

## OLSH OVERSEAS OFFICE – UPDATE

An update and some acknowledgment from the small office in Kensington from the recent AGM held at Provincial Office;

- Did you know that since 1992 till the end of 2016, that over the last 24 years OLSH overseas aid has raised just under \$10 million dollars which has supported missions in 9 different countries, and countless number of projects. None of this could have been achieved without the generous support of our donors, and the members of the OLSH Overseas Aid Committee who donate much of their time running this worthy organisation.
- Finally it is with much sadness that we say goodbye to Barbara Davis who retired at Easter after nine years with OLSH Overseas Aid as the Executive Officer. Since Barbara has been here, donations on a yearly basis have doubled, a large part of which is due to Barbara's dedication to the cause. This includes her development of computer systems and reports to spread the word when it comes to getting donations for the works of the Province. Thank you Barbara for all your support and efforts over the last nine years, and wishing you all the best in retirement.



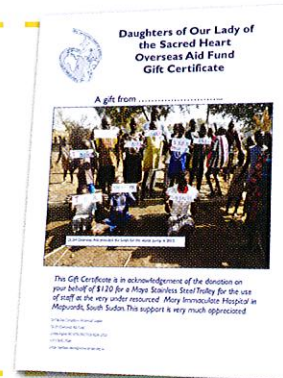
Photo of Barbara in OLSH office.

## Gift Certificates

Gift Certificates are available for those who wish to use their donation as a gift for others.

Use a form printable from the website or, alternatively, contact OLSH Overseas Aid on 02 9663 3599.

Gift Certificates can be for any amount and any region.



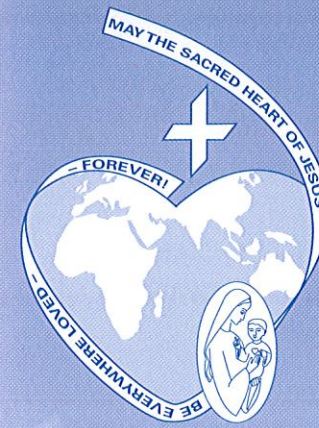
## Would you like to make a bequest in your will to OLSH Overseas Aid?

Regularly we receive applications that far exceed the money we have available, and a bequest is a chance for you to do great things. Although you will not be here personally you will still be able to make a real difference.

If you would like to include the work of our Mission in your will, we will gladly advise your solicitor of the specific terms of the bequest. Alternately, Michael O'Dea AM of Carroll and O'Dea Lawyers, would be happy to advise you at no cost. He may be contacted directly at 02 9291 7104. Or would you like to request mourners at your loved one's funeral to donate to OLSH Overseas Aid in lieu of flowers? Both these things can make a significant difference to the way we can help the people in need.

## Online donations can now be made from the OLSH Australia website.

Because of the high cost of postage, we are gradually moving away from sending hard copies of the KIT to our donors. Many have let us know their wish to have the newsletter sent to their email address. If you would like to help us save postage, please send an email to the address below.



# Keeping in touch

*Daughters of Our Lady of the Sacred Heart*

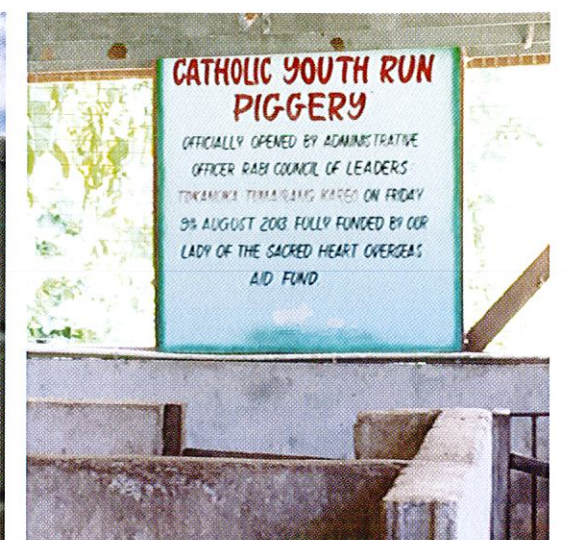
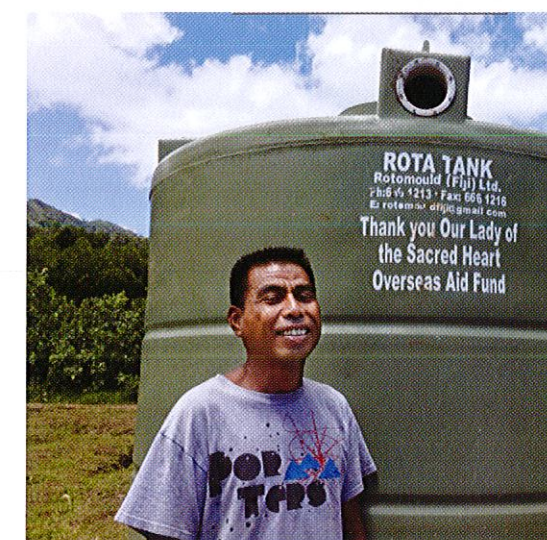
**OVERSEAS AID INCORPORATED**

April 2017

## RABI ISLAND – FIJI THE “FORGOTTEN PEOPLE”

The people on Rabi Island are called the “Forgotten people”. The people were moved from Ocean Island when the phosphate ran out after World War Two. Over the past 5 years Sr Terita has done an outstanding job working with the community to assess the needs. Through funding from OLSH Overseas Aid, the community has benefited in several ways including the purchase of boats for access to remote areas, water tanks for fresh drinking water and also the establishment of some small businesses

to support local micro business initiatives. This includes a piggery and hand crafts by local women. In recent times the Island has been impacted by severe weather incidents, including the recent Cyclone (Winston). OLSH Overseas Aid has increased funding for these “forgotten people” by providing raw materials to develop cyclone shelters, storage and meeting areas for the communities for protection against future weather events.



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www.acfid.asn.au

Gifts of \$2 or more  
are tax deductible

A selection of projects in Fiji supported by OLSH.



## South Sudan - Sr. Rita Grunke 2017 Hunger Appeal

Donations from your wonderful kind generosity have enabled us to continue support to the South Sudanese in Mapuordit. We commit your funds to many needy persons as well as developmental and educational projects.

The good news stories of Mapuordit include that our two schools have re-opened, with both now operating very successfully. Teachers are committed; students desperately want learning, and thanks to recent drilling activities - paid for through our generous donors - hundreds are now benefiting from the supply of fresh, clean water also.

Sadly though Mapuordit is increasingly surrounded by the horrors of starvation, the gross injustices to the poor, the racial hatred and inter-tribal conflicts, not to mention the gross corruption and continued large scale purchasing of military equipment...all in the face of thousands of innocent people starving

to death. South Sudan at this stage is a country broken to pieces...as many pieces as there are leaders and tribes.

Around Mapuordit we see much hunger, in some cases quite severe, but through your generous support at this stage we continue to be able to provide food to those in need.

Currently we have two men in Agriculture training, unfortunately not in South Sudan, due to "ethnic cleansing" but in Equatoria, the food basket of South Sudan. They are now in Uganda and when finished will bring home their knowledge and skills to our community

With an aim to support this programme further and avoid hunger across South Sudan, the Sister's have initiated the South Sudan 2017 Hunger Appeal - where we hope to raise much needed funds to continue the good work currently being conducted in the region.



Photo of children in South Sudan supported by OLSH.

### Message from Sr Rita

"These small youngsters share a sadness for what is happening in South Sudan. But they hold a real hope that new leaders may arise and build a united peaceful country.

Thank you for supporting our efforts for education, health, Peace building, provision of food and training for a more self-reliant Mapuordit"

## Mapuordit Hospital (South Sudan) - an update from Pauline Carr

For so many years now, our Hospital in Mapuordit, South Sudan, has been the grateful recipient of funding through Overseas Aid. We would like to give an update.

As most people would know, this is a country with a very deeply troubled history of almost constant war and tribal conflict, the result being that development has been very much retarded. The hospital was started by Comboni missionaries in 2002, under a mandate of the Diocese of Rumbek. In the intervening years, it has grown to a rather remarkable 113 beds, offering health care to the people of the catchment and far beyond. The estimate of the catchment population is around 90,000.

Although there is a small offering of support from the Ministry of Health, in terms of salary support to 44 staff, the remaining 32 local staff are supported by private contracts, from donor funds. The government salary is totally unrealistic, given the current state of high inflation in the country, and so the hospital is obliged to ask donors to "top up" the salaries to a level where staff are motivated to stay and work, so as to feed, clothe and educate their families. Without the support of Overseas Aid and other generous donors from every corner of the globe, our hospital would simply not be able to function.

On behalf of those many, many people who would never be able to reach out and thank those who are so generously supporting them, we say a heartfelt



New mother proudly displaying her twins.

thank you on their behalf to the donors of Overseas Aid, and at this critical moment in the history of this country, we beg your continued support.

With our best wishes and gratitude,

Ms Pauline Carr



Outpatient registration area.