods?

Rotary volunteers: This is Rotary at its best; Members make the effort to gather goods for other Clubs to use on their projects. They don't know the Clubs who will use them, or who will receive them, but they know that their effort will benefit someone. We are all volunteers and Clubs have no obligation to assist, but we hope that if a donation is offered, a local Club will check to see if it is suitable and not simply tell the Store about it. We also need to find a way to get the donations to the Store as we often can't collect them.

Who can obtain the goods?

Rotary Clubs: A fair share of unallocated goods is available for projects approved by a Rotary Club Board, where the goods will be given to someone in genuine need for free. Club Boards have the responsibility for carrying out due diligence on the project. The goods are available for any Club project and while most go overseas, some material is available for local projects. *Community and Youth Committees need to be reminded of this.* Clubs who need goods receive them for free, but this comes with a moral obligation to replace them, so other Clubs have the same opportunities in the future.

How can my Club obtain goods?

We need to know who is running the project, confirmation that it has been approved by the Board and a Project Wishlist. Your District DIK Representative is your contact at this stage. When the formalities have been completed if the goods are required locally the Store will advise what is available and when the goods can be collected. If the goods are for a Club Container Project the Store will advise what may be available when the wishlist is received the container packing date established.

Club Container Procedure

The Store has limited space and on average ships 1.5 x 20' containers each week and as a result we have to agree on a shipping date before we can allocate a space. When the Store receives the information above they will arrange a meeting with the Club Project Manager to discuss the project. When all of the issues have been resolved a shipping company will be selected who will provide details on the shipping dates available together with the costs. A storage space will be allocated and dates agreed on when storage can begin, when the container will arrive and the Club packing date.

DIK Inc. Clubs who fund one month's rent have free use of the Store. Clubs who donate \$1000 at the beginning of the year may be allowed to ship more than one container for free, by negotiation. For the others it is \$1,000 per container. This fee helps defray the Store running expenses.

Shipping to Timor Leste

Each of the DIK Stores tends to specialise in shipping goods to particular countries, as this is the most efficient way to operate. This Store ships goods for Clubs throughout Australia to Timor Leste. Seen in isolation it may appear that we concentrate too much on this country, but if you look at national shipments you will see it is balanced. We make regular shipments on demand, usually every 3-6 weeks. There are no restrictions on the size of the shipment and the charge is \$205/m³. Of course we can ship goods to other ports around the world.

Helping other organizations

Rotary lacks the resources to help all of the people we would like to, so it is logically to help other organizations with similar goals if we can. Often they are organizations who have the goods and the funds and are looking for help to ship the goods. The Store does not have the capacity to deal with these groups directly and we recommend they find a Club to sponsor the project. This is an excellent way for a Club to have an International project with minimal effort. If a Club adopts one of these projects, it functions in the normal manner where the Store has a relationship with the Club, not the external organization.

Shipments to Timor Leste are the exception where the Store will do the due diligence and the groups contribute directly to the cost of shipping the freight and to the Store running costs.

Potential Projects

Finding suitable projects can be a challenge and so is finding funding. If your Club has a project and would like a partner we will promote it on your behalf. We are also aware of people who need the goods we have in stock and promote these opportunities. The Targets Projects for school furniture and hospital beds are good examples easy, cost effective, practical ways for any Club to get involved.

How can my Club get involved?

Help to find donations. Inspect potential donations in your area. **Arrange for goods to be shipped** to the Store. **Provide labour** to load goods to be shipped to the Store. **A visit to the Store** is the best way to understand what is available. Consider a Club or Cluster Meeting, or a working Bee. **Use it as a Membership opportunity** as it's an excellent example of the power of Rotary. **Provide other Clubs with Potential Projects. Help to Manage the Store.** There are many worthwhile roles that can be done from home. **Use the Store as a source of material for your project. Run your own project.** You can make a meaningful contribution from as little as \$100. Over the last 14 years \$16 of goods has been shipped for every dollar invested in freight. **Help fund the Store** and be a silent partner in every project.

Our website has more information and your District DIK Representative, David Meller (Strathmore), District 9790 DIK Liaison Officer, would welcome your call on Mobile: 0409 165 553.



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