Dear Sir/Madam,

Would your school be interested in opening your students’ eyes and minds to the homelessness problem in our midst? The Rotary Clubs of Heirisson and Perth have a photographic exhibition prepared by top Perth photographer Phil England that presents homeless people in a sympathetic light, and in a way that encourages deep conversations about the realities affecting the more vulnerable of our community. We can bring the exhibition to your school.

Phil’s series comprises 20 larger than life portraits (1.8m x 1.3m) of homeless Western Australians, each locking viewers with an arresting gaze – hence ‘Eye Contact’. Short written snapshots of their experiences accompany the powerful portraits, enabling confrontation of the issues they face in life on the street. There is a story behind every homeless person. The purpose of the portraits is to help viewers recognise the humanity in homeless people along with a story of hope and salvation, pointing to the fact that with a concerted effort we can make a difference.

The portraits are free-standing and stable. With the full 20, they can be exhibited in a large classroom, theatre, gymnasium or dining room. A smaller subset can be exhibited if space is at a premium. I am attaching a picture of what a school exhibition looks like. Rotary will deliver the portraits, help set them up and take them away at no cost to the school.

The portraits have already been exhibited at a wide range of schools including Guildford Grammar, Hale, Girrawheen SHS, St Georges, and John Wollaston. In many cases, the schools have taken advantage of the exhibition to incorporate the students’ experiences in appropriate lesson work, and in supporting charities delivering services to homeless people.

I am attaching a 1-page document with more information about the exhibition. Please let me know if you are interested.

Regards,