

MEDIA RELEASE

ROTARY CLUB OF PRESTON DONATIONS REACHES \$1 MILLION

This year the Rotary Club of Preston is celebrating its 50th anniversary. Over the past 50 years the Club and its members have donated a wide-range of services to support members of the community. In recognition of this milestone year the Club at its June 30 meeting donated a record amount of \$80,000 **under its Annual Major Donations Program** to various charities and institutions in the Northern suburbs. This amount increases the total donations made over the past 10 years under this program to \$653,000.

Charities that benefited from this program include among others the Children's Protection Society, Children's First Foundation, Mental Illness Fellowship, Life Education, Bone Marrow Institute and the Salvation Army.

A major objective of the world-wide Rotary organization is to sponsor programs that focus on children's welfare and protection. The major beneficiary under Preston Rotary's donation program was the Children's Protection Society who have benefited from the fund raising efforts of Preston Rotary over many years.

The Children's Protection Society (CPS) has a vision that all Children thrive in safe families and communities, and focused on the Northern Melbourne Metropolitan region has a mission to break the cycle of abuse and neglect in families and to improve the life chances and choices of all children. CPS offers a number of services including family support, counseling services, training, early childhood services and community education programs.

In addition the Club has for many years responded to numerous small requests for donations to members of the community who were facing hardship in some form or other or for Children's education purposes. Over the past 10 years these donations exceeded \$364,000 **increasing total donations over this period to just over \$1 million.**

Local member of State Parliament Fiona Richardson MP attended the meeting and assisted Club President David Sullivan in the presentation of donations and said "the Rotary Club of Preston is to be congratulated on reaching its 50th anniversary and for providing a truly outstanding level of support to the community over the years" she further added that "members of the community who wish to participate in providing support to those in need should seriously consider joining an organization like Rotary"

Note: Further information on Rotary activities can be obtained from Club Secretary Peter Peyton on 0419 180642.

**For more information on this release:
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