

## Medical Supplies to Zimbabwe

One container, four countries and five Rotary Clubs.....

In the first week of December 2019 members of the Rotary Club of Doncaster Club helped select and load medical equipment and consumables plus second hand children's books into a 20' container at the DIK (Donations in Kind) warehouse in West Footscray. We were ably assisted by Di Gillies from RC of Balwyn, and Lawrie Fraser and Bob Glindemann from Rotary DIK Warehouse.



The medical supplies were for a newly constructed rural medical clinic at Gambo, a rural area south of Bulawayo, Zimbabwe (near a town called Plumtree check it out on a map – it's near the Botswana border). The new medical clinic was financed by a Global Grant initiated by the Rotary Club of Borken in Germany and this included training nurses in Germany - <https://www.pressreader.com/zimbabwe/sunday-news-zimbabwe/20170625/281779924131933>

The books are for the library in a community centre in Bulawayo, where the AIDS orphans the Doncaster Club sponsors to attend Primary School. It is a safe environment where the children can do their homework, engage in cultural and social activities and read library books. The container was transhipped via Colombo in Sri Lanka, off loaded in Durban in South Africa and travelled by rail to Bulawayo and arrived on Friday 6<sup>th</sup> March.



Due to the COVID lockdown in Zimbabwe, the books remained in storage until early September where they were presented to the library by RC of Bulawayo South. The medical equipment is safely stored in a warehouse while the construction of the medical centre is completed.



The Club received a District Grant of \$3,000 to assist in the cost of transporting the container and membership of the DIK Warehouse. The Rotary Club of Alresford in England paid nearly \$2,000 for the land freight component in Zimbabwe. A member of this Club is a former resident

of Bulawayo and now lives in England. The project is being managed by the Rotary Club of Plumtree and Rotary Club of Bulawayo South, the club which manages the Doncaster Club's Bulawayo Orphan's Education (BOE) project.

Our former RCD President Niranjan Ramjee (who incidentally immigrated from Bulawayo in 2001), made the following quote (yes, he loves quotes!): "This is a great example of the power of Rotary with five Rotary Clubs from four different countries coming together to truly make a positive difference to others' lives who are less fortunate than ourselves."