

RAWCS Rover January 2021

RAWCS Rover February 2021

Normally, the Rover aims to support RAWCS project teams to form, learn, grow, share, collaborate and succeed.

This edition is a bit different, being addressed to Rotarians who may not understand what RAWCS really is, and what it has to offer them.

Due to Covid, we are still not meeting in person but are using Zoom to stay in touch. Please join us Sunday May 23rd at 9am.

The Zoom link will be published on our Facebook page a few days before the meeting.

If you have not yet “Liked” us there, please do, and you won’t miss a thing!



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Rotary

Australian Districts



**ROTARY AUSTRALIA
WORLD COMMUNITY
SERVICE**

What is RAWCS Anyway?

Rotary Australia World Community Service is many things to many people!

It is a registered charity which empowers Australian Rotarians to serve even more disadvantaged communities and individuals through humanitarian aid projects.

How?

Glad you asked!



By facilitating fundraising for projects that deliver humanitarian aid and charitable support in Australia and overseas:

1. RAWCS offers a **great way to get started**.

Suppose that you have travelled somewhere or, in some other way, become aware of a need that is not being dealt with. You want to help, but the whole thing is too big for you. Maybe you have a large and wealthy club just waiting to launch into the fray with you (if so, stay tuned... there are still advantages for you in RAWCS registration) but maybe not. If one member of your club will be your deputy then that is enough for you to go online and register your project with RAWCS.

2. If your project is overseas, an instant advantage is that **you can personally donate to your cause much cheaper** than is usually possible, because of a special deal that RAWCS has with the Commonwealth Bank.

3. Another advantage is that you can **invite others to donate very easily and securely**, via your own dedicated, and reassuringly official, donation page. Here is an [example](#).

4. Your donors (Rotarians and others) will immediately receive an emailed **letter of thanks**. A copy will come to you, so you know how your campaign is coming along.

5. Your donor also receive a receipt, which they can use to gain a **tax deduction**. This puts your project on an equal footing with all other registered charities, from your donors' point of view. RAWCS management fee is only 2.5%, which will compete favourably with almost any other charity that your donors might feel inclined to support.

6. RAWCS registration makes your **bookkeeping simpler**. You can clearly see who gave what, when and for what purpose. You will also receive records of your transfers, when you are ready to request them.

7. **Belinda and Pauline**, in the RAWCS office, are just a phone call or email away if you are not sure about anything. They deal with projects all the time and have an answer for everything!

8. At least once a quarter, there is an opportunity to meet with other project teams who are registered with RAWCS. You can meet with people who share your interest in a geographical region, people who are doing your kind of work in other places, and people who are doing things you never even thought of before! In any case, they are **people who are doing things**, and that is pretty special in itself. They will be glad to meet you too!

9. RAWCS will help you to make a special crowd-funding page for your project and it will be cycled through the page one display on the RAWCS website. The **crowd-funding** page has a slide-show facility to share your best photos. You can publish your wish-list so that donors can choose contributions that are meaningful to them. You can add videos and links to other sites too. This service, like everything else mentioned here, is free to you.



A screenshot of a project page on the RAWCS website. The page title is 'Mama Wimbi Buntings for Independence and Education, DRC'. The main image shows a woman sewing. To the right, there is a 'Please support us now ...' section with a list of donation options: 'Donate \$23 Shoes and uniform for a Child in need', 'Donate \$39 Shoes and uniform for a Secondary Student', 'Donate \$125 School Fees for a Primary Child', 'Donate \$284 School Fees for a Secondary Student', 'Donate \$500 A Year of University Education', and 'Donate Other'. Below this is a 'REGISTERED CHARITY' logo. At the bottom, there is a 'Videos' section. On the right side, there are four project cards for Thailand, Democratic Republic, and Sri Lanka, each with a 'Donate' button and a 'Learn More' button.

10. If your plans are really big, you might be thinking of applying for a global grant. If so, you'll need to raise the funds to be matched by the Rotary Foundation. RAWCS can help you reach your target!

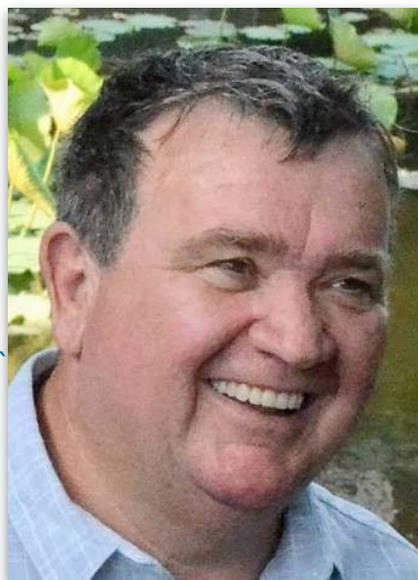
11. Would you like to visit your project? Would you like to invite others to visit it? RAWCS can help you to arrange **trips and insurance** and tick all the other boxes that keep you safe and covered.

12. Need a hand? A couple of times recently, projects have needed to get a computer to Queensland, or a trailer-load of books across Sydney. Members of the **RAWCS Facebook** Page asked the moderators to post a request for help, and help appeared!

13. Your RAWCS project is a **unique** realisation of your passion, insight and experience. It has the beneficiaries, aims and strategies that you (and your collaborators) choose. It allows you to use your time and energy to make your very own kind imprint on the world.



A Word From The Chair



COVID-19 has certainly upset the international side of Rotary Australia World Community service activity – but it has not been able to stop us in our tracks.

Several clubs are still able to conduct their activity due to the resilience and sustainability they built into their projects with locals. Rotary Foundation grants are being utilised in developing countries to assist young people, young girls and communities live with a bit of humanity.

On the local front, RAWCS projects through Rotary Australia Benevolent Society, Rotary Australia Compassionate Grants (Dick Smith) and Donations in Kind are still active. The drought funding is forging ahead with District 9705 about to receive a visit to support their drought affected areas.

Region meetings continue to move forward and plan new ways of meeting. We need to be engaging, more efficient, meaningful and keep our focus on the time when we can meet in person again – an aspect the doers in Rotary appreciate. District meetings and reporting need to carry that same emphasis.

In Eastern Region we have a committee working on how as a Region we can change our meetings to meet some of that aforementioned criteria. ‘Zoom’ and similar platforms offer potential to hold ‘breakout room’s for countries, causes, training, learning and any other criteria imaginable. This alone is exciting and of great value.

A recent invite to some 15 members of the district ‘G’ Trains in Eastern Region attracted good interest – the members appreciating their role on RAWCS when the office of DG is undertaken. Several appreciative comments were made regarding the invite; we must remember that not everyone knows what RAWCS does – attend a meeting and they soon see the passion and commitment from those involved in the strongest life changing group in Rotary down under. It was RAWCS at the forefront of drought and bushfire relief – although little recognition was given.

We will continue to change and create a RAWCS model that we believe will carry us successfully into the future as a Rotary flagship model.

Brian Coffey

Eastern Region RAWCS Chair

What RAWCS Does for Humanity

The Declaration of Human Rights in 1948 was a milestone in humanity's recognition that the same things are fundamentally important to all of us. We might vary a bit in our wants, but it is not really true that a bowl of rice is adequate daily nutrition for anyone, though previous generations took some comfort in pretending so.

Perhaps they had a valid excuse in that travel was less available once but in 1963 (or 1966, depending on your source) Rotarians in Australia responded to the evidence of their own eyes by founding FAIM (Fourth Avenue in Motion) to help them serve those overseas whose needs might be recognised in theory, but not in practice, as they generally are in Australia.

Before evolving into RAWCS, FAIM was combined with several other initiatives also directed towards beneficiaries overseas: S.W.S.L. (Save Water Save Lives); R.A.M. (Rotarians Against Malaria); I.P.A.C. (International Projects Advisory Committee) and D.I.K. (Donations In Kind)

RAWCS projects now serve above self all over the world with Rotary Australia Benevolent Society supporting Australians in need (104 last year), and Rotary Australia Relief Fund accepting donations to major appeals domestically, as well as Rotary Australia Overseas Aid Fund Projects, currently supporting 387 overseas projects delivering humanitarian aid in 130 countries.

What they are doing there is frequently some combination of Rotary's six areas of focus: Development, Education, Health, Maternal and Child Health, Water and Sanitation and Peace and Conflict Resolution.



**Basic Education
and Literacy**



**Maternal and
Child Health**



**Peace and Conflict
prevention / resolution**



**Disease
prevention and
treatment**



**Water and
Sanitation**



**Economic and
Community
Development**



The map above shows the world distribution of RAWCS projects by primary focus, when required to choose one. Red tags indicate Health, Blue- Education, Yellow- Social and Economic Development, Orange- Child and Maternal Health, Aqua- Water and Sanitation and Sky Blue- Peace and Conflict Resolution.

Submissions Invited for May Edition

The map below focuses on the RAWCS projects which primarily deliver health services.

If your project is involved in this kind of work, you are invited to send in photos and stories for the next edition of The RAWCS Rover. Share your good news and invite help if you need some!



RAWCS On-line

Thank to John Roberson, RAWCS has a [website](#) that is well worth exploring.

It is becoming more and more attractive to donors and volunteers, providing information on the wide range of projects and making it easy to support them, whether they already know the project of interest or are searching for something new.

There is a news page for topical matters.

“About Us” covers all the programs that are covered by RAWCS, our history, pages dedicated to the five RAWCS Regions (the compass points plus Central) and useful links.

As a prospective RAWCS Project Manager, the most useful pages are under the “Admin” tab. There you can find application forms, registration for crowdfunding, registration for project teams to travel abroad, and Key Documentation, which includes the criteria for registration under each of the programs run by RAWCS.

A link to our Facebook page is [here](#). If you have a Facebook account, it is easy to search for RAWCS- Rotary Australia World Community Service and see what is going on there. If you click “Like”, you’ll be notified when there is more to see. You can message us anytime.



A link to our Instagram page is [here](#).

Finally, we are getting creative about our use of Zoom. We started using it out of necessity because of Covid but we are finding it to be a very effective way of conducting meetings. Now we are looking at its potential for fun and for practical collaboration.

We look forward to inviting you to join us in some brand new gatherings soon!

Malaria in Our Area



SEVERAL IMPENDING VACANCIES

We are pleased to advise that several key positions are available within RAM. We wish to invite all Rotarians who may be suitable candidates to email us with an 'Expressions of Interest' for the positions below. Orientation and mentoring are available for all positions.

Vacant now:

- National Deputy Manager for RAM
- Grant Writers / Project Managers / Malaria Experts for the RAM Grant Writing Team

Vacant on 1st July 2021:

National Secretary for RAM

- We would expect the incoming nominee to take the opportunity to be mentored by the existing incumbent, Gloria Hargreaves.

Contact:

National Secretary Gloria Hargreaves (egharg@netspace.net.au) for the Role Description and Nomination Form.

Thank you.

National Secretary Gloria Hargreaves

2 January 2021

Stay in Touch

Got a Question or Suggestion?

You can find the right person to ask here:

[Eastern Region Contacts List](#)

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[DIK on Facebook](#)



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