

Bringing Warmth and Mobility to Mongolia

It's heartwarming to hear about the impactful work being done by the Bulgan One Generation Club of Mongolia, along with the support of WFKA, various Rotary Clubs in Mongolia and volunteers. The organisation and distribution of the wheelchairs to those in need is truly commendable.

Upon receiving the much-needed container of 153 wheelchairs, no time was wasted in mobilising the volunteer team to begin distributing wheelchairs to the children in the community. Despite the vast distances and logistical challenges, volunteers dedicated themselves to travelling to remote areas, spending days ensuring that each wheelchair is properly adjusted to suit the needs of the children.

Integral to the success of this initiative has been the support

of the Rotary Clubs in Mongolia, their assistance helps facilitate the distribution of all the wheelchairs and all the extras that were added to the container from WFKA, like donated adult wheelchairs, zimmer frames and crutches. These were donated to the National Centre for Development of People with Disabilities and the Central Hospital of Bayanzurkh District. By collaborating with these organisations, the Bulgan One Generation Club has been able to extend its reach and impact beyond its immediate community.

Thanks to the wonderful team of knitting volunteers for the inclusion of warm knitted hats alongside the wheelchairs, this adds a touch of warmth and comfort particularly in Mongolia's harsh winter climate. The joy with which the hats were received by the children speaks



volumes about the significance of such gestures.

While some remote provinces may need to wait for warmer weather for the safe delivery of their wheelchairs, the commitment from everyone to ensure the delivery and fitting of these wheelchairs remains unwavering. Overall, this initiative exemplifies the power of community collaboration and collective action.

The Moses Charity Organisation - Zambia

The Moses Charity Organisation extends heartfelt appreciation to WFKA for their invaluable assistance in supporting children living with disabilities across various communities in Zambia's Southern Province.

During the Easter holidays in Pemba, a town situated in Zambia's Southern Province, 12 wheelchairs were distributed to thrilled and grateful children aged between 2 and 14 years. While the initial goal was to provide 18 wheelchairs, unfortunately some children were unable to receive their wheelchairs due to severe malnourishment.



The Southern Province's struggle with drought has further compounded the difficulties faced by families, with some enduring prolonged periods without sufficient food. Despite these adversities, the community's spirits remain resilient and was uplifted upon receiving the wheelchairs.

Currently, The Moses Charity Organisation is in the process of establishing a safe haven within the community for children living with disabilities. This safe house will accommodate approximately 200 children, offering them security and a nurturing, inclusive environment.

UPDATE - CEO Greg Hebble

Dear Wheelchairs For Kids Australia Community

As we eagerly await the arrival of rain to nourish our farmers and replenish our dams, I hope this update finds you well and in good spirits. While I personally relish the warmth of the summer months and the balmy nights, the much-needed rain is paramount. Here's hoping for a generous downpour soon!

ensure the success of these vital events.

Our corporate volunteers have also been instrumental in supporting our cause. Mirvac generously lent their team for a day in March for the fifth consecutive year, while Insight Advisory Group contributed a massive team of nearly 30 individuals over three days in April. Their assistance is invaluable, and

Expo in Mindarie. We met many individuals genuinely interested in our mission and established valuable connections for future collaboration.

In this edition of The Drill, we're excited to launch our Tax Appeal for 2024. If you can spare a little extra to support those in need of wheelchairs or if you know someone within your network who can contribute, that would be appreciated. Remember, every donation of \$2 or more is tax-deductible!

Looking ahead, we have a multitude of activities and events planned for the next few months. Be sure not to miss our special edition of The Drill, featuring a visit from the Minister for Volunteering & Seniors, Don Punch, during National Volunteer Week in late May. Additionally, we'll be participating in the HBF Run, and celebrating the milestone of our 60,000th wheelchair.



Michael Lalor, Donna Faragher, Greg Hebble, Beppie De Kuyser, Bill Culbertson & Olly Pickett



Foodies Market IGA, Murray Carter & Greg Hebble

In the past couple of months, it's been business as usual, with regular engagements including visits from local politicians, sausage sizzles at Bunnings in Landsdale and promotions at Whitfords and Floreat Shopping Centres. I extend a heartfelt thank you to our dedicated volunteers whose tireless efforts

we are grateful for their ongoing support. If any organisations are interested in joining us for corporate volunteering and team-building exercises, please reach out, and we'll gladly do our best to accommodate your involvement.

Recently, we were fortunate to receive a generous donation of \$4000 from the Foodies Market IGA, Duncraig. Their continuous support, not only through donations but also in organising supplies for our sausage sizzles, is appreciated.

Jenny Prince and I had the pleasure of attending the Wanneroo Business Association's Annual



Jenny Prince

Once again, I extend my heartfelt thanks for your unwavering support. I eagerly anticipate sharing more updates on the exciting events unfolding in the months ahead!

Cheers,
Greg

Zambia – Lusaka

WFKA has forged numerous partnerships worldwide, operating in some of the most impoverished regions. Our primary mission is to supply wheelchairs to children to enhance their quality of life. Occasionally, there is extra space available in the container, allowing us to include additional donated goods that benefit both the children and the community. A shipment of much-needed WFKA wheelchairs arrived in Lusaka and were distributed to the children.

Taking advantage of the surplus space in the container, school uniforms generously donated by St. Denis School, Joondanna and Perm-A-Pleat brought immense joy to the children of Jarmy Christian Academy. We also included donated adult wheelchairs and first aid kits



provided by St John Ambulance. Thanks to the support of Blu Springs and Hands Around The World, these items were donated to Pamodzi Ndi Anna for use in maternity wards.

Sierra Leone

Mariam and Ramadan

Mariam, is a four-year-old residing in Moyamba District, Sierra Leone, she faces challenges due to an acquired brain injury, rendering her unable to sit or walk without support. Despite efforts by a local carpenter who crafted a wooden highchair on wheels, it provided minimal support and even led to injuries. Fortunately, Enable The Children, through World Hope International, helped to change Mariam's life. They provided her with a WFKA wheelchair tailored to her requirements. Now equipped with proper mobility support, Mariam is mobile in her community and attends school making a significant transformation to her life.

Ramadan resides in Bonthe District, Sierra Leone, and recently participated in one of the outreach clinics organized by the Enable The Children Program in collaboration with their partner Nyandengoh. Ramadan's condition, Arthrogryposis, restricts his lower limb mobility, although he retains usage of his upper limbs, he typically shuffles along the floor. Following an assessment, Ramadan was supplied with a wheelchair courtesy of WFKA. Ramadan and his grandmother expressed great joy upon receiving our wheelchair. Ramadan quickly adapted to using the wheelchair and even discovered a method to climb into the seat independently. His newfound mobility brings happiness and dignity for Ramadan and his family.



Natthawoot's Wheels of Change

Natthawoot, a 12-year-old Thai boy from Doi Muser in Northwest Thailand, lives with cerebral palsy. With his new wheelchair, his mother is extremely grateful and relieved of carrying him whenever he wants to venture outdoors, she can now focus on her work without the constant worry. Natthawoot, has new found freedom to explore independently, with a little help from his sister. Visits to his grandparents have become more

enjoyable as they can now take him outside, freeing him from the confines of the house.

Natthawoot's enhanced mobility has significantly increased his independence and quality of life. This transformation was made possible in the remote regional community by the Burma Children Medical Fund, WFKA, and volunteers, whose support has had a profound impact on individuals like Natthawoot.



ASCOTSIGNCO.

Ascot Sign Company

Ascot Sign Company is delighted to collaborate with Wheelchairs For Kids Australia. Our partnership began in 2020, coinciding with WFKA's transition from four compact factory units to their new premises on Buckingham Drive, Wangara, where we provided the signage for the entire facility.

Coming from a school run by the Christian Brothers we immediately felt a connection with Br. Olly and it only took a 15 minute conversation with him to convince us that we were going to be part of something special. What impressed us the most was the "win-win" formula of WFKA, not only granting mobility to thousands of disadvantaged children globally, but also WFKA provides an opportunity for retired men and women to utilise their skills and talents, make new friends and be part of something worthwhile. For us, it was obvious that we needed to be involved.



Ascot Sign Company commenced business in 1980 with two young owners and one 18 year old apprentice in a small asbestos shed, which was demolished to make way for the Ascot Waters Estate. Being opposite the Ascot Race Course, the WA Turf Club (WATC) became the first client. Hence, the name and logo for the business was developed. Now 44 years on, that young apprentice owns the business along

with his younger brother and have done so for the past 24 years.

Ascot Sign Company has the capacity to manufacture signage using a variety of material types, whether it be large steel pylon signs, 3 dimensional fabricated acrylic lettering, aluminium signs, illuminated, vehicle or bespoke signs. We specialise in high end signage, priding ourselves on quality.

Insight Advisory Group

The Insight Advisory Group team traded their typical office schedule for a morning of volunteering at WFKA. They eagerly engaged in a variety of tasks, pitching in alongside the committed WFKA volunteers.



Insight Advisory Group and Volunteers Dennis Gurney and Keith Talbot



Stewart Blizzard

A Lifetime of Service - Beppie De Kuyer



Beppie DeKuyer

For 26 years, Beppie De Kuyer has dedicated her time as a volunteer at WFKA, contributing significantly to all aspects at WFKA since its inception. Beppie's responsibilities encompass a wide array of tasks, including overseeing the rugs and toys which

accompany each wheelchair sent out, coordinating the volunteers working on the harnesses, knee separators, wheel spoke covers, as well as the hip and trunk supports, all while providing invaluable guidance and support.

An integral part of Beppie's role involves organising the sewing of the covers for the hip and trunk support, back and head supports and tool bags. Beppie prepares the material and the patterns for the sewing team at the factory, for them to collect and then sew the covers at home or at craft groups. Without Beppie's help in organising these generous sewing teams the wheelchairs would be incomplete.

Beppie's love for WFKA shines through when she takes excited

visitor groups on tours of the factory, sharing her knowledge, experiences and insights as to why WFKA is so special and unique. Sharing stories of the significant positive impact the wheelchairs have had on the children and their families worldwide is inspiring.

Every day, Beppie dedicates herself to volunteering at the factory showcasing unwavering commitment throughout her time at WFKA. Her invaluable contributions have earned her the admiration and respect of every volunteer at WFKA. Beppie's genuine empathy and compassion for children living with disabilities radiates through in her work, serving as inspiration for all. Thank you Beppie for your endless dedication and love for WFKA.

Helping hands make light work

Dedicated WFKA Volunteers had an early start to the day, helping unload the container of much needed nuts, bolts, wheels and parts to make our specialised wheelchairs.

The team functioned like a well-oiled machine. The morning's fitness class, which centred around unloading the stock resembled a synchronised dance, with everyone playing their part, energised by silly jokes and shared laughter.

The efficiency of the unload was down to meticulous organisation, direction and clear labelling. The container was quickly emptied, sorted and packed away ready for the net batch of wheelchairs to be made.

Our collective effort gives a sense of purpose and belonging, the power of teamwork has such a positive impact.



Malawi Bound

An early morning collaboration of volunteers from WFKA and teachers from Whitfords Primary School, St Francis of Assisi Catholic Primary, St Lukes Catholic Primary and Our Lady of Mercy Girrawheen, saw 166 wheelchairs effortlessly loaded into the container bound for Malawi.

These lifechanging wheelchairs will bring new hope and a brighter future

for Malawi children and their families who face the daily challenges of living with disabilities.

Our inspiring partnership with these Schools over many years serves as a reminder that compassion knows no boundaries or limits.

A special thanks to all the teachers involved to help load up the container, your ongoing support is priceless.

News from WFKA East Coast

Wheelchair Wheelathon Wandin North Primary School, Yarra Valley

On the final day of the first term, March 28th, 2024, Wandin North Primary School in the Yarra Valley, Melbourne, organised a Wheelchair Wheelathon event. Despite being a modest-sized primary school with approximately 300 students, the event successfully raised funds equivalent to the cost of ten wheelchairs. Additionally, the Rotary Club of Wandin sponsored a sausage sizzle lunch, with all

expenses covered by them, resulting in a total benefit of \$850.

Throughout the day, members of the Rotary Club were actively engaged in cooking sausages to support the event. The students and their teachers participated enthusiastically in fundraising via QR codes, fostering a spirit of healthy competition.

At the start of the second term, WFKA presented a Certificate of Appreciation to the school. A Further three certificates were awarded to recognize the three highest fundraising amounts per grade, highlighting the dedication and effort of the students and their supporters.



Rotary Club Meetings

In March, the East Coast Team dedicated a day to supporting the Rotary Club of Frankston Sunrise in organising their annual Businessmen's Golf Day and WFKA will benefit from the proceeds based on the day's profits.

In April, the East Coast Team participated in a dinner meeting hosted by the Rotary Club of Traralgon to present WFKA with a generous donation that will cover the cost of five wheelchairs. In April we also received a donation to sponsor 10 wheelchairs from the Rotary Club of Box Hill Central.

We extend our heartfelt gratitude to everyone involved in making these contributions possible.

Mothers' Union of St. Swithun's Anglican Church

The kind-hearted members of the Mothers' Union of St. Swithun's Anglican Church in Lesmurdie paid a visit to the WFKA Wangara factory, donating bags full of handmade blankets and teddy bears.

Wheelchairs dispatched since 1996

AFGHANISTAN	1	GHANA	234	NIGERIA	456	VANUATU	383
ALBANIA	40	GUINEA	1	PAKISTAN	848	VIETNAM	8218
ANGOLA	50	INDIA	368	PALESTINE - GAZA	656	YEMEN	166
ARMENIA	302	INDONESIA (TOTAL)	4234	PAPUA N.G. (TOTAL)	2225	ZAMBIA	2024
AUSTRALIA (TOTAL)	28	BALI	2516	BOUGAINVILLE	6	ZIMBABWE	487
COCOS IS.	1	FLORES IS.	20	PERU	2		
BANGLADESH	671	JAVA	1125	PHILIPPINES	1837		
BELARUS	131	LOMBOK	547	ROMANIA	132		
BHUTAN	8	SALATIGA	8	RWANDA	166		
BORNEO	340	SUMATRA	28	SAMOA	231		
BOSNIA	100	IRAN	22	SEYCHELLES	60		
BOTSWANA	1	IRAQ	1949	SIERRA LEONE	661		
BRAZIL	2	JORDAN	271	SINGAPORE	1		
BULGARIA	25	KENYA	3421	SOLOMON IS.	368		
BURKINA FASO	164	KIRIBATI	338	SOMALIA	332		
BURUNDI	24	LAOS	90	SOMALILAND	160		
CAMBODIA	1266	LEBANON	673	SOUTH AFRICA	123		
CAMEROON	1	LIBERIA	181	SOUTH KOREA	20		
CANADA	2	LIBYA	340	SRI LANKA	2207		
CHINA	1746	MADAGASCAR	76	SUDAN	60		
HONG KONG	1	MALAWI	3048	SYRIA	507		
COOK ISLANDS	5	MALAYSIA	7	TAIWAN	50		
D.R. OF CONGO	1072	MALDIVES	4	TANZANIA	3268		
EGYPT	665	MAURITANIA	75	THAILAND	338		
EL SALVADOR	1	MAURITIUS	272	TIMOR LESTE	1156		
ETHIOPIA	100	MOLDOVA	40	TONGA	16		
FIJI (TOTAL)	857	MONGOLIA	1092	TUVALU	6		
BA	2	MOROCCO	1635	UGANDA	2316		
NADI	8	MOZAMBIQUE	439	UKRAINE (TOTAL)	105		
ONO - I - LAU	10	MYANMAR	3175	CHERNIVTSI	25		
SAVU SAVU	40	NAURU	10	CHERNOBYL	60		
SUVA	630	NEPAL	353	USA	2		

59,547

2023/2024 Financial Year Dispatch

JUL	506
AUG	504
SEPT	154
OCT	340
NOV	320
DEC	4
JAN	340
FEB	217
MAR	211
APR	502
MAY	340
JUN	
TOTAL	3438

Contact Information:

Address: 10 Buckingham Drive, Wangara WA 6065

Postal Address: PO Box 1175, Wangara DC,
Western Australia, 6947

Factory: +61 8 9409 3633 **Email:** info@wheelchairsforkids.org

ABN: 436 3877 9405 **ACN:** 638 779 405

WA Charity Licence: 20577

Facebook: #wheelchairsforkids

Web: wheelchairsforkids.org

Chief Executive Officer: Greg Hebble

greg.hebble@wheelchairsforkids.org

Volunteer Factory Manager: Br. Olly Pickett

olly.pickett@wheelchairsforkids.org

Volunteer Communications Coordinator & Editor:

Joy Angerson joy.angerson@wheelchairsforkids.org

Volunteer Workshop Coordinator: Bob Sheridan

bob.sheridan@wheelchairsforkids.org



Bill & Iolanda Gibbins



Let's get kids moving towards a brighter future

For \$275 we give each child an adjustable, all terrain, cushioned wheelchair along with an upper body harness, foot restraints, postural support devices for the head, trunk and legs, detachable tray, carry basket, soft toy, colourful knee rugs, tool kit, spare cushioning and spare fasteners.

If you would like to help us you can do so in any of the following ways:

1. Consider making a **bequest in your will**.
This generous form of support has been a great benefit to us.
2. **Visit our website** at www.wheelchairsforkids.org
3. **By electronic transfer** to BSB 016 494, ACCOUNT 4254 578 15 Please email your amount, name and address to us.
4. **Fill in the donation slip below**, detach and post to:
Wheelchairs For Kids, PO Box 1175, Wangara DC, WA. 6947
5. **Donate online** by scanning the QR code at right.



SCAN ME TO
DONATE ONLINE

Help us Put the Wheels in Motion

Your contribution will directly fund the production and distribution of wheelchairs to children in need. This is made possible by our dedicated volunteer workforce.

Help us build an All-Terrain Adjusta Wheelchairs

★ **\$29** provides the tray, basket and accessories.

★ **\$49** provides the cushions, padding and supports.

★ **\$79** provides the chassis and wheels.

★ **\$118** provides the frames, brakes and footrests.

★ **\$275 provides an Adjusta Wheelchair**



YES! I WOULD LIKE TO GIVE A CHILD THE GIFT OF MOBILITY

The easiest way to securely pledge your gift is online via www.wheelchairsforkids.org/donate.

It costs \$275 to assemble a wheelchair for a child.

PLEASE ACCEPT MY GIFT OF:

\$29 \$49 \$79 \$118 \$275

My choice _____

SUPPORTER DETAILS:

Title First name Last Name

Street Address

Suburb State Postcode

Email Telephone

PAYMENT DETAILS:

Mastercard Visa Expiry /

Name on card:

Signature:

Please send me information about leaving a gift in my Will.

Please send your donation to:

Wheelchairs for Kids, PO Box 1175, Wangara DC, WA 6947

All donations of \$2 or over are tax deductible. A receipt will then be sent.

For our Privacy Policy visit www.wheelchairsforkids.org