

MINI UPDATE MAY 2018

NEWS AND NEEDS

- 1.** We urgently need more books to come in. We have completely run out of books and have had to put off a CVGT Australia 'Work For The Dole' placement due to this.
- 2.** We have sent an email to schools asking that their school might consider a 'Give the Treasure of Reading' twist on the 2018 Children's Book Week "Find Your Treasure" theme and collect books that students have at home and no longer use.
- 3.** The shipping container is on its way to Fiji is due to arrive mid-end May. As well as books and educational resources it also includes 14 boxes packed with pencils and stationery from LionHeart, a Tasmanian-based initiative to enable needy children to colour, draw, write and be creative.

A team of 10 people from around Australia will head to Fiji in June as part of the Rotary Australia World Community Service 'Fiji Schools Project' to work with schools and assist the distribution of the container contents, together with help from the Fiji Education Ministry and the Rotary Club of Nadi. The distribution will be mainly to rural, disadvantaged or remote schools that are in need of support for basic resources.

Some of the books will be used to meet a request from a Fijian, Tomu Raiviu, who made known to LAI (through Pacific Director of Youth For Christ, Conrad Parsons) his dream of sharing his love of books to the many young people in the village of Logani (near Suva) where he grew up. He says, "Reading/literacy has helped me a lot and I truly believe that it will help our future generation and could also be a way out of poverty and unemployment for them as illiteracy is currently quite overwhelming. With your help, I plan to start a library with books and educational materials for the 50 - 60 primary and secondary school students in the village that they can access after school to do research or simply to just pick up a book to read."

- 4.** We have two opportunities to give presentations about Library Aid - May 28 at Penguin Lions Club and an unspecified date at the Rotary Club of Somerset. Do you know of a club or similar looking for a guest speaker?

Thanking you

Ian

Ian Hubble for the LAI Team