



SOUTHERN REGION ROTARIANS AGAINST MALARIA (RAM) ANNUAL REPORT FOR 2019-2020

DISTRICT RAM SUPERVISORS APPOINTED FOR THE 2019-20 ROTARY YEAR

Regional Supervisor	Gloria Hargreaves
D9780 Chair	Noel Howard (D9780 RAWCS Chair)
D9790 Chair	Jen Parer
D9790 Deputy Chair	Dr Bruce Anderson
D9800 Chair	Sue McDonald
D9810 Chair	Shelley Gurney
D9810 Deputy Chair	Jackie Gleeson
D9820 Chair	Libby Wilson
D9830 Chair	Dr John Wettenhall

As in the 2018-19 Rotary Year, the past twelve months have been both productive, albeit challenging and really enjoyable. Gloria wishes to express her appreciation to the District RAM Supervisors and Deputy Supervisors for their support and encouragement.

Appreciation is also extended to National RAM Manager Dr Jenny Kerrison, for her regular ongoing updates, items of interest and Newsletters which were duly passed on to each of the six Districts in Southern Region. In the first half of this Rotary Year, the opportunity was taken to meet with a number of SR RAM Supervisors to discuss plans for future activities in their Districts and check on their RAM resource stocks

Southern Region is well represented on the list of National RAM Personnel. As well as D9830 Dr Jenny Kerrison being our RAM National Manager, congratulations are extended to D9810 Wil Cornelissen who has been elected to the position of RAM Deputy National Manager

D9790 Deputy RAM Supervisor, Dr Bruce Anderson, continued in his role as National RAM Scientific Committee Coordinator and D9800 RAM Supervisor Sue McDonald was elected a member of his Committee

D9810 SR RAM Supervisor Gloria Hargreaves is now RAM National Secretary.

D9830 Howie Oh is the National RAM Treasurer

D9800 Virginia Turner was the IP National Secretary and National Vanuatu Country Coordinator and D9810 Rotaractor Netania Lim is now the National RAM PR and Media Coordinator

Southern Region RAM District Supervisors were encouraged to appoint a Deputy and it's pleasing to report that D9790, D9810 and D9830 have done so. Both D9810 and D9830 are also continuing to run a strong and active RAM Committee. This teamwork initiative was encouraged in all Districts during the last 12 months.

Zoom Meetings

Prior to CoVid restrictions, District RAM Supervisors were contacted by either phone or email and where possible meetings were arranged. Since social distancing has come into effect, two Southern Region Zoom Meetings have been held

Topics have included:

- Progress of the RAWCS fundraising project "End Malaria in Vanuatu for Good" and subsequent Application for a Rotary Global Grant to support the Vanuatu Malaria Elimination Project,
- the RAM Video School Competition
- the Role and Responsibilities of District Supervisors and
- Achievements and forward planning of the attending District Supervisors
- Plans for RAM in the new Rotary Year
- How RAM and RAWCS can work together more effectively

Southern Region RAWCS AGM and Information Day

The August SR RAWCS AGM and Information Day was as usual a very informative meeting that was well attended. A highlight of the day was the Presentation given by the RAM National Scientific Committee Coordinator, Dr Bruce Anderson. Dr Bruce spoke of RAM being a project of the 21 Australian Rotary Districts under RAWCS. His presentation also included a description of what RAWCS is and does and the role of RAM as a RAWCS activity

National RAM Conference (at Ciloms Airport Lodge on August 24th-25th)

Once again, the RAM Conference was a wonderful opportunity to learn about the latest developments in the fight against malaria.

Excellent speakers including representatives from our partner countries and major research organisations presented interesting up to date news of malaria elimination activities. Despite pro-active promotion from SR RAM Supervisors however, the number of attendees from our Region was disappointingly low.

A total of 53 delegates attended the Conference over the two half days. For the first time in its history, it included two Pre-Conference workshops on the Saturday morning. The workshops were well attended with 24 and 30 delegates in the first and second workshops, respectively.

The speakers PowerPoint presentations are on the RAM website <https://ram.rawcs.com.au>

Adopt-A-RAM-Project

This Rotary Year, Vanuatu once again called on Rotarians in New Zealand and Australia, to assist in their “End Malaria in Vanuatu – for Good” Program. In response, using information gained in a geographical reconnaissance household mapping project in focussed high priority areas of Vanuatu, Southern Region in partnership with D9910 NZ applied in June 2020 for a Rotary Global Grant for 2021 – 2022 (18 months to two years duration). NZ D9910 PDG Lindsay Ford led the Grant with strong support from Southern Region RAM.

The first step however was for D9810 and D9820 to set up a RAWCS Fundraising Account. (104-2019-20) The money donated was to be put towards the cash component to be used in the Application. In a relatively short time SR managed to raise over \$15,700. Wil Cornelissen D9810 is the Project Manager and Libby Wilson and Christine Williams from D9820 are the other members of the Project Committee

A key objective of the Global Grant is to contribute to reduce malaria incidence in these ‘hot spots’ locations. The project beneficiaries are communities and in particular at-risk groups of pregnant women and children up to 5 years of age. The two main areas of focus of the Grant are

- Fund targeted preventive Indoor Residual Spraying (IRS) (procure, train trainers and staff, and conduct spraying)
- Ensure the quality and coverage of IRS is monitored and assessed

Sincere thanks to the District Governors and Foundation Chairs who granted us a portion of their DDFs thereby making our Application possible.

The RAM Video School Competition

RAM Executive Committee member Virginia Turner who has coordinated this competition since its inception has sent out information regarding the National RAM Video Competition to all Regions in Australia as well as to our partner countries. It’s an excellent opportunity to share the story of RAM and its activities with primary school students and we look forward to seeing the winning entries later in the year. There’s been an exciting development in the Video Competition. There will be an entry from two Primary Schools in Vanuatu

Gloria would like to sincerely thank clubs, their members and individuals in Southern Region for their generous donations to RAM. Despite fundraising being a challenge, the total of contributions for this Rotary Year is \$34,670 Gloria would like to express her appreciation to all RAM District Supervisors and teams in the past three years. Their support, encouragement and commitment has made her role so much easier and she wishes Christine all the best in her new role and any assistance required by her will be given willingly

