



# ROTARY AUSTRALIA

W.C.S.

## SOUTHERN REGION RECORD



Issue 1-06

### Editors Note

This issue is devoted to a single topic: "Why should I donate \$5.00 of my hard earned money to RAWCS?"

The editor is indebted to the RAWCS website (www.rawcs.org) for the information given in this publication any errors and omissions are the editor's alone.

### ***Why should I donate \$5.00 of my hard earned money to Rotary Australia World Community Service (R.A.W.C.S)?***

ROTARY AUSTRALIA WORLD COMMUNITY SERVICE LIMITED (RAWCS) WAS INCORPORATED IN 1987 AS A PUBLIC COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE, BOUND BY ITS OWN CONSTITUTION AND ARTICLES OF ASSOCIATION, AUTHORISED BY ROTARY INTERNATIONAL AS A MULTI-DISTRICT ACTIVITY.

RAWCS programs consist of activities within international service through which Rotarians conduct projects to improve lives and meet human needs, and thus promote international understanding and goodwill by means of material, technical, and professional assistance. (RCP 43.050.)

### Profile of RAWCS

The company coordinates the activities of:

- 1 Project Volunteers
- 2 Project Coordination and Administration
- 3 Project Evaluation
- 4 Funding Project Liaison
- 5 Donations in Kind (DIK)
- 6 AusAID Liaison
- 7 Programmes  
(Rotarians Against Malaria & Save Water Save Lives)
- 8 Promotion and Development

The Council, which consists of 23 Current District Governors, as members of RAWCS Limited, adopts the Annual Report and Annual Financial Report.

The Board consists of 11 Directors who are elected in accordance with the Articles of Association of the Company. The Executive Director is the Chair of the Board. The Board conducts the business of the Company in accordance with the Articles of Association and Regulations.

The Board appoints an Executive Committee consisting of the Chair of the Board, the Company Secretary and the Company Financial Controller. This Committee handles the day-to-day management of the Company.

Within Australia, there are five Regional Committees representing the Rotary districts and clubs within their Region. They are responsible for coordinating all RAWCS activities initiated by Rotarians from within their Regions.

### Vision

*To encourage and foster the advancement of international goodwill, peace and understanding through meaningful World Community Service projects with the active participation of Australian Rotarians and Rotary Clubs.*

***That all sounds very interesting and I think I understand it, but it does not explain why I should make the donation.***

**Well the company is unique in that it is manned entirely by volunteers! They consist of a number of our fellow Rotarians as detailed below.**

The 23 Current District Governors, as members of RAWCS Limited, adopt the Annual Report and Annual Financial Report.

The Board consists of 11 Directors – Chair, Deputy Chair, Secretary (Executive Officer), Financial Controller, one District Governor Elect, one current District Governor, and five Regional Chairs. The Board conducts the business of the Company in accordance with the Articles and Council policy. The Board appoints an Executive Committee consisting of the Chair (Executive Director), Secretary and Financial Controller. This Executive Committee handles the day-to-day management of the Company.

Within Australia, there are five Regional Committees representing the Rotary districts and clubs within their Region. They are responsible for coordinating all RAWCS activities initiated by Rotarians from within their Region. They are

Northern (Rotary Districts 9550, 9570, 9600, 9630, 9640)  
Eastern (Rotary Districts 9650, 9670, 9680, 9690, 9700, 9710, 9750)  
Southern (Rotary Districts 9780, 9790, 9800, 9810, 9820, 9830)  
Central (Rotary Districts 9500, 9520)  
Western (Rotary Districts 9450, 9460, 9470)

Each Region is administered by an elected chair and committee proposed each year by the appropriate District Governors. Each Region reports to the Board on a regular basis

**What do all these Rotary Volunteers do you ask? In a nutshell they manage the day-to-day operations of RAWCS facilitating the activities of Clubs in the following activities.**

### **The Programs of RAWCS**

#### Project Volunteers

RAWCS encourages the sending of teams of volunteers to developing countries with the aim of providing much needed facilities, especially in health and education.

The volunteers also assist with advice and training in a wide variety of skills in order that local people can be better prepared to manage their own affairs.

Volunteers are provided with a Volunteer Information Manual, application and health forms. RAWCS has also produced a Checklist for Regional Coordinators, duties of team leaders, team briefing notes and a proforma team leaders report. These documents are available as attachments to the RAWCS Policy and Procedures Manual, or can be accessed through the RAWCS website.

Each year over 400 RAWCS teams assist with projects in such countries as Indonesia, India, Pakistan, Nepal, Malaysia, Philippines, Papua New Guinea, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Fiji, Western Samoa, Thailand, Bangladesh and Timor Leste.

RAWCS appoints a national Committee of Rotarians to be responsible for this project. The committee reports to the Board through a designated Regional Chair (and RAWCS director).

Funding Project Liaison

This program deals with the collection and distribution of donated funds towards suitable and approved projects chosen from various community service project lists and from other recommended projects.

Donations for projects are received through a network of regional contacts and are distributed to overseas coordinators from time to time. A database of suitable projects is compiled and maintained on the RAWCS website ([www.rawcs.org](http://www.rawcs.org)) and Rotary clubs throughout Australia and New Zealand are encouraged to submit viable projects for listing on the database. The Rotary Australia Overseas Fund receives the donations, which are tax deductible, for this project.

Some of the needs met through this program include medical equipment, school requisites, sponsorship of orphans, cyclone proof homes, improved agriculture, animal husbandry, homes for the destitute, high protein foods, improved sanitation and fresh water facilities.

RAWCS appoints a national Committee of Rotarians to be responsible for this project. The committee reports to the Board through a designated Regional Chair (and RAWCS director).

#### Project Coordination and Administration

This project promotes educational, health and cultural facilities for underprivileged peoples, as well as professional and artisan training. RAWCS assists with the building of hospitals, health care centres, aid posts, clinics, schools and other such structures. It carries out specialised work when requested, such as medical, dental, engineering and other technical activity.

#### Project Evaluation

On-site feasibility studies, by a competent person(s) are undertaken prior to acceptance of a project. All projects are required to meet the criteria outlined in the RAWCS Policy and Procedures Manual.

Detailed written reports are to be submitted to the RAWCS Projects committee upon completion of each project.

Major RAWCS projects are evaluated to ensure that all objectives were met.

RAWCS appoints a national Committee of Rotarians to be responsible for this project. The committee reports to the Board through a designated Regional Chair (and RAWCS director).

#### Donations In Kind (DIK)

Rotarians have access to items that have no further use in Australia but can serve needs in developing countries.

The program grew out of the compassion and concern of returning Volunteer teams from the Solomon Islands school rebuilding project in 1988. They saw an urgent need for equipment and materials to be used in the buildings that they were constructing.

DIK coordinates the collection, dispatch and delivery of items. Each Regional committee has established a collection and warehousing network to facilitate the collection, storage, packing and transportation of goods donated within the regions.

DIK has dispatched hundreds of container loads of goods since inception.

RAWCS appoints a national Committee of Rotarians to be responsible for this project. The committee reports to the Board through a designated Regional Chair (and RAWCS director). Policies and operational procedures for DIK are outlined in the RAWCS Policy and Procedures Manual.

RAWCS Programme Committee

1. Save Water Save Lives (SWSL)  
Save Water Save Lives is a program to supply clean water to desperate people in underdeveloped countries through a planned system of water catchment, storage and reticulation. It includes the instruction of nationals in those countries in methods of concrete tank construction and encourages them to maintain and protect the water supply system. Education in hygiene is also offered.

RAWCS volunteers travel to the various countries for a period of ten days to instruct the nationals in the skills of concrete tank construction or other types of tanks, or tube wells.

A more recent contribution to Save Water Save Lives is the Solar Water Purifier TM, an Australian invention that will convert any source of contaminated water into pure healthy drinking water. It has no filters, electronics, moving parts or chemicals. The unit works by delivering impure water to an inlet at the top of a 'cascading tray'. The trickle of water gradually flows down through each chamber to a bottom outlet. As the temperature of the water rises due to the sun's heat, the water vaporizes and then condenses on the under side of the glass panel. The droplets of water slowly run down the glass to a drip chamber that gathers the clean water into a 'clean water container'. Units have, or are being supplied to Nigeria, Philippines, Solomon Islands and Timor Leste.

RAWCS appoints a national Committee of Rotarians to be responsible for this project. The committee reports to the Board through a designated Regional Chair (and RAWCS director).

2. Rotarians Against Malaria (RAM)

Since 1990, Australian Rotarians and Rotary clubs have been involved in numerous worldwide projects in the battle against Malaria. However, it was in 1997 that thirteen of the twenty-three Australian Rotary Districts began developing a more coordinated national approach to this worldwide problem by agreeing to pool resources and funds in a joint "malaria control project" in the Solomon Islands. Rotarians Against Malaria became an approved RAWCS National Activity in 1998.

RAM provides educational materials on causes, symptoms, treatment and prevention; bed nets impregnated with insecticides; supplies drugs or diagnostic materials, microscopes and test strips to hospitals and communities; supplies equipment to research institutions; trains nationals to re-impregnate bed nets; supports training of national medical students to major in malaria; and encourages volunteers for trials testing malaria vaccine.

RAWCS appoints a national Committee of Rotarians to be responsible for this project. The committee reports to the Board through a designated Regional Chair (and RAWCS director). Policies and operational procedures for RAM are outlined in the RAWCS Policy and Procedures Manual.

*Yes I now understand the size of the undertaking and recognise the magnificent effort truly epitomized in the statement of giving "service above self" made by the various volunteers. But you still have not explained how the business is funded!*

**The total income to cover the costs of administering all of the activities on your and my behalf is our annual donations. Currently these are set at \$2 per annum and in consequence RAWCS has been running in deficit for a number of years. The shortfall in donations being made up from income donated in earlier times. These reserves are now used up, hence the need to increase our donation.**

*Thank you I now understand completely and shall be most willing to make my donation when the request comes to my Club.*

*International Service is dear to my heart, as I believe that it is imperative to the safety of our own and our Children's future, in addition, to alleviating some of the suffering being experienced by our less well-developed neighbours.*