

Rotary



RIMERN
Rotary Inner
Melbourne
Emergency
Relief Network

The Home of Residential Recycling

ISSUE 2 | MARCH 2023

Providing homewares to people who need a hand

RIMERN is a multi-club Rotary project in Inner Melbourne, providing donated furniture, appliances and homewares to welfare agency clients who have experienced homelessness, domestic violence, refugee displacement, release from jail and other crises.
www.rimern.org.au

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RIMERN NEWS

As promised, we plan to send a RIMERN newsletter every couple of months to keep you up to date with all that's been happening with VOLUNTEERS, DONATIONS, WELFARE AGENCIES & CLIENTS, and the many exciting things ahead! Thanks again to Balwyn Rotarian Cath Stahel for editing our news!

Since January, we've welcomed our 16th Member Club—Rotary Moreland, another four Welfare Agency Members—Victorian Aboriginal Legal Service (VALS), Sacred Heart Mission (Journey to Social Inclusion program), Uniting Vic.Tas. and Fitzroy Legal Service and we've trained another twenty Case Managers, enabling them to order RIMERN goods for their clients setting up secure homes after many hardships and struggles.

We've completed our move into the whole warehouse space and have increased our goods collected, we've done more fundraising & are applying for more grants to keep our doors open.

Super volunteer **Sarah Brown** is setting up vital online sales of goods that don't suit our clients but can provide much needed cashflow, we're always working on volunteer recruitment, we've continued our fortnightly Case Manager inductions, so it's definitely been 'busyness as usual!'

We were sad to say goodbye to our wonderful Support Order Host Captain and Board member, **Susan Robb** who has stepped back from RIMERN after giving so much over our first 18 months, and we're looking to fill her very big shoes plus build that vital team.

Curious?

For role description please email support@rimern.org.au.

We are in **Ros & Ian McMaster's** debt as they (seemingly) tirelessly drive RIMERN forward, with more efficient warehouse processes, warehouse management, Test & Tagging and IT support.

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Lots happening, all exciting, please read and share our News with your Clubs, friends and community partners, and encourage all to Subscribe to our Newsletter via our website home page (scroll to the foot of the page) <https://rimern.org.au/>

Every visitor to our warehouse is asked what they know about Rotary and it's usually little to nothing, so we give them a brief overview and their ensuing positive experience with our volunteers colours their view of Rotary from then on! RIMERN is Community Service, Environmental Service & powerful Rotary PR rolled into one!

Thanks for your support, the need for RIMERN's high quality homewares and friendly service is growing every week and your help and encouragement is the lifeblood of our project. If there were more affordable rentals our orders would skyrocket, tough times for clients in need but we help wherever we can!

See you in East Brunswick soon?

Susie Cole
(RIMERN Chair/Rotary Prahran)

WAREHOUSE NEWS....More Space = More Stock !

They say a picture beats a thousand words, so check out how we're looking these days, more space, more stock & more comfortable working environment for all our wonderful volunteers. If you haven't donned the yellow vest lately please sign up for a session soon!

We have a designated despatch area, more room

for white goods cleaning & testing, the cage areas are now 'surplus to RIMERN's needs' on the south, 'for sale to support RIMERN' on the north!

Our admin area is facing Despatch and we're now wired up for internet and can do all our order processing and file management on site! Lots to see, lots to do, please join us soon (& regularly!)



Upstairs we now have a dedicated Test & Tag room that regularly sees volunteers **Ian McMaster**, **Sparkey Steve Clarke** (Rotary Camberwell), **Neil Bateman** and soon, recently



qualified, **Steve Turner** (Rotary Central Melbourne, pictured left) ensuring that our electrical goods are all safe to rehome.

INVITE YOUR CLUB TO MEET AT RIMERN!

With a bit more space upstairs & a donation of 30 comfortable, stackable chairs, we can now host your off-site Club meeting (& maybe a working bee combo?), a great way to



invite friends of your Club to see what you're involved in & maybe sign them up as a volunteer or new member! Book via your Club rep or board@rimern.org.au.

OUR VOLUNTEERS IN ACTION!

We are grateful to all our volunteers but this month pay tribute particularly to **Chris Finley** (Rotary Balwyn, unpictured as he worked solo with no paparazzi in attendance!) for the huge garden clean up along our Moreland Road boundary, supported by **Ruth McCall** (Rotary Preston), **Keith Ryall** (Rotary Carlton) & his neighbour **Zack**, the council said 'clean up or else...' and the team did a massive job! Thank you! The collections crew (captained by Albert Park Rotarian & Treasurer **David Gorman**), of stalwarts **Phil Young & David Troon** (Rotary Camberwell), **Keith Ryall** (Rotary Carlton), **Larry Robb** (Rotary North Melbourne), **Frank Warner** (Rotary Chadstone East Malvern) **Chelsea Allen & Peter Schneider** (Rotary Prahran) have, as always, been hard at work, collecting on Wednesdays, Saturdays and sometimes other times (for whole house lots) to ensure we remain well stocked.

These pics show exhausted **David & Larry** plus the Rotary Central Melbourne working bee crew helping to unload. Thanks team!



More space meant more shelving needed, the 'décor room' & linen room to be sorted so the Rotary Central Melbourne crew got busy!

As more people hear about RIMERN so the offers of other volunteer support come in, like the Activities Organisers, **Elise & Adem** from Bunnings Hawthorn, great supporters in so many ways, thanks Bunnings!



Lady engineer volunteers from Symal & Grampians Excavations made a difference on their RDO, thanks to **Justine Paragreen** (Rotary Camberwell) for organising the team & Treasurer **David Gorman** & day supervisor **Keith Ryall** for showing them the ropes!

CHEEKY RIMERN PR!

PDG & RIMERN Board member **Keith Ryall** persuaded his Thornbury bowls team to don our volunteer vests! What a cheeky 'invitation to a conversation' that proved to be! Well done Keith, let's hope more volunteers follow!



HOMEMAKER NEWS.....More Happy Clients Every Week!

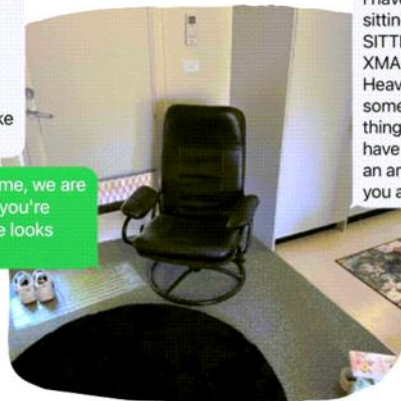
A small order but huge thanks from a happy client with a new swivel chair & some side tables in Hampton.

Thank you so so so so much!! I Will pay all this forward as it has been rough couple years now with all things coming together i feel like i am getting a home!! People like you are amazing x

You are so welcome, we are all so happy that you're happy, your home looks amazing!

I have polish ed it and am sitting in it i think after SITTING ON FLOOR SINCE XMAS I AM NOW IN Heaven! (People sometimes dont appreciate things but when you dont have then and get them it is an amazing feeling) thank you again!

That's so great, it looks good, fits the space & even swivels! It was meant to be yours! 🥰



This client was very unwell so our Support Order Hosts selected her furniture and she was thrilled with the result!



Just two of our many happy clients who are now comfortable, secure and proud in their newly fitted out homes thanks to the guidance of our Support Order Hosts **Jo-Anne Tamlyn, Sue Vincent & Susie Cole**.

THANKS TO OUR DONORS & SUPPORTERS!

We're always grateful for the donations of furniture, appliances and homewares that are vetted by our Donated Goods Team, **Heather Harris** (Rotary Pascoe Vale), **Ros Pach, Joan Luscak** (formerly Rotary Glen Eira) and **Karin Simpson** (friend of Rotary Canterbury). The high standard we set for collections reflects in the high quality of our clients' homes!

In February we received a donation of a St. John Ambulance Defibrillator from our member club, Rotary Flemington Kensington. This valuable piece of equipment is now in our warehouse & registered online for local use if an emergency arises during our opening hours. Thanks **Lesley McCarthy** (pictured here with Treasurer **David Gorman**, Board members **Keith Ryall & Ros McMaster** and Rotary Prahran stalwart and RIMERN start up champion, **Jim Smith**).



WHAT'S COMING UP?

Rotary International Photo Shoot at RIMERN

On Sunday 19th March a team from Chicago plus local photographer, producer, makeup artist & caterers will be taking over our warehouse for the

upcoming "People of Action" photo shoot featuring assorted RIMERN volunteers doing what they do!

Pictures next issue..... our fame is about to grow!



New Welfare Agency members are always welcome to apply, and our online Case Manager Inductions, an essential training before anyone can order for their clients, are held fortnightly on wednesdays via zoom, please contact support@rimern.org.au for details.

We need more volunteers, if you can help on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays or Saturdays (particularly the 1st & 2nd Saturdays of the month), please visit our website to register your interest. Click [HERE](#).

Goods collections continue... To donate goods please check our website or the 'About' section of our facebook page to see what we do & don't take (& why!) then send pictures of the larger items, along with the collection address & your contact



details to donatedgoods@rimern.org.au and one of the team will be in touch!

Sometimes we have to say no if we have lots of that item already, but we are grateful for all offers!



Click [HERE](#) to go to the website www.rimern.org.au



Click [HERE](#) to go to our Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/groups/495145215239091>

RIMERN respectfully acknowledge the Traditional Custodians of the land on which we live and work – the Boon Wurrung and Woiwurrung (Wurundjeri) Peoples of the Kulin Nation; and we pay respect to their Spirits, Ancestors, Elders and their Community Members past and present.