

24 September 2010

PAKISTAN 'God bless all Australian Rotarians'



'At home' - DART Keith Robins with Anwar's wife



DART Keith Robins with Anwar

Australian Rotarian and Disaster Aid Australia Response Team member (DART) Keith Robins reflects on meeting the first recipient of a DAA Family Survival Pack donated by Australians.

"Today we met the first recipient of a DAA Family Survival Pack – Anwar and his family are amongst Pakistan's poorest. He earns his living from collecting scrap and lost his home and all his possessions. He and his wife escaped the floods by wading through neck high water, carrying their children, one of whom is mentally retarded. Shogan is paralysed from the waist down and only looks about two years old but is actually seven. As Anwar is so poor, little Shogan has been under-nourished since birth. The family has received no assistance for him and their only way of transporting him since birth is to carry him.

The plight of this family so emotionally distressed a member of the DAA response team that they personally bought a wheelchair to assist Shogan and his family.

Anwar is so grateful for the help he has received from DAA that he broke down crying and kissed our hands telling us that this is the only help his family he has ever received.

His final comments to us were that he would pray to God and ask him to bless all Rotarians in Australia who have assisted him and wished he could give us more in return".

Keith, together with DART Hans Van Dyk from the Rotary Club of Endeavour Hills form Team 2 with the return of DARTs Larry Agee (USA) and Hal Singleton (Can) to their homelands.

Patron: Max Walker



DARTs Keith, Hal, Hans & Larry



DART Peter Clouting



New hope!

And DART Peter Clouting returned home to Darwin after assisting those most in need. Peter reports, "Working with the other NGOs was a fantastic experience and we were cared for in every aspect. They are very caring people who respected the contribution by Disaster Aid Australia and that of Rotarians and the Australian people.

The gratitude of the people we helped will stay with me forever – no one had given them any assistance at all – they had been left behind and now they have a safe home for their families and a chance to start again – there was a lot of hugging and smiles" Peter said.



Please visit our new website designed by Rotarian Grant Gittus of Gittus Graphics – it is filled with up-to-the-minute images and reports of the work we are undertaking with your valued assistance. www.disasteraidaustralia.org.au

Patron: Max Walker

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