ROTARY CLUB OF ALBERT PARK
INTERNATIONAL SERVICE NEWS BULLETIN
FEB 6, 2018

1. **INTERNATIONAL SERVICE FUND RAISNG:**
   - Nov. 2017, Greyhound Racing Victoria donated $ 3,850 to RCAP for holding the BBQ event at Broadmeadows.
   - Nov. 2017, Solar Smiles Dental Charity, an RCAP/RAWCS project, made a profit of $ 2,111 at the Bunnings Port Melbourne BBQ event.
   - 22 Apr 2018, Star Carnivale, a fund-raising event dedicated to the service undertaken worldwide by Rotary and celebrating 100 years of the Rotary Foundation. All members are requested to participate in this event to be held at The Melbourne Star, Harbourtown, Docklands. More details at www.rotaryalbertparkevents.org.au.

2. **CURRENT PROJECTS:**
   - SOLAR SMILES DENTAL CHARITY:
     Kim from RCAP will visit Timor-Leste in late April to conduct oral hygiene workshops with Dr. Phil Hill at 5 rural schools targeting 1,000 children.
   - BODHI TREE SCHOOL FOR CHILDREN WITH SPECIAL NEEDS, BODHGAYA, INDIA:
     This special school for "differently-abled" children was set-up in late 2016 within The Bodhi Tree Campus, Shiripur Village, Bodhgaya in the state of Bihar that was made possible with an initial donation of US$ 1,500 from the Dalai Lama. Ms. Antoinette Bongiorno, a Melbourne based reputed Financial Planner and a donor to many philanthropic and charitable organisations in Australia, visited the Bodhi Tree Educational Foundation School and met with the Foundations' Project Director Dhirendra Sharma. It was at this meeting that Dhirendra promoted his pursuit of helping the families with "differently abled" children living in impoverished conditions in the rural areas. Understanding from Dhirendra the conditions of how disability is treated in that region, in early 2017 Antoinette decided to support through donations, the activities of this special school. Antoinette sought the assistance of Rotary Australia World Community Services (RAWCS) to appoint a project manager (RCAP) to oversee the management of these donations. The school has grown to over 40 disabled children. The school, practices several therapies and coupled with some extra-curricular activities has helped bring out the best from the effort, the intervention right from attitudinal shift of the community to assessment and evaluation has helped the cross communities in destitute to an understanding and benefits of this community-based rehabilitation. These therapies help the children in achieving an awareness and better body control, connection to other people and to their environment – since they naturally withdraw into their own bubble, confidence and higher self-esteem, and relaxation. Basic motor skills for the children include activities such as walking, running, jumping, climbing and ball skills to name a few. A simple method that includes a variety of basic motor skills is creating an obstacle and while working on motor development, problem- solving or cognitive skills such as counting, identifying colors, or learning body parts, are stimulated during these activities. Participation in motor activities with peers has helped in accepting influences and friendships to further the social and emotional growth of all these children. During the past year that the special school has been in operation, Dhirendra has been able to experience an attitudinal shift towards inclusion by the parents of these differently abled children. (Some photos attached)
   - HOPE KATOLO NURSERY SCHOOL, KENYA:
     Rebuild of a classroom and installation of new rooftop solar panels for the School has been completed. This has been possible through kind donations of $ 3,000 from Rob and

Lorraine McIlldowie and Gerry Phillips matched equally by RCAP. (Some Photos attached).

3. **REQUESTS FOR ASSISTANCE FOR OTHER PROJECTS:**

- ROTARY CLUB OF PONDICHERRY, INDIA:

  Water, Sanitation and Hygiene in 15 rural schools: Project is to construct 4 WCs, 12 urinals and 1 hand wash station with several taps for the 400 children in each school thus benefitting 6,000 children. Project cost US$ 98,800; Primary International host is Rotary Club of San Bernardino, California, USA pledging US$ 18,000, now requesting US$ 5,400 from RCAP and US$ 2,700 District Fund. Initial request from RCAP was for US$ 10,000.

- ROTARY CLUB OF BHUBANESWAR MEADOWS, INDIA:

  Water, Sanitation and Hygiene in rural schools: Project is to construct 34 Bricks and Mortar safe and hygienic biological sanitation facilities in rural schools spread over 26 districts to benefit over 3,000 children. Project cost US$ 52,500; request is for US$ 8,700 from RCAP and US$ 4,350 District Fund. Project approved by Board and a provision of A$ 11,100 has been made.

- ROTARY CLUB OF TIRUVALLA, KERALA, INDIA:

  Vans for "differently-abled" students: YMCA Public Charitable Trust of Kerala has set up the Vikas School for differently-abled students from very poor families. YMCA Trust has invested US$ 315,000 in land and buildings for this special school that currently has 126 students. The only van available is very old and unreliable. The School would like to purchase 2 new vans to transport the students from the rural villages to school and back. Project cost US$ 35,000.

- ROTARY CLUB OF SHIMOGA, INDIA:

  Education, Water, Sanitation and Hygiene in 25 rural schools: Project is to provide one smart class and WASH in facility for each school requiring white boards, projector with ceiling mount kit, wireless PA system and multi tap stainless steel wash basins for student classrooms Standards I to X. Project cost US$ 48,620.

- SISTER/TWIN CLUB – ROTARY CLUB OF BOMBAY JUHU BEACH:

  Education, Year 11 and 12: RCAP sister club project is to upgrade the existing Physics, Chemistry and Biology labs with furniture and equipment (reagents, slides, microscopes, projector and screen, lab safety equipment etc.) to enable the intake of the first batch of Year 11 students in March 2019. Project cost US$ 24,100.

- DAY CARE CENTRE, SOUTH AFRICA:

  Village school near Cape Town is requiring funding to continue operation. Details are awaited.