



bicycles for humanity
WESTERN AUSTRALIA

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Chairman's Report 2020

I am again pleased to present my report to members and our many supporters for the year just ended. As we all know the second half of the 2019-20 year has thrown up some very different challenges in the face of the COVID -19 pandemic. Nevertheless, I can still say the B4H WA has had a busy and successful year.

For the first time in our nine year history we have shipped three containers to Africa in one financial year, with a total of 1231 refurbished, donated bikes. Container #16 was shipped in September 2019 to Bicycle Empowerment Network in Namibia for resupply of existing Bicycle Empowerment Centres. Included in this container of 352 bikes was a special collection of road and mountain bikes, and helmets, for the Windhoek based charity called Physically Active Youth (PAY). PAY provides a range of after school activities for underprivileged youth, including a cycling program. PAY had requested some really good bikes for its competitive cyclists who are now performing at high levels in regional and national competition.

Container #17 was shipped to South Africa in February 2020 under a sponsorship agreement with Orion Minerals. Orion is in the process of developing a new Copper-Zinc mine near Prieska in the Northern Cape region of South Africa, and elected to include a Bicycle Empowerment Centre project as part of its local community support program. Unfortunately, by the time the container arrived in Durban COVID -19 restrictions were in place and implementation of the project has been delayed, but we have been assured by Orion that it will happen as soon as possible.

Continuing our partnership with World Vision Australia (WVA), container #18 was shipped to Malawi in June 2020. As with our WVA project in Zambia last year, the 429 bikes will mostly be provided to sponsored children who face a daunting daily long walk to get to school and back. We were saddened to hear that WVA has recently implemented a major restructure of its programs to address funding shortfalls. This means that our 2020 Malawi

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project with them will be the last in our partnership. We are disappointed for the children who would have benefitted from continuation of the program.

Thanks to volunteer Ian Thomas for his work to expand the reach of our WA Regional Communities program. The highlight this year was our collaboration with Dismantle and the Yiyili Independent Aboriginal School in the Kimberley. The project established a bike sales and repair shop at the school as a hands-on tool to teach the students how to establish and run a small business. B4H WA provided about 100 bikes, Dismantle sent one of it's coaches to the school for a week of intensive bike repair and maintenance training and the school teaching staff provided business skills instruction. We also donated bikes to the PCYC in Broome for its BMX program and to the Jigalong community (Pilbara) in collaboration with WA Police.

On the bike supply side, in addition to the three regional hubs in Geraldton, Peel and Albany we are now receiving bikes from a new hub in Esperance, which like those in Geraldton and Peel is another Rotary Club initiative. We also welcome the establishment of a second workshop in the Perth metropolitan area in collaboration with the new Men's Shed at Claremont Showgrounds. Our thanks go out to all the volunteers that are making real contributions from those places.

I am pleased to report that the Board and Management Committee are now working together to steadily implement initiatives defined by the Strategic Planning process we embarked on last year. We thank our pro bono legal advisors for their input into defining and documenting a whole range of legal compliance requirements, which in combination with a comprehensive risk analysis prepared by a Risk Sub-Committee will help to ensure B4H WA can prosper into the future.

I reported last year hope that our active membership of Swan Community Workshops would soon provide an opportunity to move our primary workshop from its temporary location at Jack Williamson Reserve to more secure indoor premises. Whilst our high level involvement continues, progress has been slow. SCW is working with the City of Swan and the State, through Development WA, to create accommodation for all SCW member organisations at the old Midland Railway Workshops.

B4H WA acknowledges and thanks its many donors and sponsors for both cash and/or in-kind contributions. This year we especially thank Orion Minerals and World Vision Australia for full sponsorship of containers sent to South Africa and Malawi, respectively. Huge thanks also to WJ & MS Hughes Foundation which contributed over \$13,000 over several donations to meet costs of transporting bikes to remote corners of WA, both this year and into the future. The Rotary Club of Karrinyup, the Lions Club of South Perth and the Anglican Parish of the Turquoise Coast each made very generous cash donations. Other cash donors, corporate and individual, too numerous to list here are all acknowledged and thanked.

This year I would like to acknowledge valuable in-kind support from Squire Patton Boggs (legal advice), Digirock (office support), Warners transport (container land movement), Sea Containers WA (discounted containers), National Storage (bike collection and storage), Kelyn Training (meeting space), Bunnings (tools), Paydirt Media (promotion), and Zed Grafix (graphic design). Special thanks to John Barnett at Brains Trust who provided graphic design for all our needs from day one in 2011 until his retirement at the end of 2019. We wish John a happy retirement.

In this very difficult year, disrupted by pandemic and the consequent restrictions, all of our volunteers have made extraordinary contributions. Be it those who collect and repair the bikes, and load them for shipment at the workshops, or those who do many important tasks from home or elsewhere in the background. On behalf of the Board I thank you all. Thanks also to the Board and Management Committee members who all commit extra time to ensuring the organisation continues to meet its goals.

In the year ended June 2020, B4H WA has shipped more containers and more bikes than any previous year and ended with its second highest surplus ever. If we can do that this year it is a great sign for the future as we embark on our 10th year.

Yours sincerely



Bryant Stokes
Chairman