

## KNOW SOMEONE IN NEED?

The **Rotary Australia Benevolent Society (RABS)** allows you to use your initiative to help a person suffering distress in your own backyard.

RABS projects provide direct relief to those that need it most. The idea is to address what is missing from the recipient's life, for example providing a safe place to sleep for the homeless or counselling for those who have undergone trauma.

Any project that addresses one or more of the following is ideal:

**SICKNESS** **SUFFERING**

**DISTRESS** **MISFORTUNE**

**DISABILITY** **DESTITUTION**

**HELPLESSNESS** **POVERTY**

As a program directed by **Rotary World Community Service (RAWCS)** once your RABS project is approved all donations are given tax deductible status.

The RAWCS website also provides the facility for donations to be made to your cause online which are receipted automatically.

Once you have your idea registering is easy. Simply download the forms from our website

**rawcs.org.au**  
and submit.

# RABS

has been registered with the ACNC – Australian Charities & Not-for-Profits Commission and has Designated Gift Recipient (DGR) status with the Australian Tax Office.

The RABS project approval process will carefully review activities to determine whether they provide direct or indirect relief.

**ABN:** 54 563 288 318

**Head Office:**  
Level 3 43 Hunter Street  
Parramatta NSW 2150

**Phone:**  
+61 02 8833 8317

**Email:**  
belinda.griffen@rawcs.org.au

**Postal:**  
PO Box 3168  
Parramatta NSW 2124



# RABS

**Rotary Australia Benevolent Society**



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# SUCCESS STORIES

## RABS SUCCESS STORIES



The Rotary Club of East Maitland banded together to help William Cullen who was the victim of severe domestic abuse as a teenager. He would routinely step in front of his mother to protect her from the blows, leading to his jaw being broken three times and extensive facial injuries. He further helped care for his two brothers with Down Syndrome.

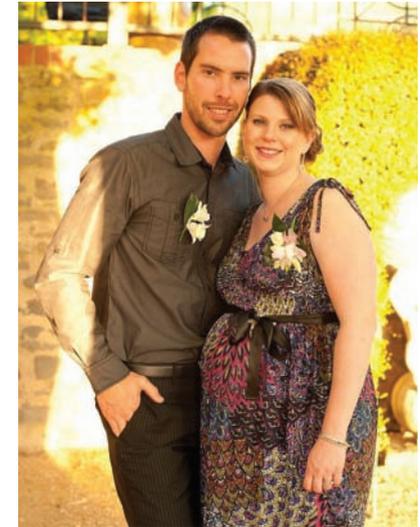
In spite of his great difficulties in life, William sought to give back to the community, joining Rotary after seeing members raising funds at a BBQ. The Club's support has allowed William to receive nose and oral surgery as well as get on his feet. He now has a TAFE certification in Nurse's Aid, employment and the continued friendship and support of his fellow members.



Sharon Chan's life was already a struggle with her five year old son suffering Down Syndrome as well as a leukaemia. Her husband Rob would routinely drive Ollie from their hometown Gunning, near Canberra, to Sydney for chemotherapy.

Then, when Sharon was 36 weeks pregnant with their third child, Rob died suddenly of a heart attack, leaving her alone to care for their desperately sick son, two other young children and pay the mortgage.

Through RABS, \$1 million has been raised - the fund receiving over 15,000 donations - which will provide security to Sharon and her family for the rest of their lives.



On her way to the Carrum Downs Shopping Centre, 34-year-old Andrea Lehane was struck in a hit and run by an illegal mini-motorcycle whilst walking on a pedestrian crossing. In spite of all efforts, her injuries were too great for her life to be saved and her life support was taken off two days later. She left behind two children, Ashley, four, and Heath, three, and a grieving husband James who has struggled to cope.

Recognising the Lehane family's sufferings, RAWCS quickly set up the Andrea Lehane Family Trust to assist in raising funds to help them through this difficult time. So far thousands have been raised, with donations continuing to pour in from across Australia.

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