

Rotuma FAIM Project

25 June 2005

Letter of Acknowledgement by Project Coordinator, Mrs Teresie Paris

Well, we are back home after a blessed trip to the island where, with the help of many people, the friends and members of the Rotary Club of Suva North successfully repaired the hospital in Ahau.

First of all, let me tell you what was done. The external floors that had holes in and the mosquito screens to all windows were changed, the leaking roofing was replaced, the walls were painted and the toilets were tiled.

We had TREMENDOUS support from the local community. Most days up to 50 people from various districts came to help us.

Many thanks to all who turned up to help and in many instances to donate building materials and food.

Special thanks go to Gagaj Markao and Gagaj Kunau who both worked very hard and who led by example.

And *fai'eksia* to Aleksio Tiu of Itumuta who provided most of our travel. And to Doctor Safu, Mrs Mua Tukagsau and the District officer for providing us with accommodation.

Dr Safu Manueli and his team were outstanding in their support to all who came to help. Thank you Doc (and your team) for all of the meals.

The generosity of the districts of Rotuma wherever we went was overwhelming. Thank you to all who hosted us for dinners and lunches.

And thank you to the Chairman of the Rotuma Council, Ingimo Managreve and members of the Council for your help and support.

Then we had some very generous financial and material support, and I would like to acknowledge with gratitude the following donations:

- F\$14,180.16 from the Australian High Commission. Particular thanks to the former Deputy High Commissioner, Richard Ryan.
- A\$4,000 = F\$5,000 from the Rotary Club of Dural, NSW.
- F\$1,300 being donations from the Rotary Club of Suva North club members, Charlie Barclay, Terence Erasito, Richard Bayer and Shaheen Asgar.
- F\$800 in donations from my sister Lusia Ferei and George Asuega in California, USA and a Rotuman lady, Yvonne, in memoriam of her parents and for all the nurses & doctors who've helped the people in past years and in years to come from Walter & Pierre Aitu from Malhaha, Rotuma.
- F\$2,500 from a Rotary Club of Suva North Club raffle. Thank you Rotarian Waqa for arranging this raffle.
- F\$832.50 being Rotarian John Hill's transport and handling donation

- F\$5,600 for 8 x Rotary Team passenger fares on the charter flight, from each of the members of the team who paid their own fares.
- Thanks to Atu Ferei for being our "travel agent" who arranged 3 passengers out and 6 passengers back @ \$250 on the reverse charters = \$2,250.
- Air Fiji refund, 3 x \$348 = \$1,044.00, for three more passengers that they arranged.
- Rotary district contribution. NZ\$ 2,250 = F\$2,565.90, specifically from the Rotary Clubs of Penrose, Auckland East and Pakuranga. (Thanks to Rotary District 9920 Governor, Beryl Robinson who coordinated this fund raising, and Presidents Terry Young, Alistair Burry and Paul Boswell).
- A gas stove and a refrigerator from Michael and Sefo (from Lopta) Makasiale
- And a commemorative plaque from Alan and Aileen Peacock of Flightsigns Ltd, NZ.

I would like to acknowledge the inspiration for the project of Colin Patterson, formerly of the Emperor Gold Mines, who is the Director International Services of the Rotary Club of Dural, NSW, Australia.

Finally I would like to thank the members of the Rotary team with whom I was privileged to have worked with. They were:

- Rotarians George Gilliot and Sam Cali from the Rotary Club of Dural, who paid their own way from Sydney.
- Rotarians Malcolm Paterson and Waqa Ledua from the Rotary Club of Suva North.
- Sereana Sikuri.
- Rotary Ambassadorial Scholars Holly Gitlein and Aaron "Tremor" Temchin,
- Motufaga Managreve who was sent and paid for by his boss, Rotarian John Hill of J S Hill and Associates, (thank you John),
- and my husband, Ray, President of the Rotary Club of Suva North, without whose leadership this project would never have happened.

To every one who helped make this FAIM project such a success, *fai'eksia*.

Teresie Paris
Project Coordinator.