

### ***Calling all clubs!***

The [Donations in Kind warehouse at West Footscray](#) is a busy place as you can see from the articles in this Newsletter. It is amazing where all of the goods come from and even more amazing where they go, but nothing happens without the terrific involvement and hard work of our volunteers. And here's the challenge. During COVID we have lost a couple of our regular volunteers and that means the remainder have had to work harder. We need some more volunteers who can spend the day at the store, particularly on a Thursday. We don't need many – two or three would be great.

So if you can spare a Thursday on a regular basis, drop by and have a chat or give us a call on 0428 550 574 or 0148 102 702. We would love to hear from you.

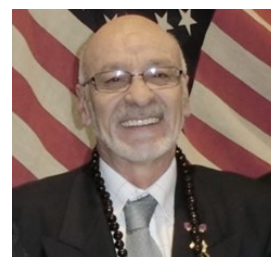
As you are aware, the store is manned entirely by volunteers. The operating hours of the store are each **Tuesday and Thursday from 8.30am to 3.30pm** unless other specific arrangements are made in advance. We try to focus the activity in those times so that volunteers have some time to do everything else they need to do.

We are constantly asked to be there, collect something or provide access at other times. We will always try to accommodate these requests but really do want to concentrate the store activity on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Your thoughtfulness will enable us to do that.

Recently we were encouraged by a local Foundation who know what we do, to submit an application for a financial contribution for something that we wanted or needed. We have the vans, forklifts, racking and other equipment necessary so what to request?? We are often offered a single wheel chair, a few cartons or other mobility equipment that we have to send a van to collect. Often these donations are in the city or suburban shopping areas where parking the large vans can be a problem. So a smaller van would be of great benefit in these circumstances. The application was submitted and we were very pleased when we were advised that the application had been successful. So, very soon you will see a new **Renault Master Van**, proudly wearing the Donations in Kind livery, become part of the DiK fleet.

There are some personnel changes on the way at the store too. Laurie Fisher has managed the store for almost 20+ years. This has meant many nights and weekends, and frequently every week day. It's time for him to take a step back from the day to day activity. So we are looking at the variety of things Laurie as the Store Manager does, seeing how they could be done differently and looking for a replacement Store manager.

Frank Dri, who has looked after the clothing at the store for many years, has indicated a willingness to sit in Laurie's chair and "learn the ropes". Importantly Frank has previously shipped containers to Samoa for his Lions Club so knows the challenges of some shipping.  
*Frank is a former Rotarian, and a member of the Lions Club of Sunshine.*



Similarly Bob Glindemann, who rides "shotgun" for Laurie, has a similar need and plans to step back from the day to day work at DiK at year end after a similar length of service. Apart from the in store activity, Bob handles all of the Secretarial work for DiK Inc, so we are looking at how this might be handled in the future, as well as some reorganisation with volunteers taking responsibility for some of the in store activity.



*Laurie Fisher and Bob Glindemann*

Donations in Kind is located at Shed 39, 400 Somerville Road West Footscray. It is open on Tuesdays and Thursdays. <https://rotarydik.org>

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## Timor Leste:

### 1. Bacau:

The Veterans Dental Clinic was established in Baucau a number of years ago. While it was equipped at time, the various items have fallen into disrepair and DiK responded to a request for help.

A dental chair, various other items and lots of consumables were supplied and these photos show them having been installed and operational. This was a very easy project with a big payoff for the Veterans in Timor Leste.



These are 2 members of the dental team, Ana Vitoria Alves and Dr Dewa, the dentist from Indonesia assigned to work in the clinic.



### 2. Friends of Suai—Covalima

Carlene Harlock is the contact person at Port Phillip Council for the [Friends of Suai](#) — Covalima. She regularly sends packages of IT goods and other supplies via DiK.

Recently she asked about the availability of walking sticks from the store: we have literally hundreds so we sent up a bundle of twenty or so together with a couple of wheel chairs.

Staff at the Covalima Community Centre sent through these photos of items being distributed (with permission from the recipients).

This is another simple easy gesture with an amazing impact in the community. There is another bundle of walking sticks in the next container!





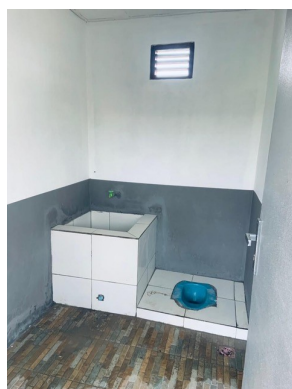
### 3. Omelai School:

Rotary Donations in Kind at West Footscray has been working with the small charity [Spend it Well](#). We have been supplying desks and chairs to the new schools they have been building in quite remote villages in Timor Leste for quite a few years now.

This is the latest school at Omelai, a village located 4-5 hours' drive from Balibo which sits high on mountains near the West Timor border.

The school has three classrooms, a teacher's room and a kitchen and 5 toilets. The kitchen was supposed to be a storeroom, but the lean-to they were using as a kitchen was blown down by some strong winds which make regular appearances in the area, just before the work started work. Thus, we adapted the storeroom to be the kitchen complete with extraction fan (extra cost of US\$3,000).

It's looking great and with the Timor Roofing materials should withstand the weather up on that mountain! This is a fitting location for the school furniture being repurposed by DIK



## Dental donation:

Barry Humphries and Dame Edna Everage would be very happy with a Rotary achievement in Moonee Ponds earlier this year.

On Tuesday morning in mid June, three very efficient volunteers from Rotary DiK came to the orthodontic practice of Dr Tracey Shell. They removed six as new dental chairs that were secured to the concrete floors with screws and nails.

With a lot of ingenuity, and great effort, these 150 kg chairs were soon ready to be taken downstairs and across the road to be placed in the DiK truck. Subsequently, the load was finalised by including dentist and nurse stools as well as reception room chairs.



This very generous donation of dental equipment is destined to be provided to a third world country where there is a pressing need for assistance. The types of places that have sought this equipment include Fiji, Solomon Islands, Ethiopia etc. We look forward to seeing the new home for these chairs.

It is always a pleasure when one of our dedicated volunteers is recognised for their service. One such volunteer is Jim Orchard from the Rotary Club of Melbourne.

At the Rotary Melbourne meeting on 21st June 2023, members witnessed the presentation of a Paul Harris Fellow with 4 Sapphire Award to Jim Orchard:



'in appreciation of tangible and significant assistance given for the furtherance of better understanding and friendly relations among peoples of the world'.

Jim joined Rotary in 2017 and immediately took on a role with the Community Welfare Committee with an interest in homelessness prevention. He is a weekly volunteer at the Donations in Kind Warehouse. His other roles include being a volunteer co-ordinator for the club, Around the Bay, Second Bite and End Trachoma. He also joined the District committee providing relief following the bushfires.

For Jim these activities are great opportunities to work with others to help those in less fortunate circumstances both close to home, regionally and internationally.

The Rotary Club of Melbourne takes great joy in recognising Jim as a Paul Harris Fellow now with four Sapphire.

Do you know of an organisation which could support us? Donations in many areas have dropped this year, particularly new clothing, hospital beds and equipment and educational supplies.

Please share this newsletter with your networks, especially those who could consider donations.

Bob and Laurie are always pleased to discuss donation opportunities with organisations.

[Donations in Kind is a registered charity with ACNC](#) and is registered for Deductable Gift Recipient status.





Australian Unity has been part of a valuable donation of medical equipment destined to overseas hospitals to help people in developing countries including Ethiopia and Zimbabwe.

The quality of Australian medical equipment is such that many health facilities upgrade equipment well before the item has worn out. In the case of Sunshine Private Hospital, one of the newest hospitals in Wealth & Capital Market's Healthcare Property Trust (HPT), new equipment was provided for the new hospital, so surplus equipment was available after the closure of the Sunshine Private Day Surgery.

Rotary Donations in Kind was identified as an agency that helps repurpose good quality used medical goods to help others in developing countries and to disadvantaged people in the local community.

Australian Unity and Sunshine Private Hospital part of Unitas Healthcare (the hospital operator) have donated equipment to the value of \$125,000 to RDIK.

Australian Unity has contributed three anesthetic machines and the hospital has given a range of theatre and other equipment including trolleys, an operating theatre table, refrigerators and a number of wheeled beds.

Peter Beale, Senior Asset Manager, Healthcare Property in Wealth & Capital Markets and Dr Malak Sukkar CEO Sunshine Private Hospital were delighted that we could make this donation.



Peter Beale (Senior Asset Manager, Australian Unity), Dr Malak Sukkar (CEO, Unitas Healthcare), Laurie Fisher (Manager, Donations In Kind)

## Horn of Africa Project—Rotary Footscray

Rotarians and friends gathered together at DiK to load another container destined for the Somali Regional State of Ethiopia. PP Jama Farah and team loaded hospital and medical equipment and medical textbooks for this container.

Jama has established a crowdfunding page: [Horn of Africa Project - Rotary Club of Footscray | Chuffed | Non-profit charity and social enterprise fundraising](#) which has already raised sufficient funds for 2 containers. The cost for shipping each container to the Garacad Seaport or Berbera seaport is \$15,000.



[Jama Farah](#)  
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