

Bulletin # 14 – 7th October 2021

ZOOM MEETING UPDATES FROM DIRECTORS



In this Bulletin: Pg.2: Trachoma Kits, Youth Dir. Report Pg.3: Shelterbox Report, Other items

Birthdays in week 41 Oct.13 Loraine Nicol

Next week's Bulletin editor: Chris Bartlett

Pres. Doug, Chris & Youth Dir. Lesley attended a Zoom-meeting

chaired by PDG Peter Cage with subject "Youth Protection"

In view of recent court cases regarding child/youth abuse, that dated back many years,

Rotary found it necessary to establish clear guidelines in respect to youth or minor protection. As Lesley pointed out there are strict requirements and mandated policies when dealing with minors.

Essentially any volunteer dealing with, not only a minor, but a young person on a One 2 One situation needs to have a "Volunteer Declaration".

There are 3 parts to this declaration:

- 1) Woking with Children check (most members already have) this qualifies you to be eligible to work with children
- 2) Police Criminal Record check
- 3) References from 3 different people of which only 1 being Rotarian *this qualifies you to be suitable to work with children*

These documents need to be submitted for anybody that is likely to be in a 1-2-1 situation with a young person.

An archived copy is to be kept in perpetuity as there is current litigation case date back to the 90s. Although titled "Youth Protection" it appears more like a Rotary protection exercise therefore in the event of an allegation towards a Rotarian can show to our insurer (QBE) that all due processes have been followed and can't reject any claim.

No protection for an individual over criminal charges or cost of defence costs.

How this will affect the School Reading programme, or the Exchange Student programme is yet to be seen. A link to the comprehensive guide document <u>HERE</u>

Next meeting – 14th October Zoom again - same time - your place

Trachoma Health Kits Update

Further to comments and questions raised at last week's meeting regarding the Trachoma Health kits to the Northern Territory I advise of the following.

The kits were not distributed to schools in Tennant Creek. On instruction of the Rotary Australia Trachoma Committee the kits were specifically compiled for and then sent to thirty-six children enrolled at the Rockhampton Downs (Wolyara) School which is located on the Rockhampton Downs Station some 140 kilometres North/ West of Tennant creek.

The Australia Rotary Trachoma committee instructed us to send the boxed kits to a designated person at the N.T Education Department office in Tennant Creek. The N.T. Education Department in partnership with Rotary Australia Trachoma Committee have arrangements in place to then have the cartons delivered to the remote school. The four boxes of kits were despatched on Monday the 23rd of September and on Thursday the 26th of August Helen was advised by the Rotary Australia Trachoma coordinator that the four cartons had all arrived undamaged at the N.T Education Department Office as requested.

In relation to the question as to if the school has actually received the kits Helen & Richard in fact raised the same question late last week following which Helen wrote to the Rotary Trachoma Coordinator seeking confirmation that the boxes had arrived at the school. At today's date Helen is still awaiting a reply.

As explained each kit contained at least two letters from the Shoal Bay Primary School to their counterparts at the Rockhampton Downs School in an endeavour to possibly create a pen pal arrangement between a coastal school and a remote inland school. Helen also cross referenced the principals of both schools. The Centenary Committee will keep the club advised".

RHT – Friday the 8th October 2021.

<u>Youth Director Lesley</u> reports about the National Youth Science Forum normally a 2-week camp in Canberra will most likely held as Virtual On-line event this year.

The fee in the past was \$100s for an acceptance interview and was carried by the clubs, this has now changed, and the candidate is charged \$45.- for the rigorous interview and a science research tasks, if he/she is suitable for the programme. This was sent to the local schools by Lesley earlier in the year.

Isaac Charles from Nelson Bay, Yr11 student of St Francis Xaviers's College in Hamilton is a prospective candidate. He and his family has agreed to volunteering and help raise funds for the club during Bunnings BBQs for example to contribute to the cost of \$1900.- for the programme to be discussed at next board meeting.

Bulletin I 4 – 7th October 2021 Pg 3



Chris our Shelterbox representive reports from the National Shelterbox presentation meeting held Tue. 5th Oct. with about 45 people attending. RC Nelson Bay was 1 of 5 from the district that was presented with a bronze award. Our district was amongst the top bronze award winners of the country, with 4 silver and 1 gold being handed out in total.

With his Rotary Health portfolio, he reports that Sunday 10th Oct. is Mental Health Day, and a community event is to be organised in the New Year when hopefully gatherings will be permitted again.

He also pointed to a recent news item that a children <u>Malaria vaccine</u> has been approved by the WHO.

Other items:

Council has provided \$250.- for the restoration of the Service Club's sign on Nelson Bay Rd. which should adequately cover costs and Nelson Bay Signs will provide us with a new Rotary wheel.

- No Bunnings BBQs are available for us until the New Year unless at short notice a vacancy occurs once they recommence.
- World Polio Day is on the 24th Oct. watch a video clip <u>HERE</u>

You only need two tools in life.....WD-40 and duct tape. If it doesn't move and should, use WD-40... if it moves and shouldn't, use duct tape.



Philosophers Corner



I've finally reached the "Wonder Years"

Wonder where I parked the car? Wonder where I left my phone? Wonder where my glasses are? Wonder what day it is?