

The 2024 Open Day was an amazing event with visiting Rotarians, their families and many guests.

What do 45 clubs from 4 districts, 200 plus attendees and representatives from Government, community organisations, health services and banks have in common? It's the 2024 Donations in Kind Open Day showcasing the **Magic of Rotary** in action.

In brilliant sunshine, people from across Victoria and as far away as Warragul, Mornington, Ballarat, Bendigo and Daylesford arrived at shed 39, 400 Somerville Road to be greeted by the aroma of cooking sausages and the welcoming greetings from Store Manager Colleen d'Offay and DiK Inc Secretary George de Souza.

Efforts throughout the week by volunteers showcased goods and opportunities including clothing, stationery kits, caps and hats, shoes, mobility aids, medical consumables and furniture. The feature – the iron lung and associated Polio banners and promotional materials. Many attendees had never heard of or seen such a machine – and were fascinated even dismayed at the sight. The formal opening ceremony was highlighted by the original song penned and sung by PDG Greg Ross and acknowledging guests and the work of DiK.

After a welcome from DiK Inc Secretary George de Souza, a speech by District Governor Michael Lapina and an address by Danny Pearson, MP for Essendon, Secretary George de Souza made a special presentation to Bob Glindemann and Laurie Fisher. They have given over 48 years of service assisting in the shipment of 708 containers over the years.

*"Good morning everybody so good to see you here,
On this Open Day for DiK in a spirit of good cheer.
From half a shed it's grown so much, materials of every kind,
Have gone to those communities sometimes left far behind.
Of course recycling is our aim and we thank those who donate,
They value what we're doing here, their contributions great.
Now we've ben watching Olympic Games, for the past 2 weeks or so
With performances that truly thrill, as we see our athletes grow.
We acknowledge now **our** Olympians, the many generous volunteers
Who have given gold medal performances, across DiKs years.
But now its time to move along, before the tours, we won't be long
Please welcome now Operations Manager for DiK, Colleen d'Offay!"*



Formal tours ran throughout the day led by Bob Glindemann, Clarke Ballard, David Dippie and Colleen d'Offay with informal and smaller groups led by other volunteers.

New visitors as well as previous attendees remarked on the range of goods available for international and local projects, inspiring ideas for club projects and resulting in several Expressions of Interest and requests for more information.

Specific items were available for donations towards running costs: the wine and children's gift packs prepared by Pam Baker and Rosie Rogan from the stationery aisle went very quickly. Several motor sport caps and children's hats were also snapped up and orders taken for chairs and more children's gift/toy packs.



West Footscray Rotary did an amazing job on the sausage sizzle with extra food and drinks available as well.

By 2:45pm the clean up was almost done and thanks to Andy, Norm and Laurie the store was ready for duty again on Tuesday.

If you missed out on the day, Colleen is happy to organise club presentations. Tours and visits can also be arranged on request, remembering that Tuesdays are container loading days and there is a full calendar ahead. Many thanks to all who helped make this such a wonderful day!

A survey is available [HERE](#).

See photos on page 2.



The iron lung and End Polio display.

Visitors were greeted by container #709 bound for Tonga with David Goldsmith, Rotary Ballarat.

Pictured with Andy.



1. Adam Grey from West Footscray Rotary with DG Michael and Alex Lapina.
2. David Dippie, Paul Perrottet, George de Souza and Colleen D'Offay.
3. The Keilor East ladies.

Visitors came from across the state and every District:

From Altona to Ballarat, Bendigo to Cranbourne, Daylesford to Lilydale, Mount Waverley to Pakenham, Rochester to Rowville, Warragul to Wyndham and all clubs/suburbs in between.

Pictured:



1. Nick Rainbow, President Warragul Rotary with Fay Kirkwood, President Caulfield.
2. Roger Thornton and Des Wynne from Pakenham.
3. Des Shiel and team from Lilydale.
4. Victor and Danny from Daylesford.

Thanks to all the clubs who shared photos and comments to their Facebook pages.

[The busload from Rochester](#), [Bendigo Sandhurst](#), [Bendigo South](#) and [Eaglehawk](#). Thanks Eric Bush for driving.

[Bendigo Sandhurst](#) [Glenferrie](#) [Lilydale](#) [Keilor East](#) [the DG's post](#) [Flemington Kensington](#)



0428 550 574



Donations in Kind has recently been offered a substantial quantity of 3M N95 Masks (8210 P2 Respirators) with an expiry date of September 2025.

While many local communities could greatly benefit from this donation, we may not be fully aware of the numerous community groups or individuals you collaborate with.

To ensure these masks reach those in need and avoid ending up in landfill, DiK is committed to facilitating their distribution as quickly and widely as possible. Once we have an indication of the quantity, we will arrange for delivery to the DIK warehouse – at this stage the dates to collect are unknown.



- There is no limit on the number of cartons you can request—each carton contains 160 masks.
- Whether or not you are a DIK member, you are welcome to request as many masks as you need.
- Though DIK typically works with Rotary Clubs, this offer is open to anyone, including community groups at no cost.

The masks will need to be collected on a Tuesday or Thursday from the DiK warehouse in West Footscray. Alternatively, if you are located regionally, we can arrange to have them transported at your cost.

What we need from you is an email with the following details - just copy the table into the email and return email us at itemrequests@rotarydik.org

Please email us by cob Monday 23rd of September.

Name	
Rotary Club/Lions Club/Organisation name	
Contact Phone Number	
Email address (if different to sender address)	
Preferred Collection Day: Tuesday or Thursday	
Address if being sent	

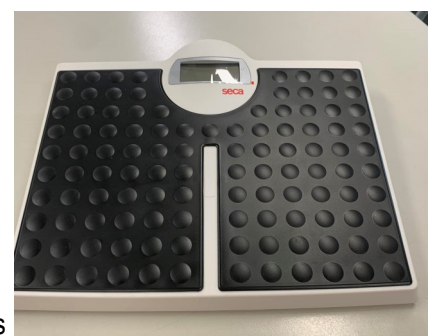
Online form submission is available [HERE](#).

And the donations just keep coming: whilst we may never agree with what ours tell us. These are all new retail for over \$200 and we have lots. They just need a couple of batteries to light up their screen.

Email us at: Itemrequests@rotarydik.org and put Scales in the subject line .

P.S. If your club is a member of DiK INC and supports a local group with someone in need of a some Medical Scales we encourage you to reach out to us.

Not a DIK INC member? No worries! We simply request a donation when accessing items from the warehouse.



Local community snippets:

Russel Barnes, Rotary Hampton, has shared this story from the choir which he is involved with. DiK provided some rolls of fabric for the women who have created these magnificent bags.

“What an amazing contribution to Impact for Women’s quest for hand-made toiletry bags to form part of hampers provided to women who flee domestic violence. This group of Vocally Wilders (with a little help from a couple of friends) created 385 beautifully sewn, colourful, interesting bags. Thank you to everyone who helped – this was a wonderful achievement.”



Do you remember my friend Big Red, who was recently adopted and is now enjoying plenty of outings, from shopping trips to visits to local parks. I’ve just arrived and been assessed, and I’m happy to report that I’m in perfect working order—my battery is even in great shape!

If you know anyone looking for a reliable mobility scooter, I would be thrilled to find a new human partner, just like Big Red, to take me on exciting journeys, no matter the weather.

The team at DIK will take good care of you.

Warm regards, Bluey

Also available—



Corporate volunteers have again been invaluable at the store.

Recently volunteers from Telstra worked over 2 days on massive donations in the clothing aisle and sorting toys.



To keep up to date with what’s new and on offer, visit [News - \(rotarydik.org\)](http://News - (rotarydik.org))



0428 550 574
AUSTRALIAN ROTARY CLUB



Papua New Guinea

The Rotary Clubs of Brighton in partnership with the Rotary Passport Melbourne club have initiated a project to support schools in the very remote area of Tabubil in the Western Province of Papua New Guinea.

Tabubil is the base of operations for the Ok Tedi Copper Mine.



Container No 1 of 3 sent to the remote community has been distributed to a number of schools and community groups with two members from Rotary Passport Melbourne, who are on the ground in Tabubil, managing the community assessment and distribution. Ok Tedi Mines arranged the shipping from the Port of Brisbane to Port Moresby and then to Kiunga.

Starwest Constructions, who purchased the containers, managed the challenging 150-kilometer road transport to one of their secure warehouses. But before that, the containers travelled from Port Moresby via



Under the watchful eye of the Rotary Passport Melbourne members, the Starwest team sorted the items for distribution.

Finalbin and Tabubil Primary Schools, Tabubil Elementary School and the Mt Fubilan Pikinini Library Learning Centre were the main beneficiaries this time with school desks and chairs, cabinets, books, shoes, sports colored shirts, bags and caps, stationery, balls and toys, fabric, beds and wheelchairs.

Ishmael Ereman, the coordinator sent this [video update](#).



None of this would have been possible without DIK's incredible commitment to such projects.

Timor Leste

The latest container to Timor Leste was sent through Spend it Well.

The container was full to the very last centimetre with school furniture, wheelchairs, material and assorted goods. The strong and willing volunteers at West Footscray packed and then in Dili the container was unpacked.



July and August were busy for the team at DiK.

1. New wiring was installed thanks to Dennis O'Brien and his team which will allow WiFi access throughout the store. This will allow for connectivity right to the far end, and will assist with logging details of goods.
2. Bronwyn Stevens with support from the team, has submitted several grant applications. These grants will support volunteer elements including additional forklift licence training.
3. A large quantity of clothing has been delivered, unpacked, detagged and sorted. This includes excellent quality school uniforms, flannel shirts and men's suits.
4. Thanks to Symmetry medical for a large quantity of surgical markers and rulers.
5. Geoff Taylor from Rotary Mount Waverley brought in a large donations of children's picture story and junior fiction books. This is a quarterly activity from him and his club.
6. Containers were loaded for Vanuatu, Timor Leste {2}, Tonga and Puntland {Somalia}. Every Tuesday, Frank/Laurie, Andy, Jim, Norm, Mark, Maurice and the regular volunteer team on a Tuesday do all the heavy hard work.
7. Frank, Colleen and several of the volunteers travelled to a former aged car home in Kew on 20 August where they collected a very large quantity of hospital and medical equipment including beds, furniture and consumables. They were also assisted by Jama Farah from Footscray Rotary with some of his community members, who were collecting for another container to Ethiopia..



Symmetry medical;

Picture books;

Tonga;

Puntland.

In support of recent grant applications, we have received 2 fabulous testimonials:

Cohealth Occupational Therapy (Braybrook/Footscray) has worked with West Footscray Donations in Kind for over 10 years. Our organisations have developed a strong and growing partnership. This has given a great many frail elderly, disabled and often disadvantaged individuals living in the local government areas of Moonee Valley, Maribyrnong, and Brimbank ready access to much-needed disability equipment. This equipment is used by our Occupational and Physiotherapists to help our clients manage their daily living activities safely and independently and so remain living at home in the community. At a time when costs of disability equipment are unaffordable and wait lists for government-funded equipment beyond reach for many of our clients, ready access to the equipment store at DIK means these individuals can receive the support they need. Our partnership with DIK has become indispensable to helping our clients achieve their goals in a timely manner and so be ready discharge from our service. This means we can help more people more quickly and so reduce the risks to safety and independence faced by clients on our extensive waiting lists. We are ever grateful for the skill and goodwill of the team at DIK Footscray.

Robin

We are writing to express our strong support for the Rotary Donations in Kind program as they apply for the Transurban Community Grant. As healthcare professionals at the Royal Melbourne Hospital, we have had the privilege of working closely with Rotary Donations in Kind, and I can attest to the critical role they play in supporting some of the most disadvantaged members of our community. In particular, the catchment of our public hospital stretches far and wide, along both CityLink Western and Southern, as well as the West Gate Freeway and Tunnel. We know these areas in our teams very well. Rotary Donations in Kind has been an invaluable partner to our hospital. They consistently provide donated medical equipment and essential items for patients who lack the financial means or access to other funding sources. When there is nowhere else to go, Rotary Donations In Kind have always tried their utmost to support these patients. This support is not only vital for the well-being of these individuals but also plays a crucial role in enabling us to discharge patients from the acute care setting in a safe and timely manner. By ensuring that our patients have access to the necessary equipment, Rotary Donations in Kind helps to reduce hospital stay lengths, improve patient outcomes, and maintain positive patient flow through our emergency department. This has a direct impact on the overall efficiency of our healthcare services and enhances the capacity of our hospital to meet the needs of the broader community. Most importantly, it improves the quality of life for people in our community. We wholeheartedly endorse Rotary Donations in Kind's application for the Transurban Community Grant. Their commitment to improving social outcomes aligns perfectly with the objectives of this grant program. The funding will enable them to continue their vital work, ensuring that more people in the community receive the support they deserve. Thank you for considering their application. We would be happy to comment further, or more specifically, if it assists the application process.

Kind regards, The Flying Squad at RMH

Medical and Mobility Equipment for Our Local Communities

DIK has a large store of new and preloved medical and mobility aids that are supplied free-of-charge to disadvantaged people in the local community. This equipment is principally used in the home to support mobility and maintain lifestyle and is one of our most effective projects. While Australia provides high levels of medical care, many citizens unfortunately can slip through the cracks and are unable to afford the medical and mobility equipment they need.

DIK supply this equipment by working with local health practitioners including occupational therapists and physiotherapists and through local health provider organisations such as Co-Health and Bolton Clarke. Working with their medical support teams we provide much of the equipment they need.

Medical professionals, including occupational therapists and social workers visit the Store, select the appropriate mobility equipment and deliver it to their clients. It's a great result for everyone involved and for the environment, as without DIK much of the equipment would be dumped into landfill.

During 2023-2024, DIK supplied 346 items to 215 patients in 80 suburbs, principally in the Moonee Valley, Maribyrnong, Brimbank and Wyndham local government areas.





CONTACT US TODAY!
0428 550 574
24 Hours, 7 Days a Week
AUSTRALIAN ROTARY DISTRICT 9800



And just because we share

An Invitation to Walk with Us in 2024

1 - 31 October

Have fun Get fit Help yourself while helping others

Get your walking shoes on and gather your sponsors as we walk in October to End Polio.



Walk solo or form a team with your club members, friends or family. Dream up that perfect name and register your team on the Walk with Us website.

For each sponsored step you take, this will help us reach our fundraising goal of **\$100,000** to vaccinate all children against Polio. And every dollar raised becomes \$3 thanks to the Gates Foundation.

Imagine that!

All donations are tax deductible and for Rotarians count towards your overall RII donation credits.



To register, go to: <http://rotarywalkwithus.org/>

Paws for Polio Walk

October 14, 10am to 12:30pm
Elsternwick Park, Brighton



Scan here to buy your tickets

No dog? No worries!
bring along a friend, a toy and yourself for a fun morning out!



Garden designfest.

16 & 17 November 2024

Weekend Passes

[Garden Designfest 2024 Weekend Pass \(All Gardens\) Tickets](#)

Rotary The Big Serve Melbourne
Brighton North, Southbank & North Melbourne

THE BIG SERVE TENNIS TOURNAMENT

RALLY TOGETHER FOR MENTAL HEALTH

Join the Jumbo Tennis Tournament!
The Best Community Day!
Enter a team! Become a Sponsor!
Fantastic prizes to be won! Come and have a good time!

Sunday 27th October 11PM - 4PM | Maribyrnong Park Tennis Club | 189 Holmes rd, Moonee ponds.

FURTHER INFORMATION ON REGISTRATION, PLEASE CONTACT:
REGISTER NOW!
Susan Robb:
0419 922 602
susanrobb2020@gmail.com

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The Big Serve Melbourne 2024

Save the Date!
Details to follow

Rotary Central Melbourne
Tuesday 12 November 2024, 7:30-8:45am
RACV Club, 501 Bourke Street, Melbourne

Save The Date

Paul Harris Breakfast

Special Guest Speaker
Chris Anstey

Elite Performance Coach.
17 years sporting career - NBA, Russia and Spain. 2 times Olympian and World Champion.
Played for the Melbourne Tigers, South East Melbourne Magic and Victorian Tigers in Australian NBL. He retired as a 2x Championship winning Captain and MVP, with 3 x NBL titles to his name. Head Coach of Melbourne United for season 2012 & 2013.

You are invited to our
10th
Rotary Essendon & Keilor East
Moonee Valley Art Show

OCTOBER 12 & 13 2024
Save the dates

Gala opening Friday 11 October

Ukrainian Community Centre
3 Russell St
Essendon



There are currently 30 DiK Inc members across several districts but there is always space for more.

Do you know who these clubs are?

Balwyn, Balwyn North, Bendigo Sandhurst, Berwick, Brighton, Brighton North, Camberwell, Canterbury, Castlemaine, Central Melbourne, Cranbourne, Essendon, Flemington-Kensington, Footscray, Hawthorn, Keilor East, Kew, Lilydale, Melbourne, Melton, Mornington, Pakenham, Port Phillip, Prahran, Preston, Toorak, West Footscray, Williamstown, Wyndham.

The Australian Federation of Ukrainian Organisations has now joined as a member. District 9800 is also a member.

They each pay \$3500 pa with a minimum 2 year commitment allowing them free access to the services and goods in the store for their international and local projects. This fee is used to cover the rent at the warehouse.

We are also very grateful to clubs and districts who make a donation of a lesser amount. These donations help keep the store viable and pay the rent. In recent months we have received donations from Rotary Clubs of Bendigo South, Carlton, Dromana, Lakes Entrance and Traralgon. THANK YOU!

Membership of DiK Inc allows clubs to access goods in the store for their international **AND local projects. Not a member, then a financial contribution will be asked from you for goods.**

Colleen is available to do club visits and share the presentation with your members. This explains how Donations in Kind receives donations and then shares goods with clubs for local and international projects.

Contact Colleen at Colleen@rotarydik.org

The team are always on the lookout for grant opportunities to assist with operating costs so if you see or hear of anything please let Bronwyn know. She has recently complete an application for the Transurban grant. bronstephens@gmail.com

Do you know of an organisation which could support us? We are very short of hospital beds and donations in many other areas have reduced this year, particularly new clothing, hospital and medical equipment and educational supplies.

Please share this newsletter with your networks, especially those who could consider donations.

George, Colleen and Frank are always pleased to discuss volunteer and donation opportunities with organisations. [Donations in Kind is a registered charity with ACNC](#) and is registered for Deductible Gift Recipient status.

Donations in Kind is located at Shed 39, 400 Somerville Road West Footscray. It is open on Tuesdays and Thursdays. <https://rotarydik.org>

Contact:

Colleen D'Offay Colleen@rotarydik.org Mob: 0418 551 551

Frank Dri: frankdri@gmail.com manager@rotarydik.org Mob: 0428 550 574

George de Souza: gdesouza@bigpond.net.au Mob: 0427 305 358

Consultant— Bob Glindemann: bob.glindemann@bigpond.com Mob: 0418 102 702

DiK Treasurer: Bronwyn Stephens bronwynstephens@gmail.com



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