



**Wheelchairs For Kids**  
Giving freedom & mobility worldwide

**THE DRILL**

SEPTEMBER - DECEMBER 2022  
VOL 19 ISSUE 102

## Fighting the stigma of disability in Zambia

*“It is important to break away from the stigma around disabilities, in order to promote inclusiveness and equality by empowering people living with disability”.*

... Marco Kerkhof.

In 2017 Physiotherapist **Marco Kerkhof**, founded **Blu Spring Associazione**, a not for profit organisation dedicated to removing the stigma associated with disability. The following story of a young girl in Zambia is a tribute to her strength of character, to Marco and the part played by a wheelchair from Wangara.

**Mwadziona**, one of 7 children, was disabled from birth. Her hips were malformed such that she was forced to walk on all four limbs resulting in severely calloused hands. In 2018, Marco was able to provide her with a pair of colourful crutches and a WFK wheelchair to improve her mobility. In 2021, Marco revisited her village to find that she had taught herself to walk short distances without the crutches and, with the help of the wheelchair, could attend the school some distance away.



Mwadziona (centre)

Mwadziona, is now more independent and empowered. She is a role model for others in the community who, like her, live with a disability. She actively participates in the community and is a girl with growing possibilities.

## A Message from Greg



Wow, where did that last 3 months go?? One thing that is for sure is that my honeymoon period is definitely done & dusted.

I have lost count of the factory tours that we have held over the last 3 months... not to mention the shopping centre collections, sausage sizzles, face to face presentations, rugs & toys pickups and our invaluable collection tin & boxes support across the state!!

I have had the privilege of meeting one of our long term supporters in JHY Realty in Dunsborough and thanked them for providing more than 800 Wheelchairs over the last 11 years. What a HUGE effort and a special thanks to their Directors Lee, Andrew & Eloise for driving this initiative and to their staff and customers for their continued support.

The Rotary Club of Scarborough not only gave me the opportunity to address their club on our potential prospects going forward, but they also held one of their meetings at the factory. To top this visit off we were lucky enough to hear from Graham Edwards AM who has had a long association with WFK. He shared his firsthand experiences over many years across different aspects but none more relevant that when he returned to Vietnam and witnessed a child and their family receiving one of our wheelchairs and how grateful they were for the gift of mobility and inclusion.

Atkinsons Mitre 10 in Hillarys have not only provided us with support via their Saturday Sausage Sizzles, but when asked to support our recent Volunteer Christmas get together they were very generous and forthcoming by donating a door prize valued at \$200. Please see photo at right of Nikki from Atkinsons Mitre 10.



One of the most positive aspect of my time thus far is the incredible interest shown in WFK by likeminded organisations, community groups, schools, students, teachers and the general public many of which continuously put their hands up to help us and in most cases without being approached.

Recently we also received the great news that Premier McGowen and his cabinet have committed to continue to assist us during the next 12 months and beyond, which is fantastic and very much appreciated.

However, this, along with our other supporters, is unfortunately not enough to support the growing need and costs for wheelchairs for children with disabilities around the world. So if you know someone that might like to assist us or if you could do a little more, we would love to hear from you. Please don't hesitate in sending me an email at [ghebble@wheelchairsforkids.org](mailto:ghebble@wheelchairsforkids.org) as I would very much like to talk about the many opportunities that I know are just around the corner.

Although we have experienced delays in receiving wheels and chassis from overseas it has not stopped us from distributing around 3000 wheelchairs during the last calendar year. I would like to thank our Team of Volunteers for not wavering during these challenging times and continuing to make our quality wheelchairs.

Strategically, we have not only aligned our Committee and Board structures but we have also commenced one of the most important processes in our short history and that is our first Strategic Plan!! We hope to have this finalised by the end of January 2023 and I look forward to sharing with you some of our key strategies and goals for the next 3 years in our next edition of The Drill.

I would also like to take this opportunity in wishing you all a Very Merry Christmas and a Happy and Healthy New Year.

Cheers  
Greg

P.S. Our 2023 Calendars have arrived and if your staff, family and friends would like to further support us they are available for a small \$5 donation.

Please email Nim for your requirements .....

[wchairsforkids@gmail.com](mailto:wchairsforkids@gmail.com)





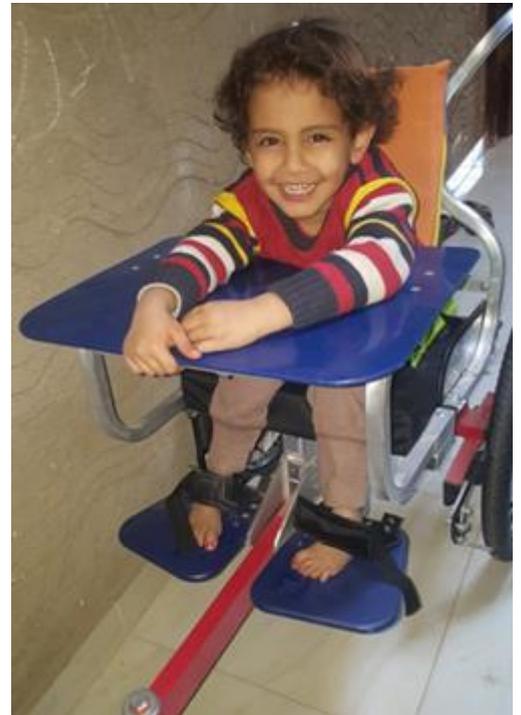
**“The Little Flock Foundation for Development in Egypt”** would like to extend its appreciation to **“Wheelchairs for Kids Ltd.”** for the donation of four Wheelchair containers to Egypt since 2017. These donations are life changing to more than **655** kids and their families, in several Governorates and communities over Egypt.

The generous support of organisations like WFK and the tireless effort of its volunteers makes



it possible for our Foundation to make the community a great place to live in.

Looking forward to future blessings of the givers and welfare of the receivers.



**Sausage Sizzle,**  
**Whitfords**

On the job...

L to R: **Lyn Amery,**  
**Murray Carter**  
( Sizzle Organiser )  
and **Nanette Judge**



**Promotion-**  
**Whitfords**  
**Shopping Centre**

After a long day...  
L to R: **Vern Scanlan,**  
**Jean Ross-Adjie,**  
**Gordon Hudson** and  
**John Jeffery**

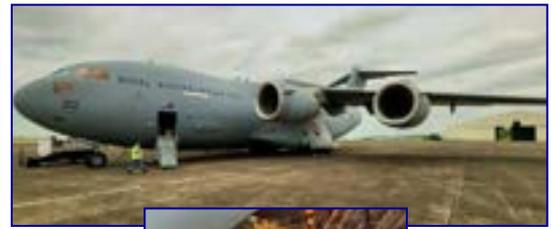


**THANK YOU VERY MUCH CARA**

**Cara Evans,** who is 7yrs of age, came to the factory with her Mum, **Melissa,** to donate \$52.70 which was her pocket money from the last 3 years. Wheelchairs For Kids thanks you very much, **Cara,** for your kindness and generosity.

Left: **Cara** presents her donation to **Beppie de Kuyer** and **Olly Pickett**

# 100 Wheelchairs delivered to Filipino children courtesy of TEAM GLOBAL EXPRESS, AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL RAILWAYS & the RAAF



In October, 50 wheelchairs were picked up, at no cost, from our factory by **Team Global Express** to start their journey to the Philippines. They were then taken by train, at no cost, to the **RAAF Base Amberley** - 50 km south west of Brisbane. In November, another 50 wheelchairs were transferred by Team Global Express and the railways, at no cost, to the **RAAF Base Edinburg**, 28 km north of Adelaide. From these two Bases they were flown, at no cost, to the Philippines and delivered to a group of RSL expat veterans in Angeles City, Pampanga, for distribution to needy children. WFK and the Filipino children owe a lot to the generosity of Team Global Express, the **Australian National Railways** and the RAAF.



## CONTAINERS FOR CHANGE

The introduction of the 10 cent containers has seen a very significant increase in the income from our recycling programme.

WFK greatly appreciates the support from the Fortescue Metals Group (FMG) and all the people who drop off their containers at our factory for us to collect the bounty.

Representing WFK at a recent Containers for Change WA function were CEO Greg Hebble and wife Julie, along with factory volunteers Laurel Phillips and John Jeffery.



*"Change is the law of life. Those who look only to the past or present are certain to miss the future."*

John F. Kennedy

# ROTARY SUPPORTS WHEELCHAIRS FOR KIDS



Rosalie and Brian Handreck presented a cheque to Olly Pickett for \$1000 from the Rotary Club of Robinvale - Euston. Rosalie is the Secretary of the club which takes in the Victoria town of Robinvale and, joined by a bridge over the Murray, the New South Wales town of Euston.

Factory Volunteers Dennis Guerney (rear), Beppie de Kuyer and Rob Heintz bear witness to the truth of the headline above from the local newspaper The Robinvale Sentinel.

CEO Greg Hebble accepts a cheque for \$8000 from Principal Lisa Fogliani. The donation was raised at a recent Quiz Night held by Mercy College Koondoola. Mercy College has supported Wheelchairs For Kids by raising \$39,110.20 since 2008.

This amount represents 236 wheelchairs with the cost of a wheelchair ranging from \$125 to \$275 over that period of time. "Kids and Staff helping kids" at its very best.



## GENEROUS SUPPORT CONTINUES FROM SOROPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL CLUB



Soroptimist International Clubs have been wonderful supporters of Wheelchairs For Kids for many years. That support was continued on November 16 when CEO Greg Hebble was invited by the Canning District club to talk to its members about WFK. Greg's 10 year association with this club has given him first hand experience of its generous support given to the other charities with which he has been involved.

Following his address Greg was presented with a cheque of \$1000 by club President, Vicki Simpson, pictured left with Greg. A large bag of ringpulls was also donated for our fundraising/recycling project.

Over several years, Canning District has also donated many rugs and soft toys. Thank you, Canning District, for your very generous support.





# Wheelchair Distribution since 1998

AFGHANISTAN	1
ALBANIA	40
ANGOLA	50
ARMENIA	302
AUSTRALIA (TOTAL)	25
<i>COCOS IS.</i>	<i>1</i>
BANGLADESH	671
BELARUS	131
BHUTAN	8
BOSNIA	100
BOTSWANA	1
BRAZIL	2
BULGARIA	25
BURKINA FASO	164
BURUNDI	22
CAMEROON	1
CAMBODIA	1092
CANADA	2
CHINA	1745
COOK ISLANDS	5
D.R. OF CONGO	1072
EGYPT	665
EL SALVADOR	1
ETHIOPIA	100
FIJI (TOTAL)	690
<i>BA</i>	<i>2</i>
<i>NADI</i>	<i>8</i>
<i>ONO - I - LAU</i>	<i>10</i>
<i>SAVU SAVU</i>	<i>40</i>
<i>SUVA</i>	<i>630</i>
GHANA	234
GUINEA	1
INDIA	368
IRAN	22

IRAQ	1949
INDONESIA (TOTAL)	3224
<i>BALI</i>	<i>2176</i>
<i>FLORES IS.</i>	<i>20</i>
<i>JAVA</i>	<i>445</i>
<i>LOMBOK</i>	<i>547</i>
<i>SALATIGA</i>	<i>8</i>
<i>SUMATRA</i>	<i>28</i>
JORDAN	271
KENYA	2576
KIRIBATI	338
LAOS	90
LEBANON	673
LIBERIA	181
LIBYA	340
MADAGASCAR	56
MALAWI	2544
MALAYSIA	7
MALDIVES	4
MAURITANIA	75
MAURITIUS	211
MOLDOVA	40
MONGOLIA	938
MOROCCO	1315
MOZAMBIQUE	439
MYANMAR	2835
NAURU	10
NEPAL	186
NIGERIA	456
PAKISTAN	848
PALESTINE - <i>GAZA</i>	656
PAPUA N.G. (TOTAL)	2225
<i>BOUGAINVILLE</i>	<i>6</i>
PERU	2

PHILIPPINES	1642
ROMANIA	132
RWANDA	166
SAMOA	231
SEYCHELLES	60
SIERRA LEONE	495
SINGAPORE	1
SOLOMON IS.	364
SOMALIA	332
SOMALILAND	110
SOUTH AFRICA	123
SOUTH KOREA	20
SRI LANKA	2207
SUDAN	60
SYRIA	507
TAIWAN	50
TANZANIA	2928
THAILAND	336
TIMOR LESTE	1156
TONGA	16
TUVALU	6
UGANDA	2316
UKRAINE (TOTAL) <i>20</i>	105
<i>CHERNIVTSI</i>	<i>25</i>
<i>CHERNOBYL</i>	<i>60</i>
USA	2
VANUATU	383
VIETNAM	8056
YEMEN	166
ZAMBIA	1684
ZIMBABWE	485

2022 PRODUCTION	
JAN	220
FEB	278
MAR	242
APR	313
MAY	326
JUN	282
JUL	86
AUG	400
SEPT	310
OCT	460
NOV	301
DEC	75
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>3293</b>

54,168



WHEELCHAIRS FOR KIDS FACTORY - WANGARA, WESTERN AUSTRALIA

*Helping one person may not change the whole world but it could change the world for one person.*



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.

*This gift can change the life of a child living with a disability as well as the life of every family member.*

- ❖ **If you would like to help us** you can do so in any of the following ways:
  1. A **cheque** made out to “Wheelchairs For Kids” and posted to:  
Wheelchairs For Kids , PO Box 1175, Wangara DC, WA 6947.
  2. Consider making a **bequest in your will**. This generous form of support has been a great benefit to us.
  3. **Visit our website** at [www.wheelchairsforkids.org](http://www.wheelchairsforkids.org)
  4. **By electronic transfer** to BSB 016 494 ACCOUNT 4254 578 15 and please email your amount, name and address for us to correctly receipt your generosity. See E-MAIL below.
- ❖ All donations \$2 or more are tax-deductible.
- ❖ All donations are used in the production of the wheelchairs.
- ❖ Overheads ( rent, utilities and administration costs ) are paid by donations from and in agreement with several Major Sponsors listed below.

**CONTACT INFORMATION :**

**LOCATION :** 10 BUCKINGHAM DRIVE, WANGARA. W.A. 6065

**POSTAL ADDRESS:** PO BOX 1175, WANGARA DC, WESTERN AUSTRALIA, 6947

**FACTORY:** +61 8 9409 3633

**E-MAIL :** [wchairsforkids@gmail.com](mailto:wchairsforkids@gmail.com)

ABN 436 3877 9405

ACN 638 779 405

WA CHARITY LICENCE 20577

**FACEBOOK:** <https://www.facebook.com/wheelchairsforkids>

**WEB SITE:** [www.wheelchairsforkids.org](http://www.wheelchairsforkids.org)

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER :** GREG HEBBLE

[ghebble@wheelchairsforkids.org](mailto:ghebble@wheelchairsforkids.org)

**VOLUNTEER FACTORY MANAGER:** BR. OLLY PICKETT

[olly@wheelchairsforkids.org](mailto:olly@wheelchairsforkids.org)

**VOLUNTEER FACTORY COORDINATOR AND EDITOR:** BOB SHERIDAN

[bsheridan@wheelchairsforkids.org](mailto:bsheridan@wheelchairsforkids.org)

*Major Sponsors*



**Our gratitude to all our supporters on behalf of the children you have helped.**

THE DRILL IS PRINTED BY



AT 8 BABEL ROAD, WELSHPOOL, WA 6106, AUSTRALIA. (08) 6254 9999

[www.qualitypress.com.au](http://www.qualitypress.com.au)