

District 9780 RAWCS/RAM Quarterly Report 31/7/2020

Due to the cessation of international travel due to COVID-19 restrictions there has been no activity reported on overseas projects this quarter. There have, however been some transactions reported.

DIK Geelong

Feb 2020 \$2450.00 for container for hospital beds to PNG.

June 2020 \$2575.00 for container to freight school supplies & other donated items to PNG.

Vanuatu Dental Project

The Vanuatu Dental Project is a project of RC Ballarat West. To provide a professional not for profit service for disadvantaged citizens in Vanuatu. In March 2020 Dr. David Goldsmith and Dr. Jaclyn Ansic visited Vanuatu to check on the progress of the project and plan for future visits of Rotary volunteers.

Activities included;

- Check the Dental Prosthetics lab in Port Villa to do a stock take.
- Assess the lab for the suitability for toothpaste manufacture.
- Service the Rotary Dental truck in Port Vila.
- Join the roll out of a supervised toothbrushing program in Vanuatu schools.
- Meet local dental staff with the view offsetting up a Vanuatu Dental Association.
- Make contact with RC Santo.

Total value of the team including Work Value, travel, accommodation & meal costs \$17,258.00.

Water Provision Project PNG.

This is a project of RC Warrnambool and is to assist PNG villages and institutions implement potable water supply solutions. During the reporting period from 1/1/2020 to 30/6/2020 \$3,407.00 was spent on hand pump component parts, a 4WD vehicle, well drilling equipment, a water tank and concrete well ring moulds & components.

Legacy Club of Ballarat Family Camp

This project is supported by the Rotary Club of Ballarat South to conduct a camp for young legacy families who have lost their husbands/fathers due to the effects of war.

This year the camp catered for 34 children and 21 parents, plus an assistance dog. Activities included kayaking, motor cycling rides, yachting, vintage car rides, Sovereign Hill and Ballarat Wildlife Park. Ballarat businesses are supportive, but the camp still costs about \$14,000 to run. RAWCS involvement this year was \$6807.50 plus a \$7,000.00 RACG grant given to the Legacy Club of Ballarat for the operation of the 2020 camp. I have attached the comments of the camp organizer which make interesting reading.

As the past president of Ballarat Legacy and co camp organiser, I can say in all sincerity that the RACG allows us to run this very successful camp without the pressure of trying to find extra funding. It is the only program in Australia run by Legacy that includes the whole family. In most case, it is a widow and her young children. Although, there are families where the father, as a result of his service is ill (usually PTSD) is also present. For many of the families especially where a single parent is involved this is the first holiday they have had for a long time. The camp allows many of the young widows to come together and share their stories. Quite often the family of a deceased ex service-person is forgotten in our society. The camp also raises the profile of Legacy in that its work of caring is far from over. The perception that many have, is that Legacy is only looking after "old" WW2, Korean and Vietnam widows. The idea that there are many young families affected by Iraq, East Timor, Afghanistan and other contemporary conflicts is not considered. The burden that some of the young widows carry is enormous. At the 2020 camp, there were three young widows whose husbands had taken their own life. All of them had children ranging in age from 6 to 14. The fact that these young women could get together and support each other was one of the real benefits of the camp. Many of them feel quite alone in their own community. Many of the children too, tell stories of their "Dads" to each other. The Ballarat Legacy Family Camp is both unique and special. Hopefully, in spite of COVID, it will proceed in 2021. For it to do so the support of RACG is essential. Hopefully, there will be funds available.

RAM

This quarter has been quiet. Activity has been restricted to distributing the RAM Quarterly Newsletter, the Schools Video Competition and information about the "End Malaria in Vanuatu for Good" project around the District. I also attended the Zoom meeting on "End Malaria in Vanuatu For Good" and the the National RAM Zoom meeting which included an information session on the progress of RAM in PNG. Recently I gave a presentation on behalf of RAM to RC East Geelong where representatives of five other Geelong and District Clubs attended as guests.

Current District 9780 Projects.

29-2018-19: Solomon Islands National Referral Hospital Dental Clinic (RAOAF)
5-2018-19: Legacy Club of Ballarat Family Camp (RACG)
37-2017-18: Water Provision Project, PNG

43-2014-15: Dental Prosthetics Laboratory for Port Vila, Vanuatu
38-2014-15: Southern Region DIK (Geelong) - Donations for Administration & Rent
37-2014-15: Southern Region DIK (Geelong) - Donations for Container freight & costs
24-2012-13: Vanuatu Dental Project
49-2011-12: Renovate & Repair Clinic, Klibur Domin, Dili, Timor-Leste(Ryder Cheshire Foundation)
128-2010-11: Support for Melanie Jewson Foundation, Port Vila, Vanuatu
144-2005-06: Dental teams for Tonga Dental Health Project

Noel Howard
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