

15 December 2016



A Message from **Jan Burney**
Office Manager, Disaster Aid Australia



Hello, and **Seasons Greetings** to our many friends and supporters of our Rotary club project, **Disaster Aid Australia**. As I complete my first calendar year at this wonderfully dedicated and effective organisation, I would like to reflect on, and share with you the many ways we have made a vital difference; here in our region, and around the world.

The follow-up deployments to **Vanuatu** and **Nepal** post their natural disasters in 2015; then our highly successful time in **Fiji** post-*Cyclone Winston* delivering home repair kits; the continuing SkyHydrant™ water filter instalments in the Philippines; a housing project in **Ecuador** after the April earthquake, and most recently distributing portable family-sized water filters in **Haiti** and **Bahamas** after *Cyclone Matthew*. All done with our ongoing message, **"Any child without safe water is a disaster"**. It is our mission to eradicate the consumption of disease-ridden water.

With such a successful year coming to a conclusion, it gives me great pleasure, on behalf of myself, my Board and our many committed volunteers, to send best wishes to you, your families and friends. May you enjoy a safe and peaceful festive season.

As the new year begins, we look forward to your continued interest and highly valued contributions towards ending the suffering experienced in the lives of those who do not have access to basic humanitarian needs following natural, or other disasters in developing countries.

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Vale MAX WALKER AM

We were all deeply saddened to learn of the death, on 28 September, of our first Patron, just as our Spring NEWS UPDATE was about to be printed. Max Walker was committed to our humanitarian work along with, as we know, other projects of Rotary, including ROMAC. He was recognised as a Paul Harris Fellow at a meeting of the Rotary Club of Endeavour Hills he attended in December 2012.



EDITOR'S NOTES ...

* **Our 3rd Annual Conference will be on Fri 5 – Sun 7 May 2017**

* **We'll be back in January with a NEWS UPDATE Summer Edition**

... including news of the recent formation of **Disaster Aid** in **Brazil** and in **Uruguay**, with reports by DAI Chairman **David Langworthy** who attended those inaugurations.



DONATIONS CAN BE MADE ONLINE at www.disasteraidaustralia.org.au

Or by using the coupon in **Rotary Down Under: Dec-Jan 2016-17** (*inside front cover*)