

Newsletter, April 2020

IMPORTANT: Project 36-2009-10 # Indonesia will cease as at 30th June, 2020.

We wish to advise that Project 36-2009-10 # Indonesia will terminate at 30th June 2020. After operating for almost 56 years, providing funding for education for impoverished children in Indonesia, we regret that we have resolved to terminate this project as we no longer have confidence that we can continue to satisfy the project's primary aims and objectives; that is: to provide funding for education of impoverished children in Indonesia who, without this funding, would not receive an adequate education to allow them to become employable or self-sufficient. There are several reasons behind this decision:

- Salvation Army Indonesia have advised that in future they may no longer be able to warrant that our funds will be spent exclusively on education requirements of students. Rotary International protocols, and Australian Government regulations prohibit funds raised by Project 36-2009-10 # Indonesia being perceived to be spent on welfare.
- Covid-19 has caused widespread disruption, both to our operation in Australia and to the education of children in Indonesia. Most Rotary Clubs have suspended meetings and many private donors are experiencing financial difficulties. Collecting donations in the present climate is difficult. Although we may reasonably expect contributions to this project would resume once the Covid-19 pandemic is over we must consider whether this project will continue to satisfy the aims and objectives for which it was established.
- Whilst the disruption to the education of children we support in Indonesia is uncertain many of them will be withdrawn to the care of family or relatives. The current school year in Indonesia ends in June.
- Education in Indonesia has improved immensely in recent years. Schools are free, although, as in all societies there are additional costs that must be met by families or carers.

This project was initiated in 1964 by the late Cyril Richarde, a founding member of Rotary Club of Southport, and is one of the longest-running projects in Australian Rotary history. We are sad to wind-up this project but take pride in knowing that thousands of impoverished children in Indonesia have benefitted from receiving a better education.

We wish to thank all the donors to Project 36-2009-10 # Indonesia. Most have continued to support this project for many, many years. Thank you for your generosity and kindness. In the year to 31st December, 2019 AU\$21,426 was donated.

We are indebted to RAWCS for efficiently managing the finances of the project for six years. Funds raised to 30th June 2020 will be transferred to Rotary e-Club Jakarta Gunawarman for disbursement to Salvation Army, Indonesia.

If you pay by automated debit to your Credit Card or by automatic bank debit please notify your bank as soon as possible to cancel this arrangement.

Kindly circulate this newsletter to all members of your Rotary Club.





