

## FAQ'S

### **What communities will be supported by 'EndTrachoma by 2020'?**

Trachoma endemic regions in WA, Central Australia and the APY land regions with higher rates of trachoma, and those who have requested support.

### **Aren't trachoma programs in Australia already well funded?**

Funding from the Australian Government is largely allocated to screening for and treating trachoma. Greater investment in the prevention of trachoma is needed.

### **Does this project conflict with Rotary support for other organisations?**

We are working with the Australian Trachoma Alliance, a network of organisations working to end trachoma, as well as government and Indigenous health authorities. The project is multi-district, and will provide support in Rotary Foundation areas of water and sanitation, and child and maternal health. This focus will ensure the elimination of trachoma from Australia by 2020. Clubs can continue to support their chosen organisations.

*Photo: Major General Michael Jeffrey, Chairman of the Australia Trachoma Alliance, talking Trachoma with RI 17-18 President, Australian Ian Riseley*



#### **#1 Rotary in Australia turns 100 in 2021**

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

#### **#2 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.

#### **#3 Australians working for Australians in need**

Indigenous Australians still have health as poor as in many developing world slums. We can help fix this!

#### **#4 We are working with every Trachoma Organisation in Australia**

Every dollar you donate will help prevent unnecessary blindness by improving the hygiene and health of our least advantaged, remote Indigenous Australians. Collect used stamps to support the 'Philatelic Garbology' fundraiser, run by Rotarian Carrol Farmer (ericfarmer@bigpond.com). Send any used stamps to Apt. 423/ 1286 High St., Malvern, Victoria 3144

#### **# 5 2017-18 RI President Ian Riseley wants 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: <http://tinyurl.com/z44fmb4>



**EndTrachoma by 2020**  
Rotary - Building Healthy Communities

## Projects that can end Trachoma in Australia forever



**Rotary**   
Districts of Australia

# What is Trachoma?

Trachoma is an eye infection caused by the bacterium Chlamydia Trachomatis. Repeated infection can lead to permanent blindness.

Infections can be treated quickly, effectively and even prevented by improving personal and community hygiene.

Australia is the world's only developed country affected by trachoma, causing significant problems in a number of remote Aboriginal communities.



*Lien Trinh, Optometrist  
and Project Manager for  
EndTrachoma by 2020*

**Our 2017-18 Rotary International President,  
Australian Ian Riseley, wants to see a  
Trachoma-free Australia by 2020.**

## Contacts:

Robert McGuirk (RC Melbourne)

E: [rmcguirk@ozemail.com.au](mailto:rmcguirk@ozemail.com.au)

Kerry Kornhauser OAM (RC Melbourne)

E: [kerry.kornhauser@gmail.com](mailto:kerry.kornhauser@gmail.com)

Dr. Murray Verso (RC Williamstown)

E: [verson@netspace.net.au](mailto:verson@netspace.net.au)

General Information

E: [info@endtrachoma2020.org.au](mailto:info@endtrachoma2020.org.au)

[www.endtrachoma2020.org.au](http://www.endtrachoma2020.org.au)

FACEBOOK: [endtrachomaby2020](https://www.facebook.com/endtrachomaby2020)



Our projects are based around the simple fact that providing the opportunity for people to be clean can prevent the spread of infectious diseases like Trachoma

*We must work together to make sure that all children in affected communities are able to keep their faces clean and that they have safe and functional washing facilities.*

We have been scoping community development projects in trachoma endemic regions since the World Health Organisation's Global Elimination of Trachoma by 2020 meeting in Australia in 2016. We visited a number of remote Indigenous communities, and are now working with government and non-government partners on preventative strategies to eliminate trachoma.

Through these partnerships, we have identified ways Rotary can support some of our least advantaged Australians to improve their health and wellbeing.

Installing mirrors in homes can facilitate pride in one's self and highlight hygiene issues. Subsidising the cost of personal care kits will make good hygiene more affordable. Contributing towards the cost of communal washing machines and facilities will relieve pressure from overcrowded homes. And supporting community pools can ensure that there are open, functional and safe areas for children and young people to play and get clean.

These are simple measures that can eliminate trachoma, and the spread of many other infectious diseases.



Mirrors in homes



Personal Care Kit



Washing facilities



Community Pools

All donations to End Trachoma are tax deductible if made out to **Nourish Our Communities Ltd**