



RAWCS
WE BACK 'DOING GOOD'

Rotary Australia Repurposing Equipment

2023 February Newsletter

ROTARY AUSTRALIA REPURPOSING EQUIPMENT MANAGERS

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Anyone with donations RARE greatly appreciates that you can collect and deliver.

Rotary Australia Repurposing Equipment is not a collection service so please check to see if your collection can be collected by RARE do not assume that it will happen. CHECK BEFORE ACCEPTING

There are limited volunteers to do this .



<https://www.facebook.com/Rotary-Australia-Repurposing-Equipment-Northern-Region-104607238021229>



Rotary Australia Repurposing Equipment

Over the next few months, RARE Northern Region will be relocating from the present premises at Kingston to new premises in MacArthur Street, Alexandra Hills

From Kingston



to Alexandra Hills



As you are aware, RARE's lease over the premises in Mary Street expires on 30th April 2023 and RARE has to vacate this site as of that date.

To facilitate this move, the following actions have been put in place to clear the current premises:

- Fully funded containers for a number of destinations to be packed over the next few months to clear the stock in the current premises have been identified.
- Extra dates for clubs to be rostered on to give assistance with this packing has been sent out to Clusters in District 9620.

To ensure that the new premises at MacArthur Street Alexandra Hills are ready for occupation prior to the end of April 2023, the following actions are being undertaken:

- The proposed site is presently being assessed and a full Scope of Works and Costings will be prepared.
- RARE is hopeful that we will be able to occupy the site from the beginning of February 2023 to carry out the necessary works.
- RARE will be calling on volunteers to attend the site to carry out some of these necessary works.
- Where any of the necessary works need to be undertaken by skilled service providers that cannot be filled by volunteers, outside service providers will be sourced.
- Pat Smith of the Rotary Club of Sumner Park will be the Building Consultant and Project Manager for the site.

RARE is seeking the support of all Rotary Clubs in District 9620 with the Rosters as mentioned above and the volunteers needed to carry out the necessary works on the new site.

This move will not happen without the support of the Rotary Clubs. These new premises have the potential of being a permanent home for RARE, so let us get behind this move and make it happen.

John Paskin

Co-Manager RARE Northern Region

Quick reads

SAVE OUR SUPPLIES

One hospital's waste is another's lifesaver

Claire Lane, 34, Wadeville Heights, Qld.

My eyes were glued to the TV screen. "Your planet, the power is yours," sang the theme tune to *Captain Planet*, my favourite show at the time.

I was only five years old but soon became passionate about environmental issues.

"Don't throw that out - we can reuse it," I often told my family, who all got on board with me trying to save the planet.

When I went on to study nursing, I was shocked at how many surgical supplies got chucked away.

One day at work in 2012, three hip replacement surgery packs were deemed unusable, for simple reasons like a fly entering the room after it was opened. Considering they cost \$300 each, it was a terrible waste.

I took one of the bags home to show my partner, Richie, and my parents Gail and Steve, whose granny flat Richie and I were living in with our son Dexter, two.

"All of this goes into the bin," I said. They agreed it was outrageous.



Me and my kids, Dexter and Charlie



Boxes of supplies to be sent around the world

I rang local charities to see if anyone would take them, but no-one did.

Eventually, I stumbled upon Rotary, who took school equipment to Papua New Guinea and could accept hospital supplies, too.

From there, I started my charity, Save our Supplies - a not-for-profit organisation which collects medical items that would otherwise be disposed of and sends them to developing nations.

I asked hospitals in Brisbane if they could keep my collection bins in theatre departments so staff could throw the unwanted, but perfectly usable, supplies in there.

Then I drove around to pick them up and stored everything at home before Rotary sent the supplies to poorer countries that needed them.

By now, I was a mum of two, and my kids, Dexter, 12, and Charlie, eight, along with friends and volunteers, helped me out.

Once, we sent \$800,000 worth of hand sanitiser to Fiji simply because too much had been ordered and there was an incorrect expiry date on a bottle.

Last year, my supplies went to war-torn Ukraine and flood-affected areas of Australia.

Recently, I got flown to Darwin where I won the Health Minister's Award for Nursing Trailblazers. It was such an honour.

One day, I'd love to get enough funding so I can focus on my charity full-time.

My mission is for every hospital in Australia to get involved. After all, one hospital's waste is another's lifesaver.



My charity aims to reduce waste and help developing nations

It was a terrible waste

On Saturday 4th February was a multicultural day at RARE [Rotary Australia Repurposing Equipment]. Thank you to the 51 Volunteers and 16 clubs or organizations who volunteered on the day.. Besides packing of 2 containers, one for Tonga and one for Ethiopia a lot of sorting of other goods ready to put into containers was carried. A very successful da despite the heat.

THANK YOU ALL



40' CONTAINER Educational Equipment

Departed Brisbane: 24/12/2022



*Me vuli ko Lau,
me bula ko Viti!*

Today was Day 6, the last day of repacking school items that arrived in the container shipment from Australia last week. We are thrilled that each primary and secondary school in Lau could be allocated different school items ranging from desks, chairs, library books, school uniforms, and boarding school materials and medical supplies.

We unloaded and repacked almost 20 tonnes of materials in 6 days!!! Some were already delivered to Nayau and Moce last week, and the rest will follow suit to each and every island in Lau in the coming days!

A big vinaka vakalevu to overseas Lauans for your generosity through LECT. A shout-out to our LECT fundraising committee in Sydney and Brisbane - malo vakalevu!

Huge thanks to Rotary Australia Repurposing Equipment (RARE) for the massive amount of school materials loaded on the 40-foot container from their Brisbane warehouse - malo vakalevu!

To the Fiji-based LECT Trustees, Mrs Ana Domoni, Mrs Ema Bevu, Mrs Unise Cawaru, Mr Alipate Gucake, and our new addition to be Mr Semi Tukana - malo vakalevu for the massive effort on the ground in Suva!

A very special malo and vinaka vakalevu to the women, men and youth from Nayau, Lakeba, Komo, Moce, Vanuavatu, Cicia, Fulaga and Vanuabalavu, as well as Adi Cakobau Mara Dugdale and Harry Dugdale, who have been absolutely tremendous in their volunteer work the last six days! A particular malo vakaitamera to the Komo team who were there from Day 2 till today. All for the children of Lau!

Thank you to the Ministry of Education staff and all the principals and teachers of schools in Lau who came down to the warehouse to help.

We acknowledge Commissioner Eastern Vitale Varo and Roko Tui Lau [Joji Kalounivalu](#) for giving us space at your warehouse at Walu Bay - thank you so much! And to the staff at the [Lau Provincial Council](#) for help on the first day of the Ai Luva ni Vua ceremony.

Last but not least, malo vakalevu to our hardworking LECT director Dr Gina Balawanilotu who flew all the way from China to be on the ground with the Fiji crew - massive effort Dr Gina, malo vakalevu and safe trip back to China tomorrow.

On behalf of LECT Chairman Mr Peni Toga Kacimaiwai (Brisbane), our Co patrons Adi Davila Toganivalu, Adi Elenoa Tuilau Mara and all our overseas-based LECT directors - Mr Jesoni Vitusagavulu (Washington D.C.), Dr Sainimili Mate (Brisbane), Dr Glenn Finau (Tasmania), and Mr Nacanieli Baleisasa Yalimaiwai (Auckland), a huge MALO VAKALEVU again to you all. We hope these materials will make a difference, small it may be, and put a smile on our children's faces in the remote islands of Lau as they begin the new school year!

The next phase will be the loading and transporting of these materials on the boat to each school in Lau in the coming days. Look out for some unique photos and videos from home as we begin delivery!



Finally managed to clear out the 40 foot container from Australia. All we need to do now is allocate, repack and distribute to schools in Lau. A fair bit of packing to go, but we'll get there.

Huge thanks again to Lauan youths and young boys from Nayau for helping out today, and the fabulous Komo team who have been helping out three days in a row now. Also acknowledging Adi Cakobau and Mr Harry Dugdale [HarryandLitia Dugdale](#) for generously donating Aqua Water today .Mr Dugdale personally delivered the cartons of water to the warehouse.

Malo vakalevu to Fiji based Directors Ana Masikete & team for very nice seafood lunch and curry for the crew.



LAU Education - a Charitable Trust

Goods delivered

More pictures received today from Nayau District School as Head Teacher Mr Joti Vosamana completed the distribution of "new" desks from LECT to all his students from Year 1 to Year 8 and also their Early Childhood Centre.



Nayau students receive desks and chairs from LECT as new school year begins



BIRTHING BABY BUNDLES!!!!

Very happy to say the new 3B's project being led by the Satellite Club of Bribie Island is starting to take off!

A number of crafty friends, supportive Rotarians, and other charities have ensured we have the foundation items required for our project.

Bilum bags have been sewn, baby wraps cut to size from flannelette sheets, cloth nappies (a blast from the past) and small wash cloths produced from second hand towels.

Lots of quality newborn baby clothing acquired from charity shops, and wonderful knitted beanies, booties and blankets, will provide essential warmth for the new babies. Please share with your clubs and others as we need a constant supply of all these items to complete 500 bundles in 2023!! Your help is needed!





On any Thursday there are many deliveries. However last Thursday there were hospital beds delivered from Ballina NSW and a mountain of Linen from Darwin NT and a trailer load of sports uniforms from a local sporting club as well as smaller deliveries.

Volunteers on a Thursday are needed to help pack and sort goods
Do YOU have a spare morning to give up some time.

Rotary Club Of Port Moresby

One of the founding principles of Rotary is Service above Self which was more than evident today (Saturday 11/02/2023) as club members came together to help unstuff a recently arrived 40-foot container under our Donations in Kind (DIK) program.

Some of the items in this container included:

Medical Equipment

Wheelchairs

Crutches

Hospital Linen

School books

Some of organizations & schools that are the recipients of the donated items include:

Port Moresby General Hospital

UPNG Medical School

Cheshire disAbility Services PNG

St Francis Primary School

Bavaroko Primary School

Bava Primary School

Pari Primary School

Tuarama Primary Schhol

Kilakila Primary School

Coronation Primary School

New Literary College Primary School

Hagara Primary School

Just in Time Literacy School

Thank you all for your attendance today, as the pictures below will confirm, was quite the turnout.

Huge shoutout to DIK Director, Mr. John Vellacott MBE.

