

Donations in Kind

152 Freeman Road, Durack Qld 4077

RAWCS Northern Region

Rotary



ROTARY AUSTRALIA
WORLD COMMUNITY
SERVICE



Newsletter (No.13) January 2018

Welcome to 2018 and a very Happy & Safe New Year to all our Rotary Supporters and Friends of Donations in Kind

Background; Medical services were virtually non-existent in Cambodia after Pol Pot killed the majority of doctors in the 1970s, there remained only 10 doctors to look after Cambodians. The **Rotary Club of Osborne Park, Western Australia**, started collecting hospital and medical equipment and supplies 7 yrs ago for Cambodia. Tim Keenan a retired Orthopaedic Surgeon and a friend of Rotarian Pip Asphar, re-established Orthopaedic surgery in Cambodia. Tim has trained and paid for trainee doctors to complete their qualifications. With all the land mines left by the Khmer Rouge there was a big demand for Orthopaedic medicine.

The photos show beds supplied by Brisbane DIK on behalf of the Rotary Club of Osborne Park to the Khmer Soviet Friendship Hospital- Cambodia.



The two main public hospitals are **Khmer Soviet Friendship Hospital** in Phnom Penh & the **Preah Kossamak Hospital**. Both hospitals were built by foreign governments post Pol Pot and when completed were devoid of any equipment or medicines. The **Rotary Club of Osborne Park WA** has contributed significantly in outfitting these hospitals and also many of the Provincial hospitals. As Cambodia has no Technical Colleges the Club developed a training system, whereby they send Nurses & Hospital Technicians to Cambodia. They then teach the local staff better nursing practices including infection control and also how to use donated equipment & hospital supplies. The Technicians also repair donated hospital equipment, install theatre lights, etc and teach Cambodians to become technicians. **Donation in Kind** Northern Region were pleased to support this international humanitarian project.



Foot-note, The **Rotary Club of Osborne Park** advised, "The 66 beds and mattresses that were sent from Brisbane have arrived in Cambodia and been put to good use in new wards at the Khmer Friendship Hospital, which was built by the Chinese government. This container was financed by \$5000 sent from the Cambodian Health Department so cost Rotary nothing." The RC Osborne Park members have, over seven years packed & sent 28 x 40ft containers to the public hospital system in Cambodia.

Brisbane, **DIK Northern Region** volunteers who loaded the 66 beds for the Cambodian Health Department on behalf of the Rotary Club of Osborne Park project.



Rotary



ROTARY:
MAKING A
DIFFERENCE

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Happy Australia Day to all our DIK supporters. We are lucky that we live in a country that can afford to recycle modern hospital beds and school equipment that still has a good service life, to our less fortunate neighbours.



ROLL-CALL: DIK closed for the end of 2017 on December 14th however three containers were dispatched during the break. DIK opened for business in 2018 on Thursday 18th January and Club loading rosters will be distributed through the usual District system.

We look forward greeting the first loading teams on Saturday 3rd February



ROTARY: MAKING A DIFFERENCE

Below, Dentist Phil Saxby from Bundaberg who checked out all our dental equipment. Professional assistance is always appreciated at DIK.



Donations in Kind have been advised that the present building is required to be vacated by Saturday 30th June 2018, and so we must move on.

Our humanitarian aid has reached a level that must be maintained and we seek your assistance in finding new premises where we can commence transferring our activities as soon as possible to ensure an uninterrupted transition and continuity of service on behalf of Rotary International, RAWCS, our local Rotary Clubs and our many beneficiaries.

Our minimum requirement would ideally be a container height shed of 600/800 square metres plus about 1,000+ of hard stand for container handling and loading. Rent free and minimal outgoings. Please send your suggestions to:- laurenson46@hotmail.com

Katharine from Warrigal State School delivering school items to DIK for packing and loading



Congratulations and PHF recognition for Col Laurenson

Col Laurenson expressed his thanks to the Regular DIK Team following their presentation to him of a Paul Harris Fellow Recognition for upholding the Rotary Ideals of 'Service above Self' and a Rotarian's 'Vocation as an Avenue of Service'. The PHF recognition was sponsored by the Rotary Club of Toowong and presented on behalf of all concerned by Ted Horsbrugh on 14th December 2017.

PDG George Grant endorsed the presentation and congratulated Col and the Regular Team for their service during 2017.



Col thanks the Team for his PHF



Ted makes the PHF presentation to Col



PDG George Grant Congratulates Col & Ted

Col's comment.

"Pretty humbling receiving the PHF from the regular team at DIK and sponsored by Towong Rotary Club, we have worked well together on numerous projects. Many thanks in recognising our DIK achievements."

Now the big project for us is finding new premises and we seek your support in our quest. We are having to limit acceptance of goods (apart from books) due to lack of space and the need to ship as much as we can overseas so we have an empty warehouse by the end of June. Our region has developed over the years an efficient recycling programme of equipment and we would like to sustain it with your help.

We have had 18 shipments since July 2017 to January 2018 comprising the equivalent of 34 x 20' containers with an estimated value of \$2.4 million. Plus, a small 1x LCL shipment. Containers sent include 11 x 40 foot & 1 x 20' to PNG, one each to Samoa, Fiji, Vanuatu, Cambodia, Sri Lanka and East Timor. We have loaded and sent; 486 hospital beds, 1743 School desks, 2031 school chairs, and 2055 cartons of Books. Plus other school consumables, birthing kits, wheel chairs and medical consumables.

