

The Hilary Tjapaltjarri Story

Sarah Brown of WDNWPT has sent us this delightful story:

“As we write Hilary is at home in Kintore receiving dialysis. He is a senior Pintupi man and an important member of his community.

He loves to show Rotary around and is looking forward to the opening of the *Purple House 2* as we intend for him to be out in Kintore all the time when we have an increased capacity to dialyse. In Alice Springs he sleeps under a tree in the yard of a dilapidated and chaotic town camp house far from his support networks.

During this current trip out in Kintore, his much loved nephew died and just yesterday his wife of many years died in Kintore

of a heart attack. He was with her when she passed away. Without our dialysis machine in Kintore, he would be a long way away from their family.

Of course, Hilary is devastated by his wife's unexpected death. However, he is where he needs to be, in Kintore with his family, taking part in sorry business.

Again we thank all the people who have put their time, energy, money and enthusiasm into this project. We know that it has been a hard slog, and there is still much work to be done, but you have given hope

to people who are more used to bad news and sad times.

THANK YOU! ”



Western Desert Nganampa Walytja Palyantjaku Tjutaku Aboriginal Corporation (WDNWPT)

The origins of WDNWPT may be found in a partnership of interested persons and bodies with Sir William Deane and the late Charles Perkins as co-patrons. This in turn led to a high profile auction in Sydney, on 11 November 2000, of Aboriginal artworks that raised A\$1 million to fund the development and subsequent activities of WDNWPT.

The auction itself was inspired by indigenous dissatisfaction with mainstream health services. In contrast to the situation nationally, no one in Central Australia had ever received community-based care for kidney failure. The situation then was that those affected by kidney failure would have to move permanently to Alice Springs, NT for treatment and end their days there without being able to return to their community.

The significance of the resulting dislocation for Yanangu people, who experience very high rates of kidney failure, is it works against holding onto their very sense of identity and well being. Living ‘... in other peoples country, not speaking the language, separated from those who give them a reason to live would break the toughest spirit’.

The focus of WDNWPT has been ‘...to develop and deliver a system of more appropriate support services and treatment options for Yanangu on dialysis, and to establish processes enabling it to operate as an effective, honest community advocate’. A number of programs were developed, directed towards providing social support for those on dialysis in Alice Springs including brief return visits back to their communities; dialysis and training is now available at the *Purple House 1* at Alice Springs. Dialysis also commenced in 2004 in a dialysis room in Kintore, approx. 500 kms west of Alice Springs.

When refurbishment by Rotary of the *Purple House 2* at Kintore is complete the dialysis capacity at Kintore will increase to two units with space for a third. In addition there will be a health education facility directed particularly at assisting the community to achieve reduced kidney failure and in turn to avoid the need to move away.



Working together for the wellbeing and health of the people of the Western Desert

Rotary Club of Woden Inc.

News Bulletin No. 3

June 2010

This is the 3rd bulletin reporting progress on this project. If you require additional information you can access Bulletins 1 and 2 at <<http://www.rotar.net.com.au/woden>>

I would like to express my deep appreciation for the generous support given to us for the Western Desert Health Project we are involved with in remote Australia. Many Rotary Clubs, government and other organisations and individuals have supported us; they are listed in this bulletin. We thank the Rotary Clubs of Belconnen, Canberra, Canberra-City and Unley (SA) for their recent generous and much-needed financial contributions and the additional grant from the federal Department of Health and Ageing.

As the Project Coordinator's report indicates there has been a lot of activity on the project recently; three Rotary teams have been to Kintore. We are indebted to George and Lyn Calear, our volunteer plumbing team, who made an enormous contribution to the project during their visit in April. I also acknowledge Neale Emanuel (Woden Rotary Club) and John Gray (Canberra City Rotary Club) who made the 6,000 km return trips in their vehicles to Kintore to transport essential tools and materials – my sincere thanks to you all.

Our project promotional dinner in Canberra on Wednesday 12 May which was attended by retired Governor-General Major General Michael Jeffery, AC, AO(Mil), CVO, MC (Retd), and guests and members was a great success. Consistent with the indigenous health theme of the dinner he spoke on Australia's Royal Flying Doctor Service of which he is Chairman. The service now covers 7 million square kilometres with 53 planes which fly 24 million kilometres to make 275,000 patient contacts. The dinner raised \$7,500

While the end of the project is in sight the date of completion and occupation by WDNWPT to enable the commissioning of the additional dialysis services is still dependent on adequate funds. In this context please note that arrangements have been made for tax deductibility of financial contributions to the project. The details are indicated below.

Ros Osbourne, President

Tax-deductible donations to the project

Cheques should be in favour of the “*J. C. Olsson Relief Trust Fund (WDH Project)*”

Mail to: Rotary Club of Woden, PO Box 637, Woden, ACT 2606.

Copies of the previous two bulletins are available at: <<http://www.rotar.net.com.au/woden>>

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Progress Report - David Fox (Project Coordinator)

As you will see from the adjacent report we are making good progress in these cooler months, although rain has caused some delay. Those who have participated in these three working parties are indicated below and I thank them all for their valuable contribution.

I would like to make a plea for an additional unscheduled working party to fit the cupboards which are now on site. Unfortunately, due to the closure of the road to Kintore through wet weather, the cupboards arrived late and the 9th working party was unable to complete them. If any Rotarian or Rotary Club reading this bulletin is able to help, please contact me urgently. **My contact information is on the front of this bulletin.**

Our goal is to complete the building this year but this will depend on the availability of volunteers to carry out the remainder of the work and adequate funding. Generous donations of up to \$50,000 will ensure the achievement of that goal.

Project Supporters

We are grateful for the assistance generously given to us by our many supporters including:

- * **CONTRIBUTIONS** –Australian Government Grants to Western Desert community
- * **CONTRIBUTION** – Australian Government Grant
- * **CONTRIBUTION** - Rotary Foundation Matching Grant with support of Rotary District 3650 (Korea)
- * **CONTRIBUTION** – Canberra Rotary, ACT
- * **CONTRIBUTION** – Woden Daybreak Rotary, ACT
- * **CONTRIBUTION** - Canberra City Rotary, ACT
- * **CONTRIBUTION** – Belconnen Rotary, ACT
- * **CONTRIBUTION** – Unley Rotary, SA
- * **CONTRIBUTION** - Past Woden Rotary President Jon Cassell, ACT
- * **CONTRIBUTION** – Rotarian Angela Newman, Ger-ringong Sunrise Rotary
- * **CONTRIBUTION** – Dante Alighieri Italian Choir
- * **CONTRIBUTIONS** – Anonymous
- * **DRAWINGS & SPECIFICATIONS** - Suters Architects in association with Northrops Structural Engineers, Marline mechanical, services engineering, EDC–Enterprise Drafting Company Pty Ltd, Frosts preparation of hardware schedules, Charles Martin Perspective drawings, all of Newcastle, NSW
- * **ELECTRICAL WIRING ON SITE** - Cliff Hicks & Geoff Hunt, ACT
- * **ELECTRICAL WORK ON SITE:** David & Margaret Hewett, NT
- * **PLUMBING ON SITE** - George & Lyn Calear, ACT
- * **FRAMES & WHEEL CHAIRS** - Belconnen Rotary, ACT
- * **GENERAL SUPPORT** - Governor, Rotary District 9500
- * **GENERAL SUPPORT** - Rotary Club of Newcastle
- * **GENERAL SUPPORT** - Kintore Town Council, NT
- * **MATERIALS DISCOUNT** -Big "O", Alice Springs, NT
- * **PAVING MOULDS** -Wagga Rotary Clubs, NSW

Working Parties to date

These working parties have visited Alice Springs &/or Kintore to work on the project assisted by the people of Kintore.

1. **NOVEMBER 2007** – Rotarian from WODEN ROTARY: David Fox
2. **NOVEMBER 2008** – Rotarians & friends from WODEN ROTARY: Shukry Sahhar (Leader) Helen Sahhar, John & Julia Widdup, Neale Emanuel & Lucinda Lang.
3. **JUNE 2009** – Rotarians & friends from WODEN ROTARY: Shukry Sahhar (Leader), Helen Sahhar, Ros Osbourne, Lukas & Natalie Strohmayer, Bernadette Cappello, Neale Emanuel, Margaret Ellis, Cliff Hicks & Geoff Hunt.
4. **AUGUST 2009** – Rotarians & friends from WODEN ROTARY: John Widdup (Leader), Julia Widdup, Annemarie & Rod Driver, from SOUTH WAGGA WAGGA ROTARY: Eugene Maloney, Greg Bannon, Tony Christie, Mick Luckie, and from WAGGA WAGGA KOORINGAL ROTARY: Pop Power.
5. **OCTOBER 2009** – Friends of WODEN Rotary: Cliff Hicks & Geoff Hunt, (Electrical installation)
6. **JANUARY 2010** – Friend of WODEN Rotary: George Calear, (Plumbing assessment)
7. **APRIL 2010** – Rotarians and friends from CANBERRA CITY ROTARY: John Gray (Leader) Sally Bishop, Dave Dobson, Pam Dobson, Patricia McDonnell, David Moses, Osar Piza, Rafael Piza, & Dirk van der Vliet and from WDHP ALICE SPRINGS: Paddy Rheinburger.
8. **APRIL 2010** – Rotarians and friends from WODEN ROTARY: John Widdup (Leader), Julia Widdup, George Calear, Lyn Calear, George Ellem, Paul Flint and Neale Emanuel, from BELCONNEN ROTARY: Rod Menzies & Leo Farrelly and an INDIGENOUS COMMUNITY VOLUNTEER Sudaharmo Kossev
9. **MAY 2010** – Rotarians and friends from WODEN ROTARY: Shukry Sahhar (Leader), Helen Sahhar, Norma Donaldson, David Fox, John Robson. Friends of WODEN Rotary: David and Margaret Hewett (Electrical work)

The 7th, 8th & 9th Working Parties

During April and May Rotary had three working parties in Kintore progressing the refurbishment of *Purple House 2*.

The 7th working party (on-site 9-18 April) comprised a team of nine from Canberra City Rotary and a volunteer from Alice Springs, and was led by John Gray from that club. They erected the fences, blocked up external door openings, repaired the metal ceiling and rendered the edges of block work that was previously cut to remove internal walls.

The 8th working party (on-site 26 April-2 May), comprised a team from Woden and Belconnen Rotary clubs, together with our volunteer plumber (George Calear) and his wife Lyn (backhoe driver and plumber's mate), one Indigenous Community Volunteer and three 'friends'. They managed to complete all the 'plumbing roughing in' (water and sewerage) and some rendering, blocked up an external door opening to enclose the new store room and erected internal partitioning and door framing in the hallway.



The 9th working party was on-site from the 21-28 May. Rain closed the road to Kintore while they were there and delayed the delivery of the flat pack cupboards till 27 May and not surprisingly this affected its program. Still the intrepid crew were able to tackle a miscellaneous range of jobs including: wire mesh fencing to the yard; completion of the colour bond fence at the front; installation of a new window between the dialysis room and the education area so that patients and families will be able to see one another; hanging a new timber external door; lining and painting the hallway frames; painting the new main store room; installing new cages for the air conditioning units and the chillers; tiling; and, when they arrived, assembling and installing some of the cupboards.



The electrician David Hewett connected power to the solar hot water panels and installed the electrical wiring for the two water chillers.

The internal tasks now remaining are: assembling and installing the remaining kitchen cupboards, wardrobes (6) and shelving for the store rooms; cutting two new door openings and installing the doors; installation of the last windows; and a final internal painting.

The external tasks remaining are: final coat of paint, erecting the last section of fencing, including two gates at the front left-hand side of the yard; and landscaping. The Rotary Club of Belconnen has generously undertaken to do all the landscaping for the project.