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Tasmania's Library Aid International Inc. (LAI) is one of approximately 60,000 charities registered with the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission. With Designated Gift Recipient status from the Australian Taxation Office, donations to LAI are tax-deductible.

A key source of LAI's book donations is "weeded" or discarded books from school and public libraries—books that might otherwise end up in landfills. These valuable resources are instead collected, sorted, assessed, repacked, and shipped to support educators and students in under-resourced schools around the world.

To date, LAI has shipped eleven containers filled with educational materials to countries such as Zimbabwe, South Africa, Fiji, the Solomon Islands, and Papua New Guinea.

While LAI's mission is global, it operates as a small, volunteer-driven organisation. Despite receiving numerous requests, like the ones outlined below, LAI is only able to fulfill a fraction of them due to limited resources. We do what we can with the help of others.

"Your support can transform the educational landscape for many young students in Hossana."

- Mamuru A., Kenya.

"As a school in a shanty compound we would like to have a library for the vulnerable children. We need the support of having books. Your help will highly be appreciated."

- Patrick Z., Zambia.

"We look forward to your positive response and hope to partner with you in giving our students the opportunity to reach their full potential through reading."

- Lilian W., Papua New Guinea.

"Your support will not only impact the academic outcomes of our students but will also empower them to dream bigger and build a brighter future through the power of reading."

- Elizabeth H., Samoa.

Here are some recent highlights that we'd love to share with you:

- LAI has just acquired its twelfth container! Fifty percent of the contents have already been sorted and boxed by our dedicated volunteers, and are now loaded and ready for shipment to the Solomon Islands. Check out the photos on the following page.
- A sewing group kindly donated \$400 from a friendship day.

- Some of our keen volunteers hosted a Pet Show during the recent SteamFest weekend in Sheffield, raising \$1,000 to help cover the shipping costs for the container. Trivia Quiz Nights also continue to be held monthly at the Railton RSL to raise funds.
- We continue to receive heartwarming emails from schools, such as:
 - “I work at a school, and our staff are looking to donate unused resources that would otherwise be discarded, to schools in developing countries.” - Jocelyn M.
 - “I have some books I've removed from my library, and the previous librarian told me about your purpose.” - Josie W.
 - “We are so grateful that our unwanted books are going to a special place for a new purpose.” - Kate L.

Please feel free to reach out if you have any questions or want to get involved in supporting LAI in some way. This could even be a project during the upcoming Book Week as some schools have undertaken in the past.

Thank you for your continued interest in helping us provide educational resources for the less fortunate.

Regards,



Ian Hubble

(Secretary)



Pic 1. DeBruyn's Transport truck with side loader delivering the container to our operational site.

Pic 2. Loading boxes of books into the container.

Pic 3. A quickly filling container.