

## Update – December 2020

*“The content of a book holds the power of education and it is with this power that we can shape our future and change lives.” - Malala Yousafzai*

Library Aid International Inc, located in Burnie, Tasmania, aims to improve educational outcomes and life opportunities for children by sending used books and educational resources to needy schools in developing countries. We hope this will encourage 'Readers to Become Leaders' in their own communities and countries.

Despite the challenges that 2020 brought with a non-compliant container and COVID-19, things are going well for Library Aid International. We are excited to report on some activities and achievements. We also share some needs for your consideration.

### ACTIVITIES and ACHIEVEMENTS

- Our non-seaworthy receivals container is three quarters full with books that are donated by the general public and those “weeded” from school and public libraries and kindly donated to us.
- Our next (eighth) seaworthy container has been purchased. It is currently half full of sorted books in labeled boxes and will be sent to needy schools in southern Africa in 2021.
- Several new volunteers to sort books have recently commenced.
- Two Probus Clubs have invited Library Aid to give a presentation in December 2020 and February 2021. Several offers to give a presentation in 2021 are being considered.
- A school ran a book donation fundraiser during Book Week this year. Another school has indicated that they may do so next year.
- The distribution has commenced of books, educational resources and computers which arrived in Zimbabwe in May, 2020 to schools in the Bulawayo Metropolitan Province. Sample boxes from each sorting category were handed over to administration officials from the Matebeleland North Province and the Matebeleland South Province.

### NEEDS

- The Provincial Education Director for the Matebeleland South Province has indicated fuel cost concerns for the distribution exercise in their province. Fuel is in short supply and has risen by 175% since June 2020.
- Continued donations of books, educational items and finances. Our recently-paid annual volunteer workers and public liability insurance cover amounted to \$935.
- Volunteers who are able to help pack books into boxes and lift the boxes.
- Your encouragement, support, prayer and strengthening thoughts.

Library Aid International will close over the holiday period from close of business on Dec 18, 2020 and recommence on Feb 2, 2021. Books can still be received over this period via DeBruyn's depots around Tasmania or by arrangement by email contact.

Please take a look at our website <https://www.libraryaid.org> and Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/Library-Aid-International-276684439132338> .

Thank you for your continued interest and support.

Yours sincerely



Ian Hubble (Secretary)