# Rotary



# Club of Blackwood

Meets Tuesdays at 6:30pm

**Blackwood Community RSL** 

**Brighton Parade, Blackwood** 

# Quarterly Newsletter

# Volume #1 | Issue #3 | Autumn 2019

## From the President

### Hello everyone.

And a special welcome to all first time readers and the many individuals and businesses from our local area who are supporting our club! We very much believe our efforts as a Rotary Club are just as important locally where we support many groups and individuals as they are overseas. We welcome any new faces to our door (Tuesday meetings at the RSL club at 6:30 pm) and look forward to serving people in need.

You'll see contained within this edition that we continue to help out in a variety of ways and support a variety of causes as Rotarians whose belief is "Service before Self".

What's more we have a lot of fun doing what we do!

So, read on and follow us on Facebook and through our website where we keep you in touch with our efforts.

Bruce Cole, President

Our club values are:

Service before Self, Friendship, Honesty & Integrity, Humour, Generosity

If you share these values, you really should join us!

## Inside This Issue

#### **PG. 2**

- Rotarians Against Malaria
- Safe Water for all Children

#### **PG. 3**

- Indigenous Health Scholarship
- Giving a real Helping Hand

#### **PG. 4**

- Fundraising Fun
- Help for Victims of Domestic Violence
- ♦ Blackwood Rotary Club Champions!



### 36th Annual ART SHOW and SALE

Blackwood High School

11th - 21st July

Hundreds of art works by South Australian artists. For viewing and purchase.

Admission \$5

All proceeds to Rotary projects





## Special Distribution of Funds.

Over the past few years, due to the generosity of our local community, we have been particularly successful in our fundraising efforts. So much so that we accumulated a significant surplus in our bank account. The members of the club decided to make a special distribution to selected projects, selected by ourmembers. As a result we have supported 4 projects that were not in our original annual budget. They were:

- 1. **The electronic sign project.** This is envisaged as a benefit to the Blackwood wider community, and details of the progress so far were provided in the last newsletter.
- 2. **Women's Safety Services.** See the full story on page 4.

## 3. Rotarians Against Malaria.

For the last 15 years the Blackwood Rotary Club has been a strong supporter of Rotarians Against Malaria (RAM). RAM is a volunteer-run organisation working to eliminate malaria. In 1900s, Malaria was pandemic in the world. One can only imagine the burden of malaria disease to all countries. Progress has been made. Fifteen years ago, Malaria killed a child every 30 seconds. Under the Millennium Development Goals, however, considerable progress was made in preventing, diagnosing and treating Malaria. As a result, deaths have fallen by 60 percent. Now, under the ambitious Sustainable Development Goals, we are aiming to reduce malaria cases and deaths by a further 90 percent by 2030.





## 4. DISASTER Aid Australia

## Safe Water for Every Child

Over 800 million people around the world live in poverty, and are subject to poor water quality.

The DAA method of achieving a long term solution to the issues of contaminated water is by funding the setting up a community owned, and operated water treatment facilities. A key part of the treatment is the use of the SkyHydrant™ Filter which is extremely effective in removing contaminated particles in water including disease carrying bacteria. Each Skyhydrant costs around \$5,000 delivered to the community. Typically Installation costs around another \$2,000 The Skyhydrants can provide up to 1,000 litres/hour of filtered, high quality water for up to 10 years.

The units are extremely simple to operate and require the absolute minimum of mechanical devices, such as pumps, in the process.

The Blackwood Rotary Club provided the funding for 1 'Skyhydrant' to be installed in Bhutan.



# Indigenous Health Scholarships

Blackwood Rotary has a strong history in supporting Indigenous communities, particularly in helping them build stronger communities internally. One of the ways we do this is to fund Indigenous medical students through the Australian Rotary Health Research Fund (ARHRF)

This powerful programme has provided scholarships to 26 recipients in SA in 2019, and to 83 students Australia Wide.

This year we are sponsoring Sandra Lawrie, to complete her Bachelor in Social Work.

In her own words 'As an Ngarrindjeri Aboriginal woman I am a dedicated and passionate community person and know in my own heart the qualifications I achieve personally will be beneficial to all by providing the community with the power of knowledge and expertise of having a choice in accessing a qualified

Aboriginal social worker.'



The success of the program is epitomised by the successes of its alumni, which include Professor James Charles, who was the 2017 National NAIDOC Scholar of the Year (pictured)

## **Giving a Helping Hand**



Assembling and fitting prosthetic hands to victims of landmines and war.

Blackwood Rotarians recently participated in this project to assemble prosthetic hands. Pictured is Henry from Kenya, who was the recipient of the hand we built.

It takes about 2 hours for 2 people to assemble a hand. When a box of 10 hands is purchased, the project will provide a facilitator anywhere in Australia free of charge to guide the assembly process. The hands are then taken overseas by Rotary Aus-



tralia World Community Service teams to distribute to those who need them. The recipient is fitted and trained to use the hand, as are the rehab facilities where we work.

The response and enthusiasm from Rotary Clubs, community organisations, businesses and individuals in supporting this project has been outstanding. The project has built nearly 1800 hands in the last 4 years.



## Helping new arrivals learn through music

Recently, some of our club members were pleased to attend the Bellevue Heights Primary School to present the students with 30 new ukuleles. These instruments were gratefully received and the look of excitement on the faces of the students gave our members a lot of pleasure.

The school's special music teacher had reached out to us in the hope that we could help. We know that music is a common language that breaks down barriers and is a great benefit in stimulating all areas of the brain, so we were very happy to help.

Following the presentation of ukuleles we had the good fortune to witness a very entertaining impromptu performance of guitar playing and singing, followed by a pleasant morning tea with the principal.

The school specialises on special programs for newly arrived migrants we hope this will assist in this endeavour.



### **WOMENS SAFETY SERVICES**

Blackwood Rotary recently hosted a speaker from Women's Safety Services SA, a local organisation that supports women and children who are experiencing and/or escaping domestic and family violence.

Many women are forced to flee violent relationships with nothing, and find themselves needing to make many expensive purchases as they rebuild their lives. This includes new clothes, necessities for their children, groceries, fuel, furniture and hiring a moving truck.



The organisation strives to ensure that all women and their children have a right to a life free of violence.

Lear more: https://womenssafetyservices.com.au

## **BARBEQUE FUNDRAISERS**

We don't always report on our fundraising activities, but this aspect of our club is just as important as the beneficiaries of our donations. They are also a great opportunity to experience the fun and fellowship that is an integral part of the Rotary experience.



We regularly conduct BBQ's at Bunnings Edwardstown and for the Mitsubishi Motors company at their monthly briefings in the Tonsley facility. These have become major contributors to our fundraising efforts. We invite you to join us in this enjoyable and rewarding activity.

Call 1300 327 100 or www.blackwood.rotaryclub.org.au

## **Blackwood Rotary - Shelterbox Champion**



ShelterBox is Rotary International's Project Partner in disaster relief. It is a flagship program that provides emergency shelter and supplies to people in areas of dire need caused by natural disaster or various types of conflict, to give victims durable shelter and the tools to rebuild communities.



it possible to deliver essential aid to some of the most remote communities in the

world. The aim is to provide the basic materials to families that need to begin rebuilding their lives after disaster.

The numbers are impressive: In 2018 shelterboxes and other aids were deployed to 210,000 people in 40,000 families. That's in 13 countries and 18 natural disasters or conflicts.

This year ShelterBox launched the ShelterBox Champion Awards to formally acknowledge the amazing support that Rotary provides in supporting families that are left without shelter.

ShelterBox Champions are made up of an elite group of Rotary clubs that have identified the continuing need to prepare for and immediately respond to the worst day ever. We have been acknowledged as a ShelterBox Champion, and have

made a lasting impact in worldwide disaster response by supporting ShelterBox annually for three consecutive years.



www.blackwood.rotaryclub.org.au



**ShelterBox** 

BRONZE CHAMPION 2017-2018