

RORP Rotary Overseas Recycled Playgrounds

Saving landfill, delivering joy!

RORP grew out of a project that sent a container of educational goods to a Girl's Home in Sri Lanka. The "wish item" was for a children's playground.









There are over 20,000 playgrounds in Victoria.
 Approximately 2000 are replaced each year.
 Due to legal liability they cannot be reused in Australia.
 Playgrounds like this are sent to landfill or scrap.



How does **RORP** operate?

We receive enquires from Municipal Councils, Schools and other organisations about playgrounds they are planning to remove.

▶ When a playground is identified, the RORP Team:

- Contact the potential donor
- Sort the legal issue around accountability including a Deed of Indemnity if necessary
- ▶ Identify a local Rotary Club or Community group to help with the removal.
- Develop annotated plans of the playground to assist in its reassembly
- Bill the donor a small fee in lieu of cartage and tipping costs.

Detailed specifications and plans are compiled for reassembly.

Rotarian Lyn Borghouts, an Engineer, uses photographs and plans supplied by the Council or Playground company to create a sequence of parts and joins which are listed and labelled.

Crews removing the playground use a specific coloured paint spot marker to identify pieces and joins.

It's like a meccano set.



How is **RORP** funded?

- The approx. \$600 fee per donor in lieu of labour, transport and tip fees is collected by the RORP Team.
- ▶ With 8 playgrounds per 40ft container the shipping fee is covered.
- A playground fits into a DIK Truck, the only cost to a Rotary Club is fuel.
- The heavy work in the removal of a playground is undertaken by the playground contractor, an arrangement the RORP Team organizes.
- For volunteers this means no digging, no heavy lifting & a tiny expense.
- It is a great project for your club on their own or though your partnership with the local Men's Shed, School Council, Car or Sports Club.



The Multi District RORP TEAM

Currently the administration team comprises members from all Victorian Rotary Districts:

- Peter Cribb: Rotary Club of Flemington Kensington District 9800 Project coordinator.
 - Shraddha Sharma, Management and coordination
 - Past President Lesley McCarthy. Accounts and Deeds of Indemnity
 - Sam Nicol. Database and Partner Club Liaison
 - Lyn Borghouts. Project Engineer
 - Rotary Club of Ocean Grove District 9780
 - PDS Rod Greer, Data base and District liaison
 - Rotary Club of Nunawading, District 9810
 - Bob Allardice Coding plans & Gabby Knaepple, Database support
 - Rotary Club of Ivanhoe District 9790
 - David Balshaw, logistics and Carl Bicknell coordination
 - Rotary Club of Frankston Mt Eliza District 9820
 - Wayne Jenkins, organization & logistics and District liaison

This was the first playground shipped. From Leopold in Geelong removed by the Rotary Clubs of Flemington Kensington and Highton and with support from the Geelong MG Car Club. It is now installed for community use near the Sputnik Girl's home in Kurunegala, Sri Lanka





This playground from Geelong, was removed and refurbished by *Omnitech* Playground Manufacturers(at their expense!) and has now been reinstalled at the Rotary built school in Belola, Timor Leste.



Would your club like to be involved?

You could:

Help identify playgrounds through your local council and schools.
Help develop and code playground plans.
Photograph playgrounds and colour code.
Help maintain the database.
Drive the DiK truck.

The playground from Melton West Primary School was removed by RC Melton and is now headed to a new school being built by Rotary in Railuli, Timor Leste.



The extraction of this playground donated by the Greyhound Authority in Bendigo was completed by the RC of Eaglehawk, with senior students from Bendigo Senior College and the contractor *Imagination Play*



This playground from Quantin Binnah Pre School was removed for us by the Playground Manufacturer, *Naturform*, and was the first installation in Sri Lanka.





RORP would welcome your club

- Could your club provide an <u>extraction team</u>? Minimal cost and no digging or lifting. The RORP Team does all of the organizing.
- ► Would your club be willing to <u>establish a RORP Team</u> of its own?
- Will your club investigate the playground donation possibilities in your club's community?
- Could your club assist with a small donation to assist with the running costs?

Sri Lanka - 4 Containers

34 playgrounds and 4 containers have now been shipped to Sri Lanka. Container #4 is in Colombo and units are being distributed and installed within COVID restrictions.

We are indebted to the Sri Lankan army for their engineering support.

Container 5 will ship in October.











The demand keeps growing

- Originally it was just Sri Lanka with a trial of 40 playgrounds.
- Then East Timor Balibao Pre school
- Then East Timor Dili through DEWLP
- Nepal
- Tanzania
- The Philippines
- Now Macedonia

RORP has strong support from the Education Department, councils, playground manufacturers and installers and Rotary Clubs.

- We have the endorsement of Play Australia, the leading playground and play based organization.
- There are now 11 playground manufacturers and installers working with us as partners.
- The Sri Lankan Consul General is a Patron.
- Nepal has over 100 Rotary Clubs and has asked if we could supply hundreds of playgrounds.
- Sri Lanka is confident they will want more that the original 40playgrounds.
- ▶ The demand in both the Dili and Balibao areas of Timor Leste will grow.
- ▶ If the first playground to the Philippines is successful and more will be required.
- Currently 28 Rotary Clubs representing all five Rotary Districts in Victoria are involved.
- Approaches made to have the project granted District Recognition.

Find out more ...

https://www.rotaryflemington.org.au/sitepage/rotary-overseasrecycled-playgrounds-1/welcome

<u>https://clubrunner.blob.core.windows.net/00000014585/en-</u> ca/files/sitepage/rotary-overseas-recycled-playgrounds-1/playaustralia-article/Article-from-Play-Australia.png