

Further Information Contact:

Burnside Rotary Club

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Newsletter No2

July 2006

FRIENDS OF HELENA GOLDIE HOSPITAL.



Paradise in need of Repair

WELCOME TO NEWSLETTER NUMBER 2.

As reported in the first issue, the Burnside Rotary Club's Helena Goldie Hospital (HGH) Program was accepted by Rotary Australia World Community Service (RAWCS) as an approved project, Number 41/2005-6. It will be remembered that the project focuses on improving facilities at HGH in three stages over the next five years.

- Stage 1 - Upgrading water and sewage.**
- Stage2 - Refurbishment and Repairs of Existing Structures.**
- Stage3 - Expansion of some Hospital Facilities.**

The total budget is just under two million dollars Australian. There will be an emphasis on training, the involvement of local trades' people and long term maintenance.

Currently the Zonta Club of Adelaide is funding two courses for nurses. These are designed to upgrade the skills of the hospital nurses and also the nurses staffing primary care outposts elsewhere in the Western Province. The first course is completed with 55 nurses receiving training. It was a great success and the Director of nursing at HGH feels the course was a major success and filled many knowledge needs of the local nurses. The next course is planned for August 2006.

THE CONTAINER

Soon after the initial group returned to Adelaide in 2005 Burnside Rotary Club promised to send a container of medical equipment specified by Dr Sailo back to Munda. After false starts and tedious delays packing was finally completed on the 25th June and the container should arrive at HGH by mid August. Most of the contents came from Rotary's Donations in Kind (DIK) facility at Edinburgh but the consignment also included an operating table, and other surplus equipment from the Flinders University School of Nursing organised by Professor of Nursing, Pauline Glover (Zonta Club of Adelaide Flinders).

Our gratitude goes to Theo Ruckert, Cliff Tingey, and the many Rotarian helpers who operate the DIK facility. The costs of container transport to Munda are considerable and every effort is made to ensure that funds are spent in sending items that are expensive or difficult to obtain in the Solomon Islands.

CURRENT PLANS

We have remained in close touch with Uniting Church Overseas Aid (UCOA) who have a continuing interest in HGH. We hope to meet with Jeff Kite, UCOA Project Officer, in July prior to a planned revisit to Munda in August. That trip will be short but should enable Jeff Kite, and John Caddy (Burnside Rotary Project Manager) to complete survey requirements and to meet the hospital administrator, the local United Church Secretary and other interested parties to agree on the scope and timing of the HGH Program.

FINANCE

The budget for the project is daunting even when spread over the planned five years. However with proper costing and planning we hope to gain access to sources of major funding including The Rotary Foundation, International Grants (Water and Sewerage) and AusAID.

Such funding does not and should not "fall into our lap". All parts of the project must be meticulously planned and realistically costed. There must be accurate accountability at all levels throughout the program. Both RAWCS and AusAID insist on significant involvement and training of local people in the project. Much funding can be accessed only on a "matching" basis. We will need energetic fundraising ourselves and generous donations from individuals and groups to accumulate significant "seed" funding in order to unlock "matching" grants from other sources.

PUBLICITY AND PROMOTION

In addition to this periodic Newsletter information about the HGH Program is available on an attractive display stand and also as a 10 minute MS Power Point presentation with commentary. Speakers are readily available from Burnside Rotary Club and are prepared to go *almost* anywhere at anytime!

DONATIONS

To make a donation toward the Helena Goldie Hospital Program please forward cheques to;

**John Caddy, HGH Program,
PO Box 95, BURNSIDE SA 5066**

Cheques should be made payable to –

Rotary Overseas Aid Fund (Helena Goldie Hospital).
Private donations are Tax Deductible.

Friends of Helena Goldie Hospital