**ROTARIANS AGAINST MALARIA**

**EASTERN REGION REPORT TO NATIONAL EXECUTIVE**

**FEBRUARY 2021**

**District Personnel 2020-21**

Regional Supervisor Andrea Grosvenor

District Coordinators

D9650 Ashleigh Hickman

D9670 Steve Carroll

D9675 Peter Beadle

D9685 David Parebo

D9705 Bev Cooney, William (Bill) Wattam; Lynne Koerbin; Andrea Grosvenor

Supervisor Emeritus John L Macpherson

**RAM National Conference**

The 2021 RAM National Conference will now be held in Canberra on 13-14 November. A logistics committee has been formed comprising members from D9705, D9650 and D9670. The venue is yet to be decided, however we are looking at venues that can accommodate up to 100 people as well as providing facilities for distance participation.

Other committees are coordinating the program and speakers and publicity and technology requirements. Suggestions for speakers or presentation topics are welcome!

We are likely to call on Rotarians in the Region, particularly our RAM and RAWCS colleagues, for assistance as the date gets closer.

**Reports from District Supervisors**

D9650 – Ashleigh Hickman

* I presented to my own Club Gloucester last November. I was able to display the brochures, bed nets and other information for the members to see.
* While attending the Assembly in Tamworth in November I have been booked by the Rotary Club of Narrabri for a presentation in March.
* District RAWCS Committee met Sunday 31st January in Walcha. A lot of work was attended to and RAM brainstorm how to get the message out to members. I also spoke about Chasing Malaria but they liked Adopt a Village idea. I showed an array of resources and marketing material. Greg & Sue who visit PNG were particularly drawn to the colouring-in books and asked for some boxes of books to take to PNG. Considered some ideas for promotion and fund raising. Kerrie talked about the school’s short video competition (possibly adapt this into a district competition) – talk with club Youth committees & clubs ‘adopt a village’ to either provide or re-stock nets to villages. Presentations to clubs is important to get club buy-in.
* Ongoing conversation re how to promote this at a local level.
* Rotary District Conference 9650 will be held 12th - 14th March in Port Macquarie. I will be setting up a stand in the Friendship Room and I have permission to run a Video on RAM. The district RAWCS committee will be helping.
* I have also included in the e news RAM information.
* Important information. Eastern Region are the hosts for the RAM National Conference in Newcastle [*now Canberra*] November 12th/14th. Venue Mercure Airport Hotel. I have volunteered for “something”! We are working on 55 people still considering COVID restrictions. [*Now up to 100*!] I hope some of the RAWCS team can help?
* I have brochures on RAM and badges for sale $10 each.

D9705 – William Wattam (Area 4)

Within my group of D9705 Rotary Clubs I have been able to raise RAM Awareness amongst a few clubs during Club Visits.  Fortunately as the President of my Club, when speaking of Club activities and interests I am able to incorporate both RAM in general and also update my clubs progress in relation to a relevant District Grant.  I have received positive feedback and encouragement for RAM.  Unfortunately, Clubs are tending to limit visiting speakers due to Covid-19 both physical and Zoom etc.

My club applied for a District D9710 Grant just prior to the closing date of 30 June 2020.  The proposal, put together very quickly was to provide support to Vanuatu in the form of screening of village homes. It was envisaged that club members would visit Vanuatu and work with the local villager's.  Our optimistic view saw a quick end to CV-19 and the possibility of our ability to travel, but we were soon to change our approach.

Through our local contact in Vanuatu we changed our strategy to one of providing equipment etc which will be used in IRS and other mosquito control.  We are fortunate in securing free transport of our supplies to the Island allowing maximum expenditure on practical equipment and other supplies such as insecticide.  The District Grant is $5000 and my club will also contribute funds.

District Grants are very specific.  I have proposed changes to the original concept to which the Grant Administrators have approved. Unfortunately, CV-19 has thwarted our plan that would have seen Club Members visit Vanuatu. This project has reinforced the interest of my Club members in RAM who now regularly tell others about our support work to eliminate Malaria.

D9705 – Andrea Grosvenor (Area 5)

There has not been a lot of RAM activity in this part of the District in recent months. However I take every opportunity in my role as Area Governor to promote RAM to clubs, District office holders and Rotarians in general.

I recently wrote to the District Governor, District Foundation Chair, District Governor Elect and President of RC Queanbeyan to update them on the progress of the Global Grant application for West Timor and thank them again for their financial support of this project.

Andrea Grosvenor

Eastern Region RAM Supervisor

District 9705 Area Governor

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