

nine six hundred

WORLD COMMUNITY SERVICE

MARCH - APRIL - MAY 2010



Rotary International
District **9600**

THE END OF A DREAM?

A note went through the District Webmaster in March advising that DIK would cease to operate from 30 June. This was based on negative response at a RAWCS Northern Region meeting where there was little understanding of the problems facing DIK. There are three major issues, Funding, Premises and Succession. I will comment on these on the back page, but to continue here I will thank all the Clubs that approached me at the D9600 District Conference with offers of help and a plea to keep the project going. I was questioned at the Conference as to whether this was the end of a dream. Thanks to your help I can say, not yet.

THE DIK STORE ROSTER TO AUGUST 2010

While our lease at the DIK store has expired we are advised that we can stay there until at some future date we will be given three months notice to leave the premises.

Three years would have been nice, but let's continue to send away what we can while we have a roof over our activities. Meanwhile keep up the search for a new home.

Clubs from District 9600 rostered on duty to help pack containers are as follows:

- 5 June Samford Valley and Hamilton
- 3 July Redcliffe City and Brisbane
- 7 August Bris Mid City and Geebung

Please advise as soon as possible if these dates are not suitable!.

As before **District 9630** Clubs are also on roster.

For your inf. The DIK store address:

152 Freeman Road, Durack. Easy to find, Freeman Road is at the southern boundary of the Oxley Golf Course

QLD COUNTRY WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION

Birthing kits, beanies and primary school books come to us with some regularity from the ladies of QCWA. Christine King is International Director with QCWA and met PP Maureen Hill of RC Madang at the DIK store in March, the result was that the last QCWA delivery went to RC Madang.

SPECIALS!

It's not always easy to send goods to other than the main Clubs in PNG/SI, but we managed to comply with a request from RC Lismore for two pallets of books to go to a mission outside of Wewak. We do not send to RC Wewak but fortunately Maureen Hill was down from Madang and offered to on-ship the pallets as long as the contacts were well defined. They were and we can assume that all went well.

THE MAMMOGRAM UNIT IN PORT MORESBY

It seems like years ago (it was 2005) that with the help of a Matching Grant a Mammogram unit was purchased for Port Moresby General Hospital as a '100 years of Rotary' District project. The unit was delivered but it was not just a case of plugging it in, a location had to be found, medical staff had to be trained. When we thought we were there we had a machine fault that could not be serviced as the supplier had sold out. By the time it was repaired another home had to be found in the General Hospital.

However!! AG Monica Salter who has been chasing this project from day one tells us that the unit is up and running and she was the first customer! (Another tale from the Land of the unexpected!)



Who said it won't go in !!

THE RECYCLE BUSINESS

Not a lot, but DIK does receive cash for the books and paperwork we recycle when we remove the plastic covers

SO WHAT'S THE PROBLEM?

Funding

When DIK was packing four containers a month there was little need for promotion as the Rotarians stuffing the containers went back to their Clubs and spread the word. This resulted in ongoing funding coming in for the shipping costs. Times were when we paid \$175,000 a year for containers with funding mainly from Northern Region clubs and Matching Grants. This has fallen away where in March we had only \$6,000 and a \$7,000 invoice for two containers.

Premises, The Shed

We enjoyed rent free premises for the first sixteen years of DIK at Tennyson power station and Wacol Hospital. We are currently struggling to find suitable premises for a reasonable term and at the right price, essential for continuity.

Succession

There is no question that John Paskin and I receive all the help we need when we blow a whistle, but we feel there should also be others to blow the whistle and not leave it all to us. Over the years we have been unable to form a working committee, someone to understand the goods we take and do not take, to supervise the loading at weekends, to determine where goods are to be sent, to assist in ferreting out suitable premises and to take a professional attitude to fund raising. Such a committee may well have prevented the June notice going to the Clubs

BED SHEETS FOR MODILON HOSPITAL

DIK will send hospital bed sheets to PNG/SI as they come to hand, the problem is that when a patient is discharged they will very often take the sheets with them. I am told they often leave in the hands of those visiting the patients. So RC Kenmore found a package that would provide 200 sheet and pillow case sets and sent them to Modilon Hospital, Madang. That should last them a week or two.

WHERE DID THAT CONTAINER GO TO?

You would question why DIK should send a container from Rabaul to Honiara, but when RC Rabaul opens a container expecting to see 29 computers and sees a label saying RC Honiara you start to understand. One of those rare moments in 21 years when receiving two containers our shipping agent crossed his wires. They corrected the error which explains why containers went from Rabaul to Honiara and from Honiara to Rabaul.

THE LITERACY 'DILLY BAGS'

Dr Janelle Young (RC Samford Valley, District Literacy Task Force) has broken into PNG with her Dilly Bags, a basic early reading aid programme. Janelle met Dame Carol Kidu at the 9600 Conference and a package purchased by RC Port Moresby was sent by DIK to Dame Carol. More Information on the Dilly Bag?

You will find Janelle on jyoung14@gmail.com

IT'S NOT ALL GLOOM

Club donations are a great help and the following have been received over the past month or so RCs Ashgrove The Gap \$3,000, Kippa Ring \$2,000, Kenmore \$3,000, Loganholme \$2000, Stanthorpe \$1,000, Palm Beach \$1,000, Warwick Sunrise \$500, QCWA \$500, Mt St Michael's College \$390.

Add to that those Clubs receiving, RCs Boroko, Port Moresby and Honiara also offered to pay for their next container.



PNG contingent at the Conference

GOODS FROM DISTRICT 9640?

Barbara Parker spent many years in PNG and for many of those years received all containers and distributed DIK goods. Barbara is now living on the Gold Coast and we have ambitions of using Barbara's place to receive donations from District 9640 and either send containers from there or truck them up to DIK Brisbane. Watch this space.

To Conclude

That's about it for a month or so. Sorry I did not mention your Club's WCS work, but if you don't tell me I will never know!

9600 WCS News was put together by Bill Waterfield. If your Club has something to say contact me on: billnann@bigpond.net.au
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