



EndTrachoma by 2020

Issue 1: April 2017



Let's mobilise

Calling for District Trachoma Champions

We have a mission to right a wrong in Australia. Let's end trachoma.

Welcome to our first issue of **EndTrachoma by 2020**. In this issue, you'll find out why this project is worthwhile supporting, and what you can do to end this blinding eye disease from infecting our remote Indigenous children. Special thanks to our supporters thus far: the RC Melbourne, the RC Townsville Central, the RC Brighton, and a number of anonymous benefactors who are turning this vision into a reality.

Trachoma: Fast Facts

- Trachoma is the leading cause of infectious blindness in the world - 1.9 million are blind or severely vision impaired from trachoma, and 200 million are still at risk.
- Australia is the last developed country to still have trachoma.
- Australia's coordinated effort in treatment began in 2009, resulting in significant rate reductions from 21% to 4.6% in 2015.
- Without prevention however, trachoma will continue to persist. To stop trachoma transmission, and to stop trachoma bouncing back again, we must make sure that all children in affected communities are able to keep their faces clean, and have safe and functional washing facilities.

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Rotary
Districts of Australia





Why support EndTrachoma by 2020?

Here are your club's top 5 reasons

#1 Rotary in Australia turns 100 in 2021

What a way to celebrate! Work together on a single Australia-wide project for communities aspiring for better lives.

#2 Australians working for Australians

Some of our Indigenous Australians still have health as poor as in many developing world slums. We can do something about this!

#3 2017-18 RI President Ian Riseley is calling for your support

It's barely once a decade that a Rotary International President is Australian. Ian, from RC Sandringham Victoria, wants us united on this centenary project.

Make sure your club has seen Ian's call to action at <http://tinyurl.com/z44fmb4>

#4 We coordinate with and fill gaps among every trachoma organisation in Australia

Every dollar you donate prevents unnecessary blindness by improving the hygiene and health of our least advantaged, remote Indigenous Australians.

#5 Importantly, let's rid Australia of trachoma!

How can Australia be the last developed country with trachoma? Together, we can join the World Health Organisation's global effort to eliminate trachoma by 2020.

Step up to Ian Riseley's challenge: Make a difference

Help us make a difference in Australia. Become a District Trachoma Champion.

Our Australian Centenary project needs your support on the ground to mobilise Rotarians and communicate the value of our project to clubs and communities.

We are currently recruiting District Trachoma Champions to engage club support across Australia to **EndTrachoma by 2020**. If you are interested in working with us, with Rotary International President 2017-18 Ian Riseley and Zone Director Noel Trevaskis, with Rotary clubs around Australia to Make a Difference to communities within our own country, and make history in Rotary Australia, check out our website www.endtrachoma2020.org.au, contact your District Governor, or email info@endtrachoma2020.org.au now.