

Urgent Update

Good afternoon Brunswick Rotarians,

We have a three things that can't wait for the next bulletin – so here they are! (Well, the CUB visit can wait, but may as well say so now!).

Thanks,

Dean

Combined meeting of cluster clubs at Riverwalk on 21st May

Your urgent reply is required so we can let RC Richmond know numbers. So far, we have had responses (both yes and no) from:

Terry, Mel and Dean, David E, David K, Michael L, Mick L, Adam, Mal, Joe and Max.

For everyone else, please let me know (either yes or no) **ASAP** if you can come along.

The meeting will be held on the evening of Monday 21st May, at Amoro Hotel Riverwalk (meal cost \$30), 649 Bridge Road, Richmond, and will include hearty fellowship and a brief ROMAC presentation.

CUB Visit: New Date

From Mick Leahy:

On the CUB tour, as I missed that meeting too, I have just phoned to book the tour and we can't get in till **Tuesday 29th May @ 10.00am**. I have booked this date for 20 people, and it has to be pre-paid as per the Zoo concert. I must have full payment from everyone by **Thursday 17th May**, for the full 20 people. Cost is \$18.00 & \$14.00 pensioners.

Operation Solomon Islands

News from District Governor Bernie Walshe is below. President Adam is asking for us to support through donating funds for one shelter box (or other suggestions)... to discuss at an upcoming club meeting.

Because of the disastrous earthquake just out of Gizo that caused tidal wave damage to the Solomon Islands, I have given this story preference this week.

The earthquake epicentre was near Gizo where Rotary District 9600 has a Rotary Club. DG Mike Gregory (District 9600) has written the following update:

“I am sure that you are all well aware of the earthquake and subsequent tidal wave that devastated the Western and Choisel Provinces of the Solomon Islands on 2nd April. Reports so far indicate that, fortunately, loss of life has been minimal but damage to villages and infrastructure is extensive and

they will require a lot of help well into the future. D9600 has a Rotary Club in Gizo, capital of Western province, and we also have a Rotary Community Corps at Munda.

As the airport at Gizo has been inundated, all relief work is being channelled through the airport at Munda. Many coastal villages have been swept away and some islands have had their sole supply of fresh water contaminated so urgent need is to provide shelter, water and food.

ShelterBox has agreed to 200 boxes being repositioned ready to distribute when DGN Wayne Morris of the Rotary Club of Honiara has sorted out the logistics with the Government and RAMSI. So, support for ShelterBox is the best way we can help in the short term.”

Rotary always operates best in times of crisis and when the need is felt by our neighbours. This one such case and **I ask all Clubs and Rotarians to consider helping as much and as quickly as possible.** In agreement with the Trustees, \$6,000 will be allocated from the District 9800 Disaster Relief Fund for Operation Solomon Islands. This will be sufficient for 5 ShelterBoxes.

Rotary Club donations for ShelterBox are payable to “ShelterBox Australia”. For **businesses and individuals**, tax deductible donations for ShelterBox are payable to “ShelterBox RAWCS” and should be forwarded to:

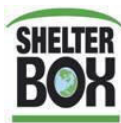
Rotary Club of Kew
PO Box 101
Kew Vic 3101

General (non ShelterBox) tax deductible donations should be made by cheque payable to “RAWCS Overseas Aid Fund” and be sent:

RAWCS Overseas Aid Fund
c/- Gary Gunnell
PO Box 807
Strathfieldsaye Vic 3551

Lead The Way and assist the Solomons.

Bernie Walshe
District Governor



SHELTERBOX AUSTRALIA
ROTARY CLUB of KEW

SOLOMON ISLAND TSUNAMI

As further comment on from the information in DG Bernie's message above, the news following the earthquake and tsunami in Solomon Islands is coming through slowly. PDG Ray Stewart, ShelterBox Australia, has spoken today with DG Michael Gregory of D9600 who advised that communications are down with radio contact only. Airports have been wiped out and the main problem will be water – lack of and contamination after the waves washed away water wells. See details above in the message from DG Bernie.

Local teams have been sent from Honiara, the capital of the Solomon Islands, to assess the damage from the Tsunami.

Tom Henderson ShelterBox UK advises that “the need exists: the need persists”. Donations to purchase more ShelterBoxes will be greatly appreciated, especially at this time.

Use the attached PDF form if you prefer to use a credit card to make your payment.

