

District Governor's

D9670



www.rotary9670.org.au



ROTARY DISTRICT 9670 ADMINSTRATION 2010-2011

DISTRICT GOVERNOR

Don Stephens (Marjorie) – RC of Dubbo West
10 Baird Street, Dubbo NSW 2830
Tel: H 02 6882 5226 Fax 02 6884 4273
Mob: 0418 219 185
E-mail donjstephens@bigpond.com

DISTRICT GOVERNOR ELECT

Janette Jackson (Steve) RC of Cessnock
310 Lovedale Rd. Lovedale NSW 2320
Tel: 02 4990 3964 Mob: 0419 421 154
E-mail jj4211@bigpond.com

DISTRICT GOVERNOR NOMINEE

Greg Bowen (Ilse) RC of Toronto
162 Coal Point Road, Toronto NSW 2322
Tel: 02 4959 4066
E-mail: fambow@tpg.com.au

DISTRICT SECRETARY

Malcolm Cockrum (Lyn) RC Dubbo West
154 Bunglegumbie Road, Dubbo NSW 2830
Tel: 02 6882 3437 Mob: 0407 710 454
E-mail malclyn@tpg.com.au

DISTRICT TREASURER

Gareth Howells (Barbara) RC Dubbo West
13 Langford Drive, Dubbo NSW 2830
Tel: 02 6884 1468 Mob: 0488 598 256
E-mail: mastaeq@bigpond.com

DISTRICT PUBLIC OFFICER

Steve Jackson (Janette) – RC Cessnock
Tel: 02 4990 3964 Mob: 0419 421 154
E-mail: jacksonsj@bigpond.com

DISTRICT LEGAL OFFICER

Ray Nolan RC Dubbo
7/2-4 Diane Street, Dubbo NSW 2830
Tel: 02 6884 7500 Mob: 0407 243 942
E-mail rjnolan@bigpond.com

DISTRICT ATTENDANCE OFFICER

Tim Holmes (Sylvia) – RC of Cessnock
27 Burnett St, Cessnock 2325
Tel: 0404 019 878
E-mail: timholmes50@yahoo.com.au

DISTRICT BULLETIN ASSESSMENT OFFICER

Bal Dohnt (Beres) RC Dubbo West
25 Stonehaven Avenue, Dubbo NSW 2830
Tel: 02 6882 5169 Mob: 0419 681 931
E-mail : rotarybulletin967@yahoo.com.au (note 967 is correct)

DISTRICT TRAINER

PDG Ted Atchison (Louise) RC Charlestown
67 Ocean View Parade, Charlestown 2290
Tel: 02 4943 3699
E-mail : eatch@bigpond.com

DISTRICT PROPERTY CUSTODIANS

Alan McLean (Barbara) – RC of Maitland
66 Hilldale Drive, Bolwarra Heights, 2320
Tel: 02 4930 1546
E-mail: springridge@cnn.net.au

Kevin Parker (Jennylee) – RC of Dubbo Macquarie
"Ellimatta" Eulomogo Road, MS7, Dubbo 2830
Tel: 02 6841 2600 Mob: 0400 626 005
E-mail: kevin.parker@boq.com.au

Message from the DG

Don writes

November is Foundation Month where we focus on the magnificent opportunities we get as Rotarians to serve humanity and make life a little better for communities less fortunate than our own. We are able to do that through the wonderful work of The Rotary Foundation. The Foundation is the heartbeat of Rotary and the funding source for many projects. It relies on donations from Rotarians, Non Rotarians and Business to then be able to distribute funding to Polio Plus, Peace Scholars, Group Study Exchange, Matching Grants, District Simplified Grants and more. Almost \$us3 billion has been distributed by the foundation since 1946.

The mission of the Foundation is to enable Rotarians to advance world understanding, goodwill, and peace through the improvement of health, the support of education, and the alleviation of poverty.

At the beginning of the Rotary year I announced a district target of \$100,000 in donations to the foundation. We are doing well with about 15% of target achieved. Now is the time to bring in the money boxes have the treasurer write a cheque and forward to PDG Alex McHarg for individual recognition and tax receipt. Tickets for the annual Foundation raffle are also being distributed. Remember your club gets recognition for income from tickets sold.

I offer my congratulations to The Rotary Club of Nelson Bay and in particular Scott Jarman their Foundation Director for the wonderful program on 4th November to promote the Foundation to their members and to other clubs in the Port Stephens area. A great success with one hundred in attendance to hear Foundation Manager Bruce Allan and AG Peter Raynor give very informative presentations.

Foundation Seminars have been held in wellington on 7th Nov and Singleton on 14thNov.

The sleepout for the homeless was very successful in highlighting awareness and in raising funds. I sincerely thank those clubs who contributed to the almost \$2000raised. It is not too late to make a donation and cheques can either be sent to me or district treasurer Gareth.

With annual meetings coming up and the election of executive for next Rotary year can I urge secretaries to inform Parramatta of those elected either by going on line or filling out the form. If you need assistance with doing that do not hesitate to call.

Marjorie and I would like to thank all the clubs in the district as you have made us so welcome on our club visits. I look forward to continuing close contact with you as we build **BIGGER, BETTER and BOLDER** clubs in District 9670.

Your Friend in Rotary

Don Stephens
DG 2010-11





ROTARY DISTRICT 9670 FOUNDATION COMMITTEE Inc.

INC9881998

Governor: 2010-11 Don Stephens, RC of Dubbo west Inc.

Chairman: PP Gerard McMillan, RC of Singleton Inc.

Secretary: PP Bob Thomas, RC of Mudgee Sunrise Inc.



You Can Make a Difference

In your Community and in the Global Community

The Rotary Foundation of Rotary International is the charitable trust which funds the good works of Rotarians. November is the month in which we focus on the work of The Rotary Foundation (TRF). Stating from an endowment fund in support of educational programs it has added many humanitarian programs to its portfolio to do good in the world. And of course as well as the programs covering education, improvements in health and the elimination of poverty the flagship in the past few years has been the eradication of Polio. A job which needs to be completed, if we don't want the outbreak which occurred in the Congo just recently, occurring in our own communities. It is frightening to think that the rate of Childhood immunisations in Australia is falling. While ever Polio has a foot hold somewhere in the world it is only a plane ride away from our doorstep.

The Rotary Foundation cannot fund the humanitarian work of Rotarians if Rotarians and Rotary Clubs do not support it. The District Rotary Foundation Goals this year in support of the Foundations work are as follows.

Total giving greater than US\$100,000. US\$100,000 will help to provide a years schooling for 100 children in Zambia, to provide the materials for 10 clean drinking water wells in Kenya, to provide funding money to start 10 small businesses for disabled workers in the Philippines, to provide clean drinking water to 6000 in India, and to provide 100,000 doses of Polio vaccine.

The following goals are to help achieve the primary goal of US\$100,000 giving.

Every Rotarian Every Year (EREY). The District to have more than 25% of Rotarians recognised as EREY. An EREY is a Rotarian who gives some amount to the annual Programs Fund in their own name

Rotary Foundation Sustaining Member (RFSM). 10% or more of the Rotarians in the District to be RFSM, that is Rotarians who give US\$100 a year to the Annual Programs Fund.

District 9670 Immortals. 10% or more of the Rotarians in the District to be D9670 Immortals, that is Rotarians who give a one off gift of AU\$100 the Foundation's Permanent Fund, or becomes a Benefactor or Bequest Society member.

District TRF Raffle. More than 75% of Clubs actively involved in promoting the district Raffle. The profits raised by the Raffle are credited to the participating Clubs in the ratio of their ticket sales.

Paul Harris Society (PHS) Members. The district to have 10 Paul Harris Society Members. A PHS member personally gives US\$1,000 to the Foundation's Annual Programs Fund.

YOU CAN MAKE THE DIFFERENCE, for every US\$100 you raise or donate to the Foundation it can supply Polio vaccine for 200 children, text books for an elementary school in Kenya, a years schooling for 2 children in Sri Lanka, or clean drinking water for 30 people in India.

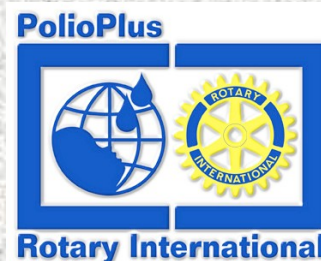
The District TRF Committee has developed information sheets explaining how Rotarians can participate in giving to the Foundation's Annual Programs Fund through, Every Rotarian Every Year (EREY) and to the Permanent fund through the District 9670 Immortals. This information is available by contacting a member of the District TRF Committee or your Assistant Governor.

If you need someone to assist with explaining the programs of the Rotary Foundation to your members please contact a member of the District Rotary Foundation Committee, members are listed in the District Directory.

PDG Alex McHarg, Grants & Giving Chair
1 Sister Luke Place, Singleton NSW 2330.
Tel; - 6573 1647, Mob; - 0409 321 403,
Email; - alexander.mcharg@bigpond.com



POLIO OUTBREAK KILLS 97 PEOPLE IN THE CONGO



Rotary International and its partners in the Global Polio Eradication Initiative -- the World Health Organization, UNICEF, and the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention -- are responding to a recent outbreak of wild poliovirus in the Republic of the Congo. Rotary is providing a total of US\$500,000 in emergency grants to WHO and UNICEF for immediate polio immunization efforts throughout the country.

At least 97 people have died in the outbreak, with 226 cases of acute flaccid paralysis reported as of 9 November. Most of the cases involve young people between ages 15 and 29. To date, four of the AFP cases have been confirmed as polio.

The outbreak is due to imported poliovirus that is related to the virus circulating in Angola. The Congo Republic recorded its last case of indigenous polio in 2000, and urgent action is required by government and partner agencies to again make the country polio-free.

"Polio outbreaks highlight our global vulnerability to infectious disease," says Dr. Robert Scott, chair of Rotary's International PolioPlus Committee. "It reinforces the fact that polio 'control' is not an option, and only successful eradication will stop the disease."

According to WHO, at least three national vaccination campaigns are planned to combat the outbreak, with the first targeting three million people of all ages in the Congo Republic and parts of neighboring Democratic Republic of the Congo and Angola on 12 November and 18-22 November. Subsequent campaigns are planned for 3-7 December and 26-30 December.

"Every man, every woman, every child will be immunized irrespective of their past immunization status," says Dr. Luis Sambo, WHO regional director for Africa. "This way we can be assured that everybody is reached, including young adults, whose immunity may be low."

Outbreaks of imported polio cases are not uncommon during eradication efforts, underscoring the critical need to stop transmission of the virus in the remaining polio-endemic countries: Afghanistan, India, Nigeria, and Pakistan.

"Our experience shows that where polio transmission has been stopped before, it can be stopped again," Scott says. "A fast, large-scale, high-quality immunization response using the [new tools](#) at hand, along with strong surveillance, is absolutely critical."



Let the Good Times Roll at the 2011 Rotary International Convention.



NEW ORLEANS USA 21-25 MAY 2011

The District has received early copies of the following (only 10 available)

Convention Invitation and Information sheet.
Registration and Ticket Order Form.
Host Event Order Form.
Hotel Reservation Form

If you would like a copy of these forms please contact PDG Alex McHarg by email (alexander.mcharg@bigpond.com) with your mail address for delivery for delivery through the postal service.

For the most up to date information on the Convention visit the Rotary International web site.
www.rotary.org/convention

From the desk of the Tim Holmes our District Attendance Officer, comes the figures from October.

CLUB	Current M'ship	Oct %	Oct RANK
ADAMSTOWN/NEW LAMBTON	31	79.80	7
BELMONT	24	83.00	5
BENNETTS GREEN	0	0	#N/A
BOURKE	10	59.00	28
CARDIFF	12	91.09	2
CESSNOCK	28	70.10	16
CESSNOCK WINE COUNTRY	0	0	#N/A
CHARLESTOWN	38	56.67	29
COBAR	0	0	#N/A
DENMAN	17	85.00	4
DUBBO	23	78.26	9
DUBBO MACQUARIE	20	78.90	8
DUBBO SOUTH	43	76.74	10
DUBBO WEST	46	69.98	18
DUNGOG	0	0	#N/A
EAST MAITLAND	46	69.75	19
KURRI KURRI	14	69.64	20
MAITLAND	35	69.23	21
MAITLAND SUNRISE	0	0	#N/A
MERRIWA	20	95.00	1
MORISSET	27	65.00	25
MUDGE	25	69.00	22
MUDGE SUNRISE	23	80.00	6
MURRURUNDI	5	90.00	3
MUSWELLBROOK	0	0	#N/A
MYALL COAST	24	71.66	14
NARROMINE	0	0	#N/A
NELSON BAY	61	65.00	25
NEWCASTLE	57	53.03	32
NEWCASTLE ENTERPRISE	32	70.00	17
NEWCASTLE SUNRISE	0	0	#N/A
NEWCASTLE HARBOUR	0	0	#N/A
NYNGAN	0	0	#N/A
PATERSON	20	54.00	31
RAYMOND TERRACE	0	0	#N/A
RUTHERFORD / TELARAH	0	0	#N/A
RYLSTONE / KANDOS	0	0	#N/A
SALAMANDER BAY	0	0	#N/A
SCONE	0	0	#N/A
SINGLETON	42	65.00	25
SINGLETON ON HUNTER	0	0	#N/A
TORONTO	39	54.54	30
TORONTO SUNRISE	28	68.20	23
WALLSEND / MARYLAND	29	74.51	13
WARATAH	17	75.00	11
WARNERS BAY	14	71.00	15
WARREN	0	0	#N/A
WELLINGTON	31	75.00	11
WILLIAMTOWN	17	68.00	24

CLUB	Current M'ship	Oct %	Oct RANK
MERRIWA	20	95	1
CARDIFF	12	91.09	2
MURRURUNDI	5	90	3
DENMAN	17	85	4
BELMONT	24	83	5
MUDGE SUNRISE	23	80	6
ADAMSTOWN/NEW LAMBTON	31	79.8	7
DUBBO MACQUARIE	20	78.9	8
DUBBO	23	78.26	9
DUBBO SOUTH	43	76.74	10
WARATAH	17	75	11
WELLINGTON	31	75	11
WALLSEND / MARYLAND	29	74.51	13
MYALL COAST	24	71.66	14
WARNERS BAY	14	71	15
CESSNOCK	28	70.1	16
NEWCASTLE ENTERPRISE	32	70	17
DUBBO WEST	46	69.98	18
EAST MAITLAND	46	69.75	19
KURRI KURRI	14	69.64	20
MAITLAND	35	69.23	21
MUDGE	25	69	22
TORONTO SUNRISE	28	68.2	23
WILLIAMTOWN	17	68	24
MORISSET	27	65	25
NELSON BAY	61	65	25
SINGLETON	42	65	25
BOURKE	10	59	28
CHARLESTOWN	38	56.67	29
TORONTO	39	54.54	30
PATERSON	20	54	31
NEWCASTLE	57	53.03	32
BENNETTS GREEN	0	0	#N/A
CESSNOCK WINE COUNTRY	0	0	#N/A
COBAR	0	0	#N/A
DUNGOG	0	0	#N/A
MAITLAND SUNRISE	0	0	#N/A
MUSWELLBROOK	0	0	#N/A
NARROMINE	0	0	#N/A
NEWCASTLE HARBOUR	0	0	#N/A
NEWCASTLE SUNRISE	0	0	#N/A
NYNGAN	0	0	#N/A
RAYMOND TERRACE	0	0	#N/A
RUTHERFORD / TELARAH	0	0	#N/A
RYLSTONE / KANDOS	0	0	#N/A
SALAMANDER BAY	0	0	#N/A
SCONE	0	0	#N/A
SINGLETON ON HUNTER	0	0	#N/A
WARREN	0	0	#N/A

From the Editor's Keyboard

Welcome to the 5th (November) edition of the District Governor's Newsletter for 2010—2011.

Our DG Don Stevens reports that his “Sleepout for the Homeless” was a great success in raising awareness for their plight. He mentioned in passing that it was quite cool.

This month is almost back to normal and I must say, what is normal about what is fast approaching us.

By that I mean the Xmas period. Already I have seen quite a number of clubs around the district getting into swing with various events to fundraise. A well done for all those involved.

Our District Attendance Officer Tim Holt reports that club responses are up but there needs to be more work by those club that do not have any attendance returns.

Peter Judd

Editor

RC of Dubbo West

pljudd@yahoo.com.au

Mob 0437 847 263

If you have any articles or reports for publishing, they make a more interesting read if there are photos or sketches included.





Rotary Youth Crops, Agronomy, Grain and Seed (RYCAGS) Camp.

The Rotary Club of Narromine Inc. conducted a very successful seed and grain camp at Narromine Showground from 25 to 29 October 2010 for 28 agriculture students attending years 9 and 10. Students from Nyngan in the west, Condobolin in the south, Coonabarabran in the north, Merriwa in the east and several schools in between, attended the camp.

The students were accommodated in two buildings and all meals were provided from the Rotary Food Van. Rotarians were on site with the students 24/7.

Arrangements were made to visit local cropping farms "Narromine Station" and "Mallawah" where farmers Glenn Browning and Jeff Anderson, provided information on their cereal and seed crops. They also explained their weed control program, machinery and anything else relevant to cropping.



The students also visited Cornish's Machinery and Chesterfield Australia to inspect various types of machinery associated with grain production. A tour of Agrigrain, AWB Grainflow, Fletcher International and Pioneer Hi Bred plant and operations provided the students with a comprehensive outline of seed cleaning, grading, marketing, storage, transport etc.



The Ag Centre, Narromine demonstrated how grain and seed is made into stock feed and stock pellets and at Mirambee Cattle Feed Lot in Dubbo, students learned about grains used to lot fed cattle for the supermarket trade.

Several 20/30 minute lectures were given to the students. Four agronomists discussed various aspects of their profession including hybrids, the profession of an agronomist, genetic modification in crops. A representative from Grainpro spoke on global grain marketing, crop insurance was outlined by Stuart Webster of Landmark, Dubbo, crop finance was detailed by Ian Simpson from Rabobank and Nick Powell demonstrated the benefits of tungsten points and discs.

A formal dinner was held at the Narromine USMC and the guest speaker was Rohan Brill from the Department of Agriculture. His subject was "Agriculture in 2020" and over 65 people attended the dinner.

Without the generosity of the management and staff of these businesses the camp could not take place, so Rotarians are very grateful for their support. Special mention should be made of Narromine Shire Council, Narromine Show Society and Narromine Race Club for the showground facilities that are ideal for a camp like this.

Further, the generosity of the following businesses with financial sponsorship is appreciated and acknowledged. Fletchers International, Pioneer Hi Bred, Caltex Narromine, Rabobank, Narromine Shire Council, A1 Freight, J and K Hamilton Air Conditioning, Frank Cross Tyres, Narromine Plumbing, Narromine Auto Repairs, Andonbel Alpaca Coffee Shop, Orana Mutual, Cornish's Machinery, The Ag Centre, Chesterfield Australia, AWB Grainflow.

Following a post camp survey, the students commented highly on the value they obtained from the camp, the friends they made and the eye opening places they visited. All agreed the camp was beneficial to their agricultural studies and the all recommended, younger students consider future camps.

Rotarians in Narromine will conduct further camps in 2011 and 2012.

Geoff Smith
Coordinator RYCAGS 2010
Rotary Club of Narromine Inc.
6889 5447
gsmi2709@bigpond.net.au





MAKE A MOVE ON MEMBERSHIP

How would a member of your club respond when asked about the club's membership goals? Often the response is qualitative and in very concrete terms. For example, a member may say "We would like to achieve a nett membership gain of three." or "We would like to achieve a female membership of 30%."

As we strive to build bigger, better, bolder Rotary clubs it is appropriate to consider a range of membership goals. Given that Rotary worldwide has attracted over 1.5 million members over the past five years but has only 1.2 million current members, attracting new members is just one piece in the membership puzzle. Consider these components of your club organisation as possibilities for membership goals.

Education

How are new members educated about Rotary?

What does your club do about ongoing Rotary education? (For example, does everyone in your club understand the notion of New Generations?)

What opportunities does your club have for educating others about Rotary?

How does your club encourage and support members to participate in District, National and International Rotary activities such as conferences and conventions?

Engagement

How are individual members engaged with club activities?

Does your club have a range of ways members can be engaged? (For example, planning projects, writing reports, physical work, fundraising)

How does your club know what members enjoy doing and/or what they would like to do?

Does your club's plan include activities that will engage all members at some time during the year?

Leadership

What opportunities are there for members to provide leadership?

How are members mentored so that they can confidently take on leadership roles?

How does your club ensure that members are aware of, and encouraged to take on leadership opportunities at District level?

Social Interaction

What opportunities are there for members to interact socially?

How do club projects support social interaction?

How do members learn about the skills and interests of other members?

How does your club include the families of Rotarians in its activities?

There are many ways to strengthen our clubs and, by default, make them attractive organisations to join. Please let your District Membership Committee know about your club's successful strategies so that we can share these.

Wendy Hawthorne, Rotary Club of Newcastle Sunrise
Chair, District 9670 Membership Committee



shelter
BOX

AUSTRALIA
DISTRICT 9670
Volume 1 Issue 4
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ShelterBox responds immediately to deadly Indonesian tsunami

DISASTER
RELIEF



A ShelterBox Response Team (SRT) is heading to Indonesia after a deadly tsunami struck the country's coast.

The tsunami has already claimed more than 100 lives and it is feared scores of coastal villages could have been wiped off the map.

The response team will be led by Australian SRT Mike Greenslade and will be working alongside ShelterBox's Internationals newly formed Indonesian affiliate to assess the affected area. The tsunami was triggered by a 7.7 magnitude earthquake that struck 20 kilometres beneath the ocean floor off the island of Sumatra. Reports say that the massive wave swept up to 600 meters inland in some places. ShelterBox Head of Operations, John Leach, said 'we're anticipating a large need for immediate emergency

assistance in Sumatra and will do everything we can to get it there as quickly as possible.

'Disasters can happen at anytime and strike anywhere. We're currently operating in five other countries where there are huge numbers of families in need of our help.

'Our job is to ensure these families are given all the help they need at a time when they really need it the most.'

The situation in Indonesia is turning into a double disaster as thousands of people are evacuated from the area surrounding the Mt Merapi volcano in central Java.

In October 2009, ShelterBox delivered emergency shelter for more than 6,000 people in Sumatra after a devastating earthquake struck the island.

Massive aid effort in Pakistan continues



ShelterBox continues to provide vital aid for displaced families in Pakistan as the effects of the monsoon floods cause untold hardship for millions of people. Logistical pathways into Pakistan have now cleared and emergency shelter for a further 56,000 people will be distributed in the coming weeks. This means ShelterBox has committed emergency shelter for up to 147,590 people in Pakistan, one of the largest commitments in the charity's history. 'ShelterBox camps continue to stand up to the extreme strains of a disaster situation. We've received a lot of praise from international organisations and the media for the way our camps allow families to live in safety, comfort and dignity.

Photographs: Mark Pearson & Tommy Tomkins © All Rights Reserved

Graphic Design: Scott Jarman

Emergency ShelterBox aid sent to the Philippines after Super Typhoon strikes



**SUPER TYPHOON
MEGI-PHILIPPINES**
Satellite image: JMA, 18.10.2010

A state of calamity has been declared in the northern Philippines after the strongest typhoon to strike the country this year left a trail of destruction in its wake.

Super Typhoon Megi, known locally as Juan, hit the Philippines' northern Isabela province on Monday, October 18 prompting the province's governor to declare a state of calamity. A ShelterBox Response Team (SRT) was immediately mobilised and the first consignment of ShelterBoxes has been committed to the country.

ShelterBox Operations Manager, Alf Evans, said: 'Although the full extent of the damage remains unclear, there will unfortunately be a need for our assistance.

'Typhoons regularly strike the Philippines and while the early warning systems in place prevented large scale casualties, the power of the typhoon will have destroyed hundreds of homes.'

SRT members Lyndon Tamblyn and Arnold Kelly arrived in Manila, the Philippines' capital and with the assistance of local Rotarians they established the areas of greatest need while they awaited the arrival of 200 ShelterBoxes and 4 Classrooms in a Box. Typhoon Megi is also expected to hit China where thousands of people have been evacuated. In 2009, more than 1,600 ShelterBoxes were delivered to families in the Philippines who lost their homes when typhoons hit the country. This is ShelterBox's first deployment to the Philippines in 2010.

Wanted: people willing to put their heart in box

District 9670 ShelterBox Representative Peter Croft has put his money where his mouth is in challenging the people of Dubbo City, surrounding regions and District Rotary Clubs to donate to ShelterBox and help deliver emergency shelter, warmth and dignity to people affected by disaster world wide. As Business Enterprise Centre Chief Executive Peter coughed up \$3000, one from each of the Business Enterprise Centre offices in Dubbo, Parkes and Forbes for three Shelterboxes, each containing emergency shelter and survival equipment for an extended family of 10.



The challenge aims to collect enough to purchase 100 boxes that would "provide shelter, warmth and dignity" for 1000 people for at least 12 months. As of this week Peter's efforts have seen twenty ShelterBoxes donated and the need is now further exasperated by the urgent requirement in Indonesia, the continuing humanitarian crisis in Pakistan and the forthcoming Typhoon season in South East Asia.



WHO WE ARE

ShelterBox is an international disaster relief charity, specialising in emergency shelter provision. Humanitarian aid is delivered in iconic green ShelterBoxes. Each one contains a disaster relief tent for an extended family, water purification equipment, a stove, blankets and other items essential for survival. ShelterBox responds to disaster as quickly as possible with the aim of helping the people who are in most need.

KEEP IN TOUCH!

ShelterBox Australia - timklar@xentech.com.au
ShelterBox Brazil - info@shelterbox.org
ShelterBox Canada - support@shelterboxcanada.org
ShelterBox Denmark - garth@shelterbox.dk
ShelterBox France - info@shelterboxfrance.org
ShelterBox Germany - info@shelterbox.de
ShelterBox Indonesia - info@shelterbox.org
ShelterBox Netherlands - info@shelterbox.nl
ShelterBox New Zealand - info@shelterbox.org.nz
ShelterBox Norway - info@shelterbox.no
ShelterBox Philippines - info@shelterbox.org
ShelterBox South Africa - info@shelterbox.org
ShelterBox Switzerland - info@shelterbox.ch
ShelterBox UK - info@shelterbox.org
ShelterBox USA - info@shelterboxusa.org

www.shelterboxaustralia.org.au



How Can You Help Improve Indigenous Health?

If you're like most Australians, it's likely that you take your access to doctors, hospitals, and education for granted.

But did you know that 24% of Australia's Indigenous population lives in remote Australia, where access to these services and facilities is limited? In fact, because of their lack of access to medical facilities, Indigenous Australians are twice as likely to report their health as poor and one-and-a-half times more likely to have a disability or long-term health condition.

At Australian Rotary Health we are committed to ensuring better health care for all Australians through research, education and awareness. While the majority of our funding is used to support research into mental illness, we have a number of other programs that all work to improve health outcomes for communities around Australia.

One of these programs is our Indigenous Health Scholarship program that encourages Indigenous students to complete a health based degree. Many of the graduates from this program spend some or all of their professional careers working in rural or remote communities, helping to better the lives and the health of the people they treat.

Stacey Lancaster is one such student. Currently enrolled in a Bachelor of Applied Science studying nutrition, food and health at Victoria University's Werribee campus, Stacey says that she has long been interested in using her degree to help people.

"I've always been interested in using food science and nutrition in the development of products that can prevent or help treat disease. Currently, I'm working with pro-biotic bacteria and antioxidants. Both of these have shown to convey health benefits such as the reduction of cancer pathways, allergies, cholesterol and neural diseases such as Alzheimer's," she explains.

Stacey, who graduates at the end of 2010, plans to contribute some of her time to Indigenous communities in need of essential nutritional advice and says that the scholarship, funded by the Rotary Club of Rosebud, has helped reduce the stress of paying bills while studying.

"The scholarship has helped me with purchasing items such as books, a computer and glasses, as well as paying shortfalls in rent," she says. "It has helped me immensely."

An Indigenous Health Scholarship can make the world of difference to a struggling student. For a commitment of only \$2,500 per year, your Rotary club could directly help improve the health and wellbeing of Australia's Indigenous population.

If you would like to know more about this program and how you can help improve the health and education outcomes for Australia's Indigenous communities, please contact Cheryl Deguara, Programs Co-ordinator, on 02 8837 1900 or email cheryldegua@australianrotaryhealth.org.au.

WEST AFRICAN FLOODS

BENIN

Benin hit by annual floods but this year's are the worst in 50 years.

Nearly 700,000 people affected with a desperate need for emergency shelter, food and water. This is the scene coming out of West African country Benin. This year's annual flooding in West Africa is continuing to cause chaos across the region. The floods in Benin have been the worst to hit the country in close to 50 years and show no sign of letting up.

Reports for the United Nations Office for Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) state that emergency shelter is one of the top priorities. ShelterBox Operations Manager, Alf Evans, said: 'West Africa has been hit particularly hard this year. We've only recently returned from Niger and we're now putting a response team together to head into Benin. They'll be working with local authorities and Rotarians to establish where the greatest need is.' ShelterBox Response Team (SRT) members Chris Donald (UK) and James Webb (UK) will head to Benin in the coming days to assess the scale and the areas of most need. Benin, which has a population of around 8.8 million people, is one of the world's poorest countries with approximately a third of the population living below the

ShelterBox International
A Global Rotary Project
now with 18 International
Affiliates.



Successful distribution of emergency shelter in Guatemala



Families who have been in desperate need for emergency shelter in Guatemala have now set up homes in ShelterBox tents. 'The first boxes went to families who had lost their homes in recent landslides that had torn through the village,' said Ian Neal. 'We showed them how to put up the tents and use all the other equipment that's inside the box. Of the 200 boxes, 109 have now been distributed. The team worked with local non-profit organisation Mayan Families and the Club Rotario Guatemala Sur who, the SRT said, provided 'invaluable' and 'tireless' support to help the people of Guatemala. The praise was reciprocated by Rotarians in Mexico who said the SRT members had 'legs of a dog,

YOUNG SHELTERBOX

What could be better than having great fun at the same time as helping others? Nothing! And that's exactly what Kahibah Primary School has done. The School recently had a "Global Adventure" and explored the world of ShelterBox in their own classroom, Learning about disasters and how we can all help others in need.

ShelterBox thanks the children from Kahibah Primary School for their donation of one ShelterBox (\$1000) through a fun "out of uniform day" and sausage sizzle. Well Done. If you would like Young ShelterBox at your school contact www.shelterboxaustralia.com.au/contact.php

Donation Form

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