



DONATIONS IN KIND NORTHERN REGION IS BACK IN BUSINESS AGAIN

As the restrictions imposed by the Queensland Government and Health Authorities in response to the COVID-19 pandemic are gradually being relaxed, Rotary Australia World Community Service Ltd has given approval for the Kingston Store to reopen subject to compliance with the directives and policies as issued by the Queensland Government.

Donations in Kind Northern Region has put in place a Workplace Health and Safety Plan for COVID-19 to be compliant with these directives and Policies.

In accordance with this Health and Safety Plan, the following changes have been made to the premises at 23-25 Mary Street Kingston:

- ◆ *Changes to the layout of the workstations in the area where the books are sorted and packed to ensure that volunteers abide by the Social Distancing requirements.*
- ◆ *The registration desk has been moved to the front roller door of the room where the birthing kits are packed.*
- ◆ *A Volunteer Information Form is to be completed by all volunteers for filing in the Volunteer Register so that the full details of volunteers are on file in case of a medical emergency or accident.*
 - ◆ *Volunteers are still required to sign in and out on the Volunteer Attendance Sheet*
- ◆ *A separate registration sheet is available to be completed by all Visitors, Contractors and those making deliveries before entering the premises.*
- ◆ *A new sheet is also available at the Registration Desk for recording the details of all deliveries being made to the store.*
- ◆ *The old registration room has been converted into a station for washing hands and it is also now the First Aid Station for the premises.*
- ◆ *Hygiene and Safety Posters are on display throughout the premises, mainly at the Registration Desk, in the book sorting area and within the storage shed.*
- ◆ *A number of chairs have been removed for the morning tea area upstairs in accordance with Social Distancing requirements.*



CLEANUP

Sincere thanks to the Rotary Clubs, Rotarians and Partners that responded to the call for help to clean up the Donations in Kind premises. On Saturday, 13th June, with the help of a ride-on mower, whipper snippers and spray packs, the yard has been cleaned and a large bin was packed with scrap metal.



Another group of about 20 helpers is coming on Saturday 27th June. This group will concentrate on cleaning and reorganising the store.

BOOKS

During the lockdown due to the Covid-19 pandemic, there has been an accumulation of books waiting to be sorted and packed.



DONATION IN KIND NORTHERN REGION is seeking VOLUNTEERS to come in on Saturday 18th July between 8.00am and 12 noon to assist with the clearing of this backlog.
If you are able to assist, please respond to dik.rawcsnorthern@gmail.com

SOLAR PANELS

Due to the subsidy being offered to households by the Queensland Government for installing solar power, our next door neighbour, Substation33, has been receiving old solar panels from a contractor as he upgrades existing systems. Substation33 has offered all of these solar panels to Donations in Kind Northern Region. Substation33 has offered to check all of these solar panels before handing them over to Donations in Kind.



Note: There are no inverters with these panels.

Anyone who knows of any community requiring solar power or has a project that has a need for solar energy, preferably overseas, you should contact Donations in Kind Northern Region at dik.rawcsnorthern@gmail.com. Donations in Kind will help with the logistics of getting the panels to the area of need, but the recipient will have to meet all expenses.

SCHOOL UNIFORMS

Prior to the shutdown due to the Covid-19 pandemic, Donations in Kind was offered a quantity of school uniforms by a warehouse in the Northern suburbs of Brisbane. Approximately 220 cartons of uniforms were delivered to Donations in Kind Northern Region during the shutdown. We now have in excess of 250 cartons of school uniforms in stock looking for a home.



WORKPLACE SAFETY AND HEALTH MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

Whilst the Donations in Kind Northern Region store has been closed due to the Covid-19 pandemic, a small group has used the opportunity of reviewing the Workplace Safety and Health Management System for Rotary Australia World Community Service Limited Donations in Kind Northern Region.

Sincere thanks to Wes Nichols and Kim Hockings of the Rotary Club of Toowong for the assistance and documentation in putting this system in place.

The Forms and Check lists are being refined and the entire system should be in place in time for the first group of Clubs rostered on to assist on the first Saturday of August 2020.

SITE SPECIFIC POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

These Policies and Procedures, specifically for the Donations in Kind Northern Region site at Kingston, have been drafted in response to issues raised at a meeting of supporters and friends on 1st March 2020 as well as issues arising from the recently reviewed Workplace Safety and Health Management System for Rotary Australia World Community Service Ltd Donations in Kind Northern Region and the recent COVID-19 pandemic.

The draft of these policies and procedures is presently with members of the management group for review and will be forward for general comment in the near future.

Special Thanks to the staff and Management of our neighbour, Substation33, for their assistance over the last few weeks with the clean up of the yard and premises.

We have a great working relationship. They are short of space in their premises and Donations in Kind has allowed them to store supplies and equipment in our yard. In return, they provide assistance to Donations in Kind whenever needed without being asked.

PRESENTATION TO ROTARY CLUBS

While most Rotary Clubs in Northern Region are presently meeting on-line due to the restrictions enforced because of the Coronavirus, now is the ideal time to ask for a presentation on Rotary Australia World Community Service (RAWCS) and/or Donations in Kind.

If interested, contact us on 0466 556 042 or dik.rawcsnorthern@gmail.com