

## KARRINYUP ROTARY CLUB JUNIOR SPONSORSHIP.

Over the years during which the Quiet Lions Tours have been operating there have been a number of generous sponsors and contributing groups.

Foremost of these has been the Esperance Districts Senior High School but the following have been close behind: Carnamah District High School ( incorporating Three Springs, Mingenew, Coorow and surrounding areas), Manjimup Senior High School, Swan View Senior High School, Wongan Hills RSL, Mandurah RSL, Peel Health Campus, Wally Holding OAM and Wyn Holding, Neil MacPherson OAM, John Murphy (Sydney Barrister), the late Bill Haskell OAM, the late Edna Pratt of Darwin, the Extremely Disabled War Veterans Society, Fire and Emergency Services, Moora District High School chaplaincy, Highgate RSL (Carine High School students) and the Ex POW Association of WA per President Arthur Leggett OAM (Mount Lawley Senior High School students).

The latest to join our worthy sponsors are the Rotary Club of Karrinyup who, thanks to a generous benefactor, are sponsoring three students from Carine High School.

Anika Landy, Laura Mwiguara and Sam Blitvitch are the successful candidates to go on the Burma Thailand Railway Memorial Association's "Quiet Lion Tour" in April 2012,

The Rotary Club of Karrinyup have been in a position to be able to sponsor young people to visit sites of significance in Australian Military History and following a successful visit by two young people to a Rotary "International Peace Conference" in Turkey earlier this year they have followed up by sponsoring the three young people to visit the Burma Thailand Railway sites in Thailand.

The Rotary Club of Karrinyup chose the Carine Senior High School because their Rotary Club has a long standing relationship with the school which hosts students from our International Youth Exchange Program and because the school has demonstrated an interest in and a commitment to the spirit of ANZAC, an ongoing involvement with the ANZAC Day ceremonies and custodianship of the Sandakan Memorial.

Anika, Lauren and Sam were successful because they impressed with their genuine interest in the history of this area and because it was believed that they are all impressive young people and future leaders in the community. Karrinyup Rotary felt strongly that they would all benefit from the tour and would learn valuable lessons to take on their journey to adulthood.

Mr Peter Polain, Past President of the Rotary Club of Karrinyup stated that the "Quiet Lion Tour" was selected because Mr Eric Wilson and his team have established an outstanding reputation in the field. The Club was further comforted by the fact that Carine History teacher Mr Rob Dickson and some other students from Carine SHS had previously been on this tour and highly recommended it. Furthermore, they had even received a good reference from a group operating in competition to the "Quiet Lion Tour".

It was the intention to finance two students to go on this tour, however, they could not separate the three students and, with the generous assistance from Carine Principal Mr Paul Ganderton, the Carine SHS has contributed \$1000 and the Rotary Club of Karrinyup is financing the full balance of the cost. I.e. \$5,900. 00 (The Burma Thailand Railway Memorial Association provide a subsidy to all students). The only cost to each of the students is that it is mandatory for them to have Travel Insurance.

In return, Karrinyup Rotary only asks that sometime after return from the tour, the students come along to one of the club meetings and tell the Rotarians about their experience. It is important for the Rotarians to hear from the people whom they sponsor so that there will be continued support for such programs in the future.

If students, parents or others would like to know more about the great work done by Rotary International and the Rotary Club of Karrinyup, especially their Community, Youth and International programs please visit their websites or have a look at their "face book" page.

Congratulations to the Karrinyup Rotary Club and the Carine High School and best wishes to the juniors for a wonderful trip.

The current president of Karrinyup Rotary Club, Mr Alan Cerenich, and Committee Members Carolyn Prunster and Nick Nedkoff are also acknowledged for their role in the sponsorship.